

Loneliness: Life of Elderly People in Taiwan



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- It has been a typical day for Mr. Wang. He wakes up in the early morning and takes a walk with his beloved bird. Sometimes he practices Tai-Chi in the central square.

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- Life seems to be easy for Mr. Wang. However, he often has the feeling of emptiness in mind. He feels lonely very often. When every he goes, he is always alone.

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- He has the feeling of loneliness as most of the elders do nowadays. And the loneliness has generated a feeling of solitude, worsening factor of exclusion and suffering.

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- Mr. Wang has two sons. Yet they no longer live with him. The sons pay for his life expense to show their filial piety. But what he really needs is his sons' companion.

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- Mr. Wang hopes that his sons can spend some time visiting and taking to him. Besides, he would like to have friends to keep accompany with.

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- Indeed, to have someone's sincere concern would make his life fill with love and pleasure.

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Questions for discussion

- Why do elderly people have the feeling of loneliness and solitude nowadays?
- Do you think paying life expense for elder show the value of filial piety?
- What are things younger generation can do to break with elder loneliness?

