

Project Title: **Fatherhood in Hong Kong: An Exploratory Study**

Project Summary:

This study is to tell how abusers would take advantage of fathering as an opportunity to further abuse their ex-wives. Through the manipulation of parenting, those abusers would achieve coercive control over their ex-wives. This study is informed by the classical grounded theory; its purpose is to generate theory through qualitative research method. This kind of theoretical outcome could be improved through further practices and theoretical re-construction. In other words, these two theoretical frameworks articulated in this study would contribute to the practice in domestic violence and parental education. The first is on how abusers employ strategic fatherhood to further wife abuse, and thus in any education of abusers, it is necessary to take into account the possibility of the application of strategic fatherhood. On the other hand, we learned that fatherhood would terminate at a threshold at this moment a father finds it hopeless and incompetent to play the role as a father. In order to keep fathers from this threshold, more parental education should be provided through confidence building and the competence in self-regulation.