

General Research Fund (GRF) Project  
The predictor and outcome of social support giving –  
A self-determination theory perspective (Project no.: EDUHK18605220)

Title: Does basic psychological needs satisfaction at work predicts perceived psychological meaningfulness for teachers?

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While several studies suggested that basic psychological need satisfaction at work (BPNSW) predicts perceived psychological meaningfulness (PM), this study enriches this area of research by investigating the potential variations of the predictive effect of BPNSW on PM due to occupational differences, addressing the unique effect of autonomy (A), competence (C), and relatedness (R) as three basic psychological needs on PM. Supported by the data of 308 Hong Kong secondary school teachers from a survey, the current study suggests the order of importance of the three unique basic psychological needs on PM as R, A, and C, varying from a previous study resulting in A, C, and R on a composite occupation profile. The result contributes to the discussion of PM with the SDT lens, suggesting further research on the predicting effect of BPNSW and PM among occupations. Implications for the specific order of basic psychological needs of teachers are discussed.

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