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# New Settlers Case Study: The housing experience of Indian elders

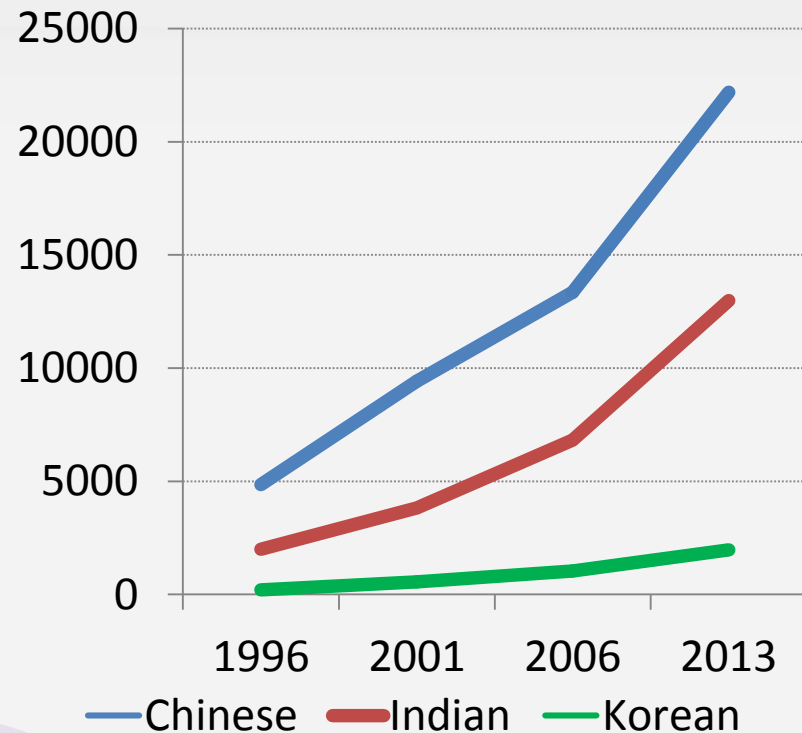
Presentation to the Mid-term Summit  
Tauranga, 30 May 2017  
Elsie Ho, University of Auckland



## Case study of Asian elders

	Chinese	Indian	Korean
% of Asian elders	50.9	29.8	4.5
% overseas-born	90.8	93.6	99.2
% live in Auckland	71.0	71.6	74.8
% in Bay of Plenty	1.2	3.4	2.3
<b>% increase, 1996-2013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>878</b>

60+, selected ethnic groups, 1996-2013



Work in progress:  
Preliminary findings from  
Indian elders

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## Interviews with Indian elders

- 9 females; 3 males
- Age: 68 – 85 years
- Birthplace: India
- Year migrated to NZ:  
2002 – 2015



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## Housing history

- Before migration: 10 homeowners; 2 renters
- After migration:
  - 4 homeowners → renting → homeowners
  - 3 homeowners → co-resident with adult child
  - 3 homeowners → renting → live in home owned by child
  - 2 renters → co-resident with child → state housing

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## Housing type

- All but one live in single storey house
- Number of bedrooms :
  - Homeowners – 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms
  - Co-resident with children – 3-4 bedrooms
  - Home owned by children – 2 bedrooms
  - State home – 1 bedroom

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# Living environment

- Things they most like:
  - Close to services (e.g. GP, supermarket, pharmacy, bank)
  - Convenience in public transport
  - Good neighbours; friends and family nearby
  - Safety
- Issues:
  - Home & garden maintenance
  - 1 participant - No health facilities & supermarket nearby

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# Cultural beliefs on elderly care

॥ माता पिता गुरु दैवम् ॥

mātā pitā guru daivam

माता = mother ( <i>first step</i> )	पिता = father ( <i>second step</i> )
गुरु = teacher ( <i>third step</i> )	दैवम् or दैवं = GOD ( <i>final goal</i> )

This phrase was recorded in the earliest Hindu scriptures & suggests the order in which an individual should offer reverence.

**Parents should be revered first because they are life-givers.**

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## Participants' views on elderly care

- The majority expect their children to look after them
- A few:

*“don't want to be a burden to the family”*

*“Aged care in NZ differs from India”*



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## Views on homeownership

- The majority: *“owning a home is very important”*

*We are brought up that way. You must have your own home. You must have a roof over your head because of the security. If you don't own a home then you're moving around.*

*If you own a house, you can do as you want. A rental house you can't make the changes you want.*

- State home renter: *“we're happy when we got this place”*

*If I can afford I would like to own a house. When I can't afford I would like this Housing NZ home because this is nice. ... It is not damp. ... It is not leaking. ... The place is good.*

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## Sense of home in NZ

- Those who live independently more likely to feel at home.
- A few living with children “*not feeling like it’s my home*”

*This house is my son’s but it’s not my house. ... There I took my car I could go anywhere. What I wanted to cook what I wanted to do I was free. But here the life is completely opposite.*

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- Interview Chinese & Korean elders
- Interview social service providers and community stakeholders
- Together with other Case Studies develop strategies & tools to support ageing well & strengthen familial & community support

## Next steps



 **THE UNIVERSITY OF  
AUCKLAND**  
NEW ZEALAND

 **MEDICAL AND  
HEALTH SCIENCES**  
SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH

**The housing experiences of older Asian new settlers in NZ**

**Are you Chinese, Indian or Korean aged 60 years or over, and living in New Zealand for under 10 years?**

We would like to invite you to take part in this study!

Project Description

The aim of the study is to explore the impacts of housing on older Asian new settlers' health and wellbeing, and their experiences in New Zealand.

You will be interviewed in your preferred language (English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Hindi or Korean). You will be asked about your housing experiences in New Zealand, access to health and day-to-day services, community participation, information needs, and your expectations and cultural views on housing and aged care. The interview will take about 80 minutes. A \$20 supermarket voucher will be offered to each participant as a token of appreciation for your participation.



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# Thank you!

