

## Carework and Time in Korea: Interim Report from CWE-GAM project

# **Care and Time :** An Interpretation on the Multidimensional Meaning of caring Time in Korea

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# Different dimensions of experiencing **Time**

#### Chronos/Kronos-

- Linear and chronological time
- Continuity of physical time
- Clock time
- Objective, Power
- Manageable
- Progress



# Kairos, right time?



#### Kairos

- Indeterminate moment
- Opportune time or a right moment for something to occur
- Subjective or intuitive time
- Personal time
- Moments or episodes
- Temporal
- Multidimensional ?

# Measuring Care (time)

- TUS focused on measuring time of care
  - Visualizing the invisible aspect
  - Making it accountable which seems to be unaccountable
  - Activities recognized, detailed and categorized
    - : What kind of activities are involved,
    - : How much time spent for the activity,
    - : Repetition of the activities throughout the day (how often ? how long term?)

# Care in time use setting



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### **Understanding and Interpreting Care Time**

• "I think I can take care of my mother for at best, two years from now on. I think, I have taken care of her more than enough. No, more than enough is not a proper word, but, you know, I think I need my life back. I have been taken care for my mom, for over 10 years, and also my dad. And including the time I took and still taking care of children, my whole youthful days have passed away. 20 years just slipped through. I need to seize the day until I can. I need time to enjoy my youthful days before it is too late. You know, I am already 50. and I only have less than 10 years." (S-ER-01-Ji)

# With time, their experiences are narrated;

- Time was frequently mentioned, but different than what we have expected.
- Which is somehow different to consider in 24 hour time line.
- Which can not be measured.
- Which cannot be standardized; each individual case so different from each other
- Not directly be translated into activity-centered time use.
- But, seems to reveal important point in understanding care

### 1. Resumption/ circulation: Curvilinear time

- Repeating the same activity over the day/week/year (call them, give them meals in daily base, etc.)

- Everyday routine as a strategy

"Everyday is the same. ...Even in weekends. Sometimes, I get up early to get ready and realize that it is Saturday? I feel relieved." (G-CP-04-Park)

"Even in non-workdays, morning time is usual as any day... wake up at the same time, help them get to school... and then, routine continues. (G-CP-01-Choi)

- "I try to stick to the schedules" (G-CP-10-Min)
- "Because she is my mother, I'm doing this, every day (sometimes), one after other day, If she was my mother-in -law, I doubt, if could have visited her every day, all the time?......Everyday, I arrive at 11 am. I check her whether she had her breakfast. We have lunch together. Sometimes I prepare her lunch, sometimes I just pack things from my house. Then, clean up, do some laundries. Dust off the house (if needed), do some groceries or set up things for deliveries..... Also every month, once or twice, mother needs to visit her doctor, so I need to drive her to the hospital "(G-ER-04-Ahn)

- Circling around the clock

- the cycle or rhythm of the events becomes a 'routine'
- Similar time experience repeated, seems to be "the same".
- $\Rightarrow$  "care time" experienced

as easy and gain more comfort in doing; getting more accustomed to? OR

stuck with the situation; feel trapped; became monotonous work and get bored ?

# 2. Synchronous time or a-synchronous time?: One time zone, two person involved

"Yes, I'm quite strict about this, you see, my pattern of life, my life spins around things done in here. All my personal life is devoted to care for my grandchildren. Other every thing? All are secondary. Here, this gets the primary the priority. No, life of my own? Such as traveling, or having a leisure time, no, I can't think about that." (G-CP-04-Park)

- Cannot keep up on one's own needs or desire

#### - Care provider's time to be adjusted to the recipient's time

"When I received my fixed schedule from work, as soon as I get that, the first thing I do is to call my mom. "I need to be at work this morning around 00 AM", and some times I ask her, "Can you come tonight? this evening?" and she come over here any time we ask her to. My husband and I take turns but during the gap between mine and his and, my mother comes to be there to fill that gap of time, to be there my children." (S-CR-10-Yun)

"I was sleeping, but my mother-in law wakes up at 1 a.m. to use the toilet. Then I (or my husband) have to wake up as well. Like need to give infant a meal, I have to wake up every 2 hours, at 1am, at 3am, and then at 5 am, and it's already morning, in spite of I haven't sleep." (S-ER-6-Gim)

# 3. Temporality: the moment of "needs" is not forever

"I don't know what will happen. I hope she passes away someday, not lasting forever to live too long, you know. It means that you die, everybody dies, right? That's what I hope for now. She became so old, [whispering in low voice informing us that she is already 104 yrs old], I have never seen anyone so old as she is. I thought she would live not until reaching 100. But she is still alive. Moreover, she is quite healthy and not even seriously ill, but no one, these days, lives with their elderly mother-in-law like me. Mostly, people send their in-law parents to the facilities. I am getting old, too." (G-P-EP-02-Lim)

#### 4. Setting the limits of time in care

"I think, when my grandchildren grow old enough to go to elementary school or more, then, I think I can get my hands off of them. They could be more independent, because eldest one already cleans her room by herself ...... [Are you satisfied with the situation? How long are you expecting to do this?] Maybe until, till the youngest one reaches third grade." (G-CP-04-Park)

"If I continue working at this company, I think I would maintain current care arrangement till my daughter becomes 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in elementary school" (G-P-CR-01-)

- the time line needed to end and to start

"In my mind, my own thinking, I am expecting about 2 years. Till 2020, I will try my best to maintain this current setting. But after that 2 years, I think I can let go of her, send her to the near facility." (S-ER-01-Ji)

# **Considering Care Experience**

Tronto's four phases of care and four ethical elements of care

Phases of Care

- Caring about..
- Taking care of..
- Care giving..
- Care receiving..

#### **Ethical Elements of Care**

- Attentiveness
- Responsibility
- Competence
- Responsiveness

### Adding our thoughts of "time" to the four phase of care

Care time experience as adapted to and be accumulated as chronological time; the meaning of time "transforming"

- Intimacy/Attachment --- a-synchronous, temporality
- Togetherness --- synchronous, curvilinear
- Attentiveness --- curvilinear, temporality
- Responsiveness --- setting the limit, synchronous

.... "multidimension of time"

## **Recognition of time in care context,**

What is time in 'time in care' and how people experience the time in care?



#### References

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# **Background of this project**

- CAE-GAM Project (2017-2019, PI: Maria Floro, G2 Head: Ki-Soo Eun).
- Care Recipient : To figure out care arrangements/ financial cost, resources, utilizing social network/relationships in care setting/ quality and evaluation
- Care Provider : To figure out working hours, conditions, wage, in-home and/or facilities, satisfaction, etc.
- In-depth interviews are in process

#### Table 1. Current situation of in-depth interviews (Oct, 2018)

		Allocated	Completed
Care Providers	Elderly Care	21	14
	Childcare	24	13
Care Recipients	Elderly Care	26	12
	Childcare	24	6
Total		95	45