

City University of Hong Kong

Department of Public Policy

*Research Student Seminar*

**EXAMINING THE FACTORS  
INFLUENCING THE DECISION OF  
SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURIAL EXIT:  
AN INSTITUTION-RULE  
PERSPECTIVE**

**by**

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Date:	13 Aug 2018
Time:	14:30-16:00
Venue:	POL's Multi-purpose Room (B7516), Yeung Kin Man Acad Building City University of Hong Kong
Language:	English

*Abstract:*

Research on social entrepreneurship has primarily focused on the creation and management of social enterprises. The phenomenon of social entrepreneurial exit, however, has largely been overlooked by scholars. There are profound gaps in our understanding as to why social entrepreneurs would exit their enterprises. To fill in this void, my dissertation will seek to

examine the reasons of social entrepreneurial exit and ground the study in the context of India, a country that has one of the world's highest number of social entrepreneurs.

In Essay 1, I will employ institutional theory and rule-based reasoning perspective as the guiding theoretical framework to explore and confirm factors pertaining to social entrepreneurial exit. This will begin with an appraisal of the phenomenon of social entrepreneurship and followed by a review of extant literature on the reasons of entrepreneurial exit. I will use this as a springboard to understand the reasons of social entrepreneurial exit. In Essay 2, my research will first use a qualitative inductive approach – the case study method – to explore this new phenomenon and develop a process model of social entrepreneurial exit. I will conduct semi-structured interviews with approximately 24 social entrepreneurs in India to elucidate on social entrepreneurial exit decision.

In Essay 3, I seek to confirm several theoretical proposition employing Discrete Choice Experiment (DCE) using approximately 40 social entrepreneurs from India. This will identify and estimate the relative weight and trade-offs revealed by the choices of the social entrepreneurs to exit their enterprises.

Overall this research will contribute to the conceptual enrichment of the phenomenon of social entrepreneurial exit by using qualitative inductive and experimental research methods. Findings of this research will benefit social entrepreneurs to identify the factors that influence their decisions to exit a social enterprise. My research will offer important policy and practice implication for the government, NGOs and social entrepreneurs in making better decisions pertaining to social entrepreneurial exit.

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(Free admission)

*All are welcome!*