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As Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration at The University of Hong Kong, I integrate rigorous research with evidence-informed practice to develop impactful, sustainable social work interventions. In 2024, I was honoured with the Rosie Young 90 Medal for Outstanding Young Woman Scholar for my scholarly excellence and community contributions. I have committed to implementing practical, scalable programmes that bridge theory, research, and frontline practice. My work addresses complex issues confronting vulnerable and underserved populations—including those at risk of suicide, self-harm, substance abuse, bullying, cyberaggression, as well as individuals facing poverty and inadequate housing. My studies use robust mixed-methods designs, including longitudinal research and randomised controlled trials, to examine how social connectedness and multi-level strategies at individual, family, community, and organisational levels foster resilience and wellbeing. Social interventions include community-based programmes, technology-assisted solutions, capacity-building and competence-based self-help models. My expertise has been highly valued as being appointed as Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of Social Work, Programme Director of the Master of Social Sciences in Social Service Management, Associate Director of the Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention. I also serve at the Board of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong, as Fellow of Hong Kong Academy of Social Work and Members of the Hong Kong Social Workers Association Professional Development Committee, reflecting my commitment to advancing the profession and driving research-informed social innovation.

Academic and Professional Qualifications

2012	PhD , Department of Social Work & Social Administration, HKU
1993	MSW , San Diego State University, USA
1988	BSocSc , The Chinese University of Hong Kong (<i>Major: Social Work; Minor: Sociology</i>)
2024	Fellow , Hong Kong Academy of Social Work
1998	Registered Social Worker (RSW) of the Social Workers Registration Board, HK

Present Academic Position

2019-present	Associate Professor , Department of Social Work and Social Administration, HKU
2013-present	Associate Director , The HKJC Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU

Previous Academic and Academic Related Positions Held

2013-2018	Assistant Professor , Department of Social Work and Social Administration, HKU
2003-2012	Project Director , The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research & Prevention, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong

Other Current Appointments in HKU

2019-present	Program Director , MSocSc (Social Service Management) Program
2021	Senior Equal Opportunity Advisor , Equal Opportunity Committee, HKU

Research Grants

As principal investigator or co-principal investigator:

On-going

2024-2028	An evaluation study of organizational functioning and capacity building for small non-profit agencies - Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (43M)
2024-2027	Evaluating impact of Sew Sheung Wan through a continuum – from information sharing to empowerment - Caritas HK (0.3M)
2023-2026	A Mixed-Method Study on Anti-bullying Intervention among School-aged Children and Adolescents in Hong Kong - Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (7.6M)
2023-2025	Evaluation study for SKHWC project for substance abusers and their families - Commissioned by the HKSKH Welfare Council (0.4M)
2023-2025	Collating evidence of good practices for drug treatment and rehabilitation in Hong Kong: a mixed-method study - Beat Drug Fund, HKSAR - Developing a generic intervention model for individual drug abusers based on a systematic review with multiple synthesis methods of drug treatment and rehabilitation projects in Hong Kong (2.5M)
2022-2025	Evaluation study of quality of life among children and their families living in the Hong Kong sub-divided housing units - Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (3.28M)

Completed

2023-2024	Self neglect, maladaptive behavior, clutter accumulation and household-management competency among low-income families in subdivided housing units - HKU Seed Fund for Basic Research
2023-2024	Development of a hepatitis C infection care model for prisoners: a pilot program for micro-elimination of hepatitis C infection in Hong Kong - Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF Ref. no.: 20211881) (PI: Mak Lung Yi)
2022-2024	Pathways to Harm Reduction Drug Policy in Hong Kong and East & Southeast Asia: Principles, Process and Practices - Research Impact Fund (Ref. R7031-21) (Co-PI) (3M)
2022-2023	Testing a competency-based theory of change for suicide risk among young male Internet users with societal masculinity (GRF Ref. 17618921) (0.7M)
2022-2023	Online disinhibition effect and mental wellbeing in cyber environment - HKU Seed Fund for Basic Research

Selected Publication Records

- Wong, M. T. & **Law, Y.W.*** (2025). What has become a burden in rental housing? Workplace arrangement, neighbourhood and housing environment on household rental burden. *Habitat International*, 139, 103576. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2025.103576>
- Lok, R. & **Law, Y. W.*** (2025). Men's mental health service engagement amidst the masculinity crisis: towards a reconstruction of traditional masculinity. *SSM - Qualitative Research in Health*, 8, 100596. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmqr.2025.100596>
- Zhang, Y., Wong, M. T., **Law, Y. W.**, & Yip, P. S. F. (2025). Public Housing and Household Savings—A Three-Decade Repeated Cross-Sectional Analysis. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 22(8), 1182. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph22081182>
- Yip, P. S. F., Caine, E. D., Yeung, C. Y., **Law, Y. W.**, & Ho, R. T. H. (2024). Suicide prevention in Hong Kong: pushing boundaries while building bridges. *The Lancet Regional Health—Western Pacific*, 46. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lanwpc.2024.101061>
- Chiang, B., **Law, Y. W.**, & Yip, P. S. F*. (2024). Using Discrete-Event Simulation to Model Web-Based Crisis Counseling Service Operation: Evaluation Study. *JMIR Formative Research*, 8, e46823. <https://doi.org/10.2196/46823>
- Law, Y. W.***, Lok, R. H. T., Chiang, B., Lai, C. C. S., Tsui, S. H. M., Chung, P. Y. J., & Leung, S. C. (2023). Effects of community-based caring contact in reducing thwarted belongingness among postdischarge young adults with self-harm: randomized controlled trial. *JMIR formative research*, 7, e43526. <https://doi.org/10.2196/43526>
- Ganotice, F. A., Shen, X., Yuen, J. K. Y., Chow, Y. M. A., Wong, A. M. Y., Chan, K. M. K., ... Tipoe, G. L. (2023). Students' interaction anxiety and social phobia in interprofessional education in Hong Kong: mapping a new research direction. *Annals of Medicine*, 55(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/07853890.2023.2210842>
- Wei, X., & **Law, Y. W.*** (2023). Quality of life of services users in psychotropic drug treatment and rehabilitation services: a qualitative study from service user and provider perspectives. *Social Work in Health Care*, 62(10), 321-344. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00981389.2023.2238008>
- Wei, X., Wang, W., **Law, Y. W.***, & Zhang, H. (2023). The Impacts of Intimate Partner Violence on Postpartum Depression: An Updated Meta-Analysis. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 25(2). <https://doi.org/10.1177/15248380231188068>

- Peng, C., & Law, Y. W.* (2023). How Do Consumption Patterns Influence the Discrepancy Between Economic and Subjective Poverty?. *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 24(4), 1579-1604. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-023-00651-5>
- Luo, T., Law, Y. W.*, & Lai, C. C. S. (2023). Coping strategy, Well-being, and bullying perpetration in primary schools: a longitudinal mediation model. *Current Psychology*, 42(27), 23332-23348. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-022-03376-5>
- Law, Y.W.*, Lok, H.T.R., Wei, X.Y., Luo, T. (2021). Final research report for “*Formation of Programme Evaluation Guidelines for Evidence-Based Practice of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation for Psychotropic Drug Abusers in Hong Kong: A Delphi Study.*” Beat Drugs Fund Association. Retrieved from https://www.nd.gov.hk/pdf/BDF170066_Final_research_report.pdf
- Law, Y. W.* (2020). Roads less taken: Pathways to care before near-lethal suicide attempts. *International Social Work*, 63(4), 473-485. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020872818796135>
- Deng, Z., & Law, Y. W*. (2020). Rural-to-urban migration, discrimination experience, and health in China: Evidence from propensity score analysis. *PLoS One*, 15(12), e0244441. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0244441>
- Law, Y. W., Chan, M., Zhang, H., Tai, L., Tsang, S., Chu, P., & Yip, P. (2019). Divorce in Hong Kong SAR, 1999–2011: A review of 1,208 family court cases. *Journal of Divorce & Remarriage*, 60(5), 389-403. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10502556.2018.1558855>
- Peng, C., Yip, P. S. F., & Law, Y. W*. (2019). Intergenerational earnings mobility and returns to education in Hong Kong: A developed society with high economic inequality. *Social Indicators Research*, 143, 133-156. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-018-1968-2>
- Law, Y. W., Kwok, C. L., Chan, P. Y., Chan, M., & Yip, P. (2019). Online social work engagement and empowerment for young internet users: A quasi-experiment. *Journal of affective disorders*, 250, 99-107. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2019.02.061>
- Sha, F., Yip, P. S., & Law, Y. W. (2017). Decomposing change in China's suicide rate, 1990–2010: ageing and urbanisation. *Injury Prevention*, 23(1), 40-45. <https://doi.org/10.1136/injuryprev-2016-042006>
- Law, Y. W.*, Yip, P. S., Lai, C. C., Kwok, C. L., Wong, P. W., Liu, K. S., ... & Wong, T. W. (2016). A pilot study on the efficacy of volunteer mentorship for young adults with self-

harm behaviors using a quasi-experimental design. *Crisis: The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention*, 33(6), 415-426. <https://doi.org/10.1027/0227-5910/a000393>

Law, Y. W.*, Wong, P. W. C., & Yip, P. S. F. (2015). Health and psychosocial service use among suicides without psychiatric illness. *Social Work*, 60, 65–74. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swu054>

Law, Y. W.*, Yip, P. S., Zhang, Y., & Caine, E. D. (2014). The chronic impact of work on suicides and under-utilization of psychiatric and psychosocial services. *Journal of affective disorders*, 168, 254-261. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2014.06.031>

Law, Y. W., Wong, P. W., & Yip, P. S. (2010). Suicide with psychiatric diagnosis and without utilization of psychiatric service. *BMC Public Health*, 10, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2458-10-431>

In Progress

Luo, T., & **Law, Y. W.*** (under revision). Validation of Family Quality of Life Scale and Analysis of Divergence in Child–Parent Dyads". *Applied Research in Quality of Life*.

Guan, J.Q. & **Law, Y.W.***(under revision). Difference of mental distress symptoms between victims and bully/victims among primary school students in Hong Kong: A network analysis approach. *School mental health*.

Luo, T., & **Law, Y. W.*** (under review). The evidence of a family-based treatment for adults who use psychotropic drugs in community setting. *Social Work in Health Care*.

Wei, X. & **Law, Y.W.*** (under review). Unequal Gains – Differential Effects of Living Space on Well-Being Across Income Levels and Family Compositions in Densely Populated Areas. *Social Indicators Research*.

Wei, X. & **Law, Y.W.*** (under review). Developing, Validating, and Applying the Needs-Based Quality of Life Scale for Individuals with Problematic Psychotropic Drug Use: A Mixed-Methods Study. *Social Work in Health Care*

Luo, T., **Law, Y. W.***, Wong, H. T. A, & Lok, R. H. T. (under review). Evaluating the effects of psychosocial, medical, and competence approaches of drug treatment and rehabilitation: a secondary data analysis. *Evaluation and Program Planning*.

Wei, X. & **Law, Y.W.*** (under review). Developing, Validating, and Applying the Needs-Based Quality of Life Scale for Individuals with Problematic Psychotropic Drug Use: A Mixed-Methods Study. *Social Work in Health Care*

Law, Y.W.* & Wong, M.T. & Chiang, B (Submitted). Testing effect of competency-based intervention on young male internet users with suicide risk – a randomized waitlist-controlled trial. *Journal of Affective Disorder*.

Selected Academic Conferences

Law Y.W. Community-Based and Technology-Enhanced Care for Young Adults with Suicide Ideation. 13th European Conference on Mental Health 2025 (ECMH). Antwerp, Belgium, 2025.

Laidler, K. A., Lowe, K. F. A., Li, N. L., Chui, C. W. V., Kong, T. S. K., **Law, Y. W.**, & Lau, S. (2023, April). *Chem fun 'in the Hong Kong MSM Community and Harm Reduction*. Presented at the 27th Annual Meeting of Harm Reduction International.

Mak, L.Y.L., Hui, R. W., Fung, J., To, W. P., Tsui, V. W., Ko, K., Wong, G. L., **Law, Y. W. F.**, Wong, K. T., Seto, W., Yuen, M. (under review). Development of a hepatitis C infection care model for prisoners: a pilot program for micro-elimination of hepatitis C infection in Hong Kong. EASL Congress 2025. Amsterdam, the Netherlands. 7-10 May, 2025.

Research Reports and Training Manuals (from 2023-2025)

1. (2024). *Self neglect, maladaptive behavior, clutter accumulation and household-management competency among low-income families in subdivided housing units – Final report*. The University of Hong Kong.
2. (2024). *A prompt engineering protocol for extracting keywords related to aggression and online disinhibition*. The University of Hong Kong.

Patents and Other Research Outputs

1. 央視香港。羅亦華 (Guest)。 (2025 年 6 月 23 日)。港大教授羅亦華：化解青少年心理危機需系統性社會支持。 Retrieved from https://m.yangshipin.cn/portrait_video?vid=p000045adul&pageContext=btype%3Dforum%26cpid%3D35285133197921753%26ctype%3Dcpid%26from%3D100013%26state%3Dinit%26ts%3D1750676512%26vid%3Dp000045adul
2. Luo, T., Law, Y.W. & Wong, H. T. A. (2025). Drug treatment and rehabilitation in Hong Kong from 2011-2024: a systematic review. PROSPERO 2025 CRD420251068605. Available from <https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/view/CRD420251068605>

Selected Teaching Experiences

SOWK6265	Research Methods in Human Service
CCGL6001	Change for a better community (Summer, 2023-2024; 2024-2025)
SOWK6289	Organizational analysis and strategic organizational management
SOWK6243	Social Services Management
SOWK4055	Management in human service organizations

Supervision on Research Postgraduate Students and Research Assistant Professor

Current Research Assistant Professor

Dr. LUO Tingyu drug use; family intervention; youth; quality of life; family functioning

Current Post-doctoral Fellow

Dr Ip Wing Shan anti-bullying, cyberaggression, and suicide prevention
Dr Florence Lapto drug abuse and antibullying

RPG students

Tony YAU, PhD student “How different funding sources influence the operation of NGOs and what are the implications on NGOs' performance”
Matt WONG, PhD candidate “Explaining housing's impact on quality of life through needs fulfilment: a mixed-methods study”
GUAN Jingqi, PhD candidate “Development and Evaluation of a Motivated Social-Emotional Learning (MESL) Program on Bullying among Adolescents in Hong Kong: A Three-Arm Cluster Randomized Control Trial”
ZHOU Yukai, PhD student “Network analysis on mental health and suicide”

Professional Membership & Community Services

2021-2027	Assessment Panel Member, Social Work Registration Board
2021-2026	External Examiner (Bachelor of Social Work), St Francis University
2023-2025	Member, Professional Development Committee of Hong Kong Social Workers Association
2022-2024	Chair, Research Advocacy Committee of Boys and Girls Clubs Association (BGCA)
2021-2024	Editorial Board Member, Hong Kong Journal of Social Work
2019-2024	Member, Service Development and Management Committee of Boys and Girls Clubs Association (BGCA)
2017-2024	Member, Executive Committee of Boys and Girls Clubs Association (BGCA)

Awards

2024	Awardee of the “Rosie Young 90 Medal for Outstanding Young Woman Scholar” A prestigious award to recognize outstanding research and scholarship, and distinguished contribution to the University and the community
2024	Fellow of the Academy, Hong Kong Academy of Social Work
2019	Research Output Prize (Faculty of Social Sciences), HKU Peng, C., Yip, P. S. F., & Law, Y. W* . (2019). Intergenerational earnings mobility and returns to education in Hong Kong: A developed society with high economic inequality. <i>Social Indicators Research</i> , 143, 133-156. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-018-1968-2
2017	Knowledge Exchange Excellence Award, HKU The HKJC Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention (PI: Paul S.F. Yip, YW Law , Q Cheng) https://www.ke.hku.hk/research-impact/honours-and-awards/ke-excellence-award

Teaching Award

2016	Teacher of Interprofessional Team-based Learning (IPTBL) for Health Professional Students, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, Bronze Winner for Discipline Award (Life Sciences) of the QS Stars-Wharton Reimagine Education Awards
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