

Willingness of Chinese college students to participate in time bank

G. HUANG. *Willingness of Chinese college students to participate in time bank*. *Gerontechnology* 2014;13(2):211; doi:10.4017/gt.2014.13.02.132.00 **Purpose** Time Bank is a new management mode that aims to help volunteers ‘deposit’ their time, which is spent volunteering with the elderly, and then promises depositors they can withdraw their time, when they become old and need others’ help. Time acts like money in this ‘circulation’. In the western world, this new idea greatly improves people’s enthusiasm to participate volunteer activities with the elderly and helps provide sufficient manpower for nursing for the aged. This will help more gerontology progressions apply in the medical and daily care for the aged and enhance the gerontechnology study. And now it begins to spread in China mainland. This paper aims to generally define the meaning of time banks¹, its development status², advantages and disadvantages³, and tries to describe the future development prospects⁴ based on first-hand data that measures Chinese college students’ willingness to participate in Time Bank. Finally, this paper discusses how to spread knowledge about Time Bank. **Method** We performed a literature review, field surveys, analysis by SPSS, and interviews. **Results & Discussion** Chinese college students’ understanding of the Time Bank is generally low. As *Figure 1* shows, almost 65% students (sample size: 300) have heard about Time Bank, compared with the 5% who have a deep understanding. But after learning about Time Bank, the survey shows there is change in the willingness to participate among them. It can be seen from *Figure 2* that, about 83% students firmly support the Time Bank and would be ready to participate it. We also find four factors that greatly influence Chinese college students’ willingness to participate in Time Bank: economic conditions, experience of participating in volunteer activities, their character and mental qualities, the extent and degree of understanding and evaluation of the Time Bank.

References

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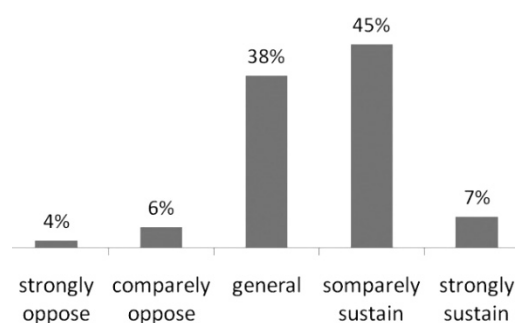
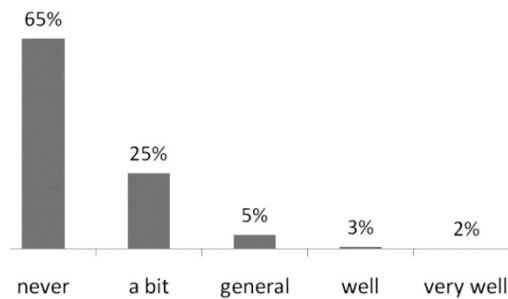


Figure 1. Chinese college students' understanding of Time Bank

Figure 2. Chinese college students' attitude to spread Time Bank