

Ms. Winnie Yang, a friend of Serran Derek Ku and his wife Catherine, introduced herself. She was born in Hong Kong and was baptized to be a Catholic when she was a baby. At 18, she went to Canada to study Business in a University. Initially, she worked in a bank and gained valuable banking experience. Later, she came back to Hong Kong to further her career. She then had a strong desire to do social service work in China. Soon, she joined World Vision Hong Kong to help alleviate poverty in China. She worked in Xinjiang and Yunnan under difficult situations. Resources were scarce. Most people were under nourished, uneducated and very poor. She endured much hardship and experienced a lot. After three years, she came back to Hong Kong to pursue a Master's course. Subsequently, she worked in Hong Kong Jockey Club, the Development Bureau of Hong Kong Government and then the Union Bank of Switzerland gaining exposure and experience in financial management in handling social welfare and education sectors. As Director of philanthropy services of Union Bank of Switzerland, she has a broad perspective of donations, allocation of money and other resources to appropriate and needy people.

Christians have long had a noble aim to help and serve the poor and the under-privileged. People in U.K. and U.S.A. began modern philanthropic work in their countries and other places in the world more than one hundred years ago. Rich people like Rockefeller and Bill Gates donated much money and set up foundations to do charity work of various types. Confucians, Buddhists etc. in China have also done and promoted charity work. As early as 1938, Madam Soong Mei Ling did a lot of charity work. In 1945, the King of Flavor Essence donated his riches to do charity work. In 1980, the Women's Alliance in China solicited donations from overseas and different parts of China to improve charity work. In spite of efforts, poverty alleviation work is still not enough. The need for professional workers, volunteers is still there. The management of welfare work still needs improvement. Legislation and charity laws will have to be further revised.

There are a lot of NGO's and organizations doing welfare work in China. Ways of doing things have to fit different situations and cultures.

In South East Asia, there are a lot of needy people. Family members of domestic workers, working in foreign countries are left behind in the Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand etc. They have emotional needs

and some of them are very poor. Some Catholic priests and nuns are doing much to help them.

During discussion time, the case of corruption in some international welfare organizations was brought up. The need to assist Catholic priests and nuns in China to do charity work is evident.