

Institute for Social Science Research - HDR Student Project

ISSR Impact Area: Health

Title: Life events and trajectories of later-life loneliness

Supervisor/s: [Dr Jack Lam](#) (principal); Supervisory team TBD

Funding:

A PhD scholarship will be offered to the successful candidate. An additional top-up scholarship of \$5,000 is available. The HDR candidate will also qualify to be a student member of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course, which qualifies them to apply for travel grants and attend professional development courses.

Project description:

The PhD project will be part of an ARC DECRA, which examines loneliness from a longitudinal and life course perspective. The DECRA project will investigate whether the experiences of different life events may render older Australians more susceptible to a sustained path to increased loneliness and isolation. It will also innovate by moving the analysis beyond the individual level, incorporating characteristics across households and neighbourhoods. The student will work closely with the advisory team to discuss the details of the PhD project, which will sit within the scope of the DECRA.

The candidate:

Applications will be judged on a competitive basis taking into account the applicant's previous academic record, publication record, honours and awards, and employment history.

A working knowledge of life course theory or methods, sociology, economics or demography would be of benefit to someone working on this project.

The applicant will demonstrate academic achievement in the field(s) of social sciences, particularly in sociology, and/or ageing/gerontological issues and the potential for scholastic success.

A background or knowledge of quantitative analysis of longitudinal, survey data, or experience in quantitative analysis and modelling in Stata, R, or equivalent software is highly desirable.

Achievable Outcomes:

- A PhD from The University of Queensland in a relevant field
- Experience working within an interdisciplinary team of researchers
- Experience with oral/written presentations at national/international conferences
- Scientific papers in high impact research journals