



# **Facets of social inclusion in Singapore: factor analysis and multivariate study**

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## **Abstract**

This paper contains two main parts, an analysis of a social inclusion study, a three-point survey conducted by the Institute of Mental Health (IMH) and an exploratory study on the perception of social workers by students majoring in social work. In a meritocratic society like Singapore, social inclusion is very important to ensure that everyone has equal access and opportunities for social mobility. The first part will be some investigative research on what are the factors that affects a mental health service user's level of inclusion in the society. We will also be attempting to validate a social inclusion measure, mini-SCOPE, for the Singapore context. The mini-SCOPE is an abridged version of the SCOPE, which is a validated and robust social inclusion measure for the UK. Having a validated social inclusion measure for Singapore will be useful for future studies on social inclusion as well as policy making decisions. This will be done through multivariate data analysis methods such as Factor Analysis, Principal Component Analysis and Analysis of Variance. The second part of the paper will study the perception of social workers by social work students. We will explore and compare the difference in perceptions that exists between social work students who wish to become a social worker and those who do not.

Overall, this paper will provide insights as to what are the factors affecting social inclusion of IMH patients in Singapore, attempt to validate a social inclusion measure, mini-SCOPE, and also give deeper understandings as to how students majoring in social work view social workers.