

Abstract

Retirement is an important stage of life that can be stressful. In investigating if there is any difference in the well-being of female retirees who go through the transition of roles, and female homemakers who have not, a comparison was made among these groups. 105 women aged 65 and above, from five elderly centers in Hong Kong participated in this study. There was no significant difference among 'homemakers', 'retirees' and 'homemakers and retirees' in terms of psychological well-being; however, a significant interaction was found regarding work status, income and health. Further analysis showed significant differences among the work status groups in affect balance and depression, in low income and low symptom group. Possible explanations for the results were discussed.