**Thesis**

**Title:**      The associations between childhood trauma and auditory hallucinations: a

study on a non-clinical population with sub-clinical auditory hallucinations

**Abstract:**      A study of the associations between childhood trauma and auditory

hallucinations on a non-clinical population with sub-clinical auditory

hallucinations (n=105) and a non-auditory hallucinations control population

(n=126), which were selected by a designated website, followed by

telephone interview and psychiatric screening. Scores of Childhood Trauma

Questionnaire-Short Form ("CTQ-SF") and the auditory hallucinations

subscale of Psychotic Symptoms Rating Scales ("PSYRATS-AH") obtained

showed that (1) The total CTQ-SF mean score was higher in the non-clinical

population with sub-clinical auditory hallucinations when compared to the

non-auditory hallucinations control population; (2) Within the non-clinical

population, there was positive significant correlation between total CTQ-SF

score and total score of PSYRATS-AH, and physical abuse would pose higher

risk for auditory hallucinations; and (3) Within the non-clinical population,

total score of CTQ-SF and score of beliefs about origin of voices of

PSYRATS-AH did not significantly predict the total score of PSYRATS-AH but

significantly predict the score of amount of distress of PSYRATS-AH. Despite

limitations of cross-cultural validly and sampling bias discussed, the findings

would provide insights on our understanding of the associations between

childhood trauma and auditory hallucinations, at least partial support to

the cognitive model of childhood trauma leading to psychotic symptoms

(Garety, et. al., 2001), identification of high-risk group of mental disorders

for intervention's sake in non-clinical population, and new ways forward for

further study.

*Keywords*: childhood trauma, auditory hallucinations, non-clinical population, sub-clinical auditory hallucinations, cognitive model