Practices involving energy & water in migrant households

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Project background & overview

• Explicitly explored household practices involving energy & water
• Australia comprises diverse households & communities
  – 1 in 4 born overseas (ABS 2008a)
  – 1 in 4 with at least one parent born overseas (ABS 2008b)

**Aim:** to explore past & current practices involving energy, water in established migrant households
# Household snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Country of birth</th>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
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<td>1st &amp; 2nd</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Mother &amp; daughter</td>
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<tr>
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<td>India &amp; Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>1st</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Father &amp; daughter</td>
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<td>Husband/father</td>
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<td>Father &amp; son</td>
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Old & new practices
Practice change

How to water the garden

Practical knowledge

Material infrastructure

Common Understandings

Garden as a productive space, grass & flowers

Rules

Water, taps, buckets, pipes, hoses

No outdoor/garden watering

New rule

No outdoor/ garden watering
Inventive practices
Practice transference
Contested practices
Conclusions

• Australia comprises diverse households & communities who possess rich histories & inventive practices

• Experience with diverse practices can facilitate practice change

• Practices are not static: constantly changed & contested within & beyond households

• Transference of practices occurs ….but appears to be partial

• This research can be used to:
  1. Understand households
  2. Discover alternative practices
  3. Design policies, strategies for practice change

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References

• Australian Bureau of Statistics (2008b). 2008 Year Book Australia, Number

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