

## *Abstract*

Previous researches on adolescents show that children of this age group share a lot of things in common. But the social and cultural significance of this physical reality are far from common. Most studies focus on the concept that adolescents share a homogeneous social and cultural experience. However, this idea doesn't correspond to the richness and range of real-life diversity of adolescents. By rethinking the concept of adolescence, this research aims to give an insight on the cultural understanding of adolescents. This study moves away from the typical concept of youth culture and instead highlights the notions that emphasize the diversity of youth-cultural expressions. This approach serves as the assumption that youth identities cannot be understood outside their particular community and at the same time suggests that just treating youth cultures as the substitute for adult status and the resistance to mainstream norms is not enough. But as a youth culture they participate in their own right. The research is thus concerned with the community of juveniles in the Youth Correctional Institution in Macao. The findings will be of considerable sociological interest since it appears that the consistent use of profane language is a fine-grained criterion of membership of this community. The data should be of interest to the society since it appears that the language behaviour of the community is a result of a lack of education and family life.