

## Rethinking Sanitation Workers in Hong Kong

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Taking up one of the lowest paid and least recognized jobs in society, sanitation workers are placed at the lowest social stratum. Poor working

conditions, exploitation, discrimination, lack of labour rights...all these seem to be closely associated with them. The research project “Rethinking Sanitation Workers in Hong Kong” tries to explain the causes behind such picture by looking at the impact of neoliberalism and the stigmatization of waste. Then with the accounts of the workers, it seeks to understand their agency in taking up the work and how they negotiate with themselves. In the workers’ eyes, sanitation work may not be as negative as we think, and their accounts help to suggest how the existing picture can be reconceptualized.