Appendix

Annexure 1

The following questions were put to the writer Yuen-fong Woon by the researcher via e-mail on April 19, 2011.

1) In *The Excluded Wife*, you speak of injustices and racism that Canada showers on the immigrant Chinese, especially Yik-Man, uncle Fong, Joe and Pauline. Do you think that the treatment by Canada of the Chinese has changed after 1987, the time at which the novel ends?

2) Apart from its treatment in the novel, what do you think of Canada’s attitude to the Chinese and other ethnic groups? Is there a change that you perceive in Canada’s attitude towards its immigrants, especially the Chinese, over the years?

3) Do you think that the varied cultural beliefs of different generations of emigrants from China in Canada causes a generational divide like the one that can be found between Sau-Ping and Kin Pong?

4) Do you feel that what Sau-Ping, who, after nurturing a great longing for China while in Canada returns to China to find changed marriage practices and a brother-in-law whom she can no longer relate with, experiences is a gap that occurs in the case of all migrants, which cannot be bridged?

5) From your novel, a lot of money seems to flow from Canada to China, by means of remittances sent home. How do you evaluate the result of such economic exchanges between nations?
6) Do you feel that immigration has caused characters like Sau-Ping to evolve to a greater extent than those who haven’t travelled out of their home country? Or do immigrants undergo an initial culture shock; after which they exhibit a set identity?

The writer responded to the queries thus on April 20, 2011.

Questions One and Two are about the history of Chinese in Canada. There are quite a few, easily available, in-depth studies on this subject matter published since the 1980s. They await your further reading. Just to give you a brief overview, anti-Chinese, anti-Asian attitudes did take a turn for the worse in the 1990s, particularly in urban centers such as Vancouver and Toronto where Chinese and other Asians congregate. These racist attitudes are sometimes overt, sometimes subtle, but you no longer find outright discriminatory policies, legislations and institutions in Canada which specifically target Asians because of their growing economic and political clout.

Question Three: There was not that much of a divide between Sau-Ping and Pin Pong (sic) because they both grew up in pre-1949 China; but a major cultural divide exists between the local borns (e.g Sau-Ping’s youngest children Pauline and Joe) and the China-borns of the same or different generations.

Question Four: The point of my novel is that marriage practices did not change that much: as in the past, people in the Four Counties are still interested in arranging marriages between their daughters and men who came from Overseas.
See my article, “Between South China and British Columbia: Life Trajectories of Chinese Women,” BC Studies, no.156/157, 2007-2008, pp.83-107. But certainly return-migrants who have spent a long period of time away from their native communities will find it difficult to readjust. I personally witnessed such cases from Chinese old-timers in Canada who went home to retire.


In addition to my focused study on the relationship between Overseas Chinese remittances and South China’s development, you should also look at other similarly focused studies between Overseas Vietnamese remittances and Vietnam; the impacts of South Asian remittances to their homelands, and Filipino domestic workers’ remittances to the Philippines, etc

The last question is impossible to answer because it calls for gross generalizations. Each individual is unique. In the Excluded Wife, I portray Sau-Ping as an unchanging character, very different from her life long friend Mei Kuen.
Annexure 2

The writer Maxine Hong Kingston too had been contacted via e-mail on April 19, 2011. Listed below are the questions posited to her.

1) Your work *The Woman Warrior* has variously been classified as fiction, non-fiction and memoir. Could you please comment on the categorisation?

2) You tend to speak a lot about border crossings. Do you think that these border crossings have caused the characters except Brave Orchid (for she complains of her deterioration in having to pluck tomatoes after qualifying to be a doctor) and Moon Orchid (who is rejected and goes insane) to have a better life?

3) *The Woman Warrior* speaks of racism which the persona Maxine Hong Kingston thinks she has to combat. 'Do you feel that xenophobia for the Chinese still exists in America? Or has there been any change in the situation over the years?

4) Could you please comment on how the identities of the characters in *The Woman Warrior* get affected with the process of migration?

5) Do you think that certain common features characterise the different generations of overseas Chinese in America? Or is it wrong to make such generalisations?

6) Does America treat all its immigrant population the same way? Or is there any hierarchy that exists in the treatment of different ethnic groups? If so, what is the position of the Chinese in such a hierarchy?
7) Could you please comment on the nostalgia experienced by Brave Orchid for her home land?

The writer responded on April 21, 2011 with the following replies.

You'll be able to answer your questions by reading the books after *The Woman Warrior*.

Note this curiosity: - The Vintage paperback edition says "Nonfiction" on the front cover and "Fiction" on the back cover. There's been a number of papers and dissertations on genre in my books.

*CHINA MEN* deals with the crossing of national boundaries. *NEIGHBORS* by Ben Daniels tells precisely my current views on immigration.

*TRIPMASTER MONKEY* is about recent generations of migration.

PS: Though from the mails reproduced in the appendix, the parts expressing courtesy have been stripped, the questions put forward to the writers and the answers given have not been edited.

**Annexure 3**