原住民青少年族群認同歷程與校園族群互動研究

A study of Ethnic Identity and Ethnic Interaction Phenomena among Indigenous Adolescents in a Junior College

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Abstract

Ethnic identity related topics have been identified as one of major issues in the world as well as in Taiwan. The purpose of the research was to investigate the identity state among indigenous adolescents and the related issues. There were four scales designed and used in this research: The Ethnic Identity Scale, The Ethnic Distance Scale, The Ethnic Impression Scale, and The Ethnic Interaction Scale. The Chronbach α value for each scale was acceptable. The response rate of questionnaire was 99.7 %(N=726). The Ethnic Identity score among the participators was quite high, which the average score was 176.3(range 54-216). The score was no significant differences between different grades or between different tribes. In addition, the aboriginal adolescents who has aboriginal names had a significant higher score than those who without aboriginal names. The adolescents who census registered in a country side also held significant higher Ethnic Identity score than those who census registered in an urban area. The Ethnic Distance Scale showed that there was not a large Ethnic Distance score existence between Han and aboriginal group, but a t-test revealed that Han group did not tend to develop a close relationship with Indigenous group. The results of The Impression Scale showed that both Han and aboriginal tribes held more positive impression toward Aborigines than toward Han group. Furthermore, there was no significant difference between Han and aboriginal groups of The Han Impression Scale score. However, in term of The Aboriginal Impression scale, the aboriginal group got significant higher score than Han group. The Interactive Scale showed that aboriginal group had a better interaction score toward The Aboriginal Scale and reached a significant level. Similarly, Han group held higher score on The Han Interaction Scale than the aborigines and reach the statistic level, too. In correlation test, the correlation efficient among different variables for The Ethnic Identity Score from high to low was The Interaction score (.335), with or without aboriginal name (.243), The Impression score toward aboriginal (.220) and the domicile register area (-.21). Finally, stepwise regression was implied to find the best fit model. There are four independent variable researching the significant level which as same as the correlation results. The total adjusted R square R (20%) was not high enough.

Introduction

1993 is the Year of Aboriginal proclaimed by United Nation (UN). In 1995, UN released The Draft Declaration of Indigenous[1] which claimed the right of

indigenous people should be highly respected, since most of rights of them were suppressed by the majority race or have been marginalized and ignored. Now, to advocate multi-cultures society is a modern wave in the whole world. Learn to admire and deeply understand the beauty of different cultures as an indicator of developed countries. Taiwan is no exception.

The fate of Taiwan aboriginal is just like most of the other aboriginal in their lands. The less than 2% of population of total habitants[2], gradually losing of languages and disintegrating of traditional social organization of indigenous tribes endanger the existence of aborigine in Taiwan[3,4,5]. Sensing the crisis, the aboriginal began their social campaign in 1984[6]. A string of events happened in turn, including reconstructing traditional house, recovery of aboriginal names, reclaim their right of their traditional land and even strive for right of self-government[6,7].

In 1999, Chen & Liau's study[8] showed that there was a firm identification state among A-Mai tribe school age children in Haw-Lin where is located in a countryside. In 2002, Draw[9] investigated the school age aboriginal children in a city area, also showed that there was a middle-high range of ethnic identity level. It seems that the childhood age of aborigines held strong identity toward theirs tribes, but how about the identity level after these aboriginal children getting older? Wei & Chang[10] point out that reaching the early period of adolescent, aboriginal junior-high school adolescents still held strong ethnic identity to their tribe, but there is an arduous task waiting for them. Once they step into the late adolescent period and encounter to the society, they will find their culture is out of the main stream of Taiwan that cause an identity dilemma for them. To conclude, there is knowledge gap among these previous studies and also badly need to explore the ethnic identity status among aboriginal adolescents.

Materials and Method

According to research purpose, four questionnaires were designed: The Ethnic Identity Scale of Aboriginal Adolescences, The Ethnic Distance Scale, The Inter-tribe Interaction Scale and The Ethnic Impression Scale. For increase the validity of questionnaires, the superficial validity was conducted. Advices for improving these questionnaires were given by seven experts who composed of senior researchers of aboriginal issues, outstanding aboriginal people and professors with experienced questionnaire design. At the same time, 10 students were invited to fill in the questionnaires and provided feedback immediately. After that, a pilot study was executed for test the reliability of these questionnaires. 115 students enrolled in the pilot study.

First, Cronbach's α value for each scale were .89, .79, .75 and .84, showing good internal consistency. Secondly, the test and retest reliability was conducted. The interval between the two tests was two weeks. Pair-t test was applied to exam each scale if there is any significant different between test-retest results or not. The P value of the pair-t test ranged from .17 to .81. , showing acceptable stability in terms of reliability.

Besides that, the correlation values of 3 questionnaires of pre-post tests were 0.64 to 0.81, and the P value less than .001. The lowest correlation coefficient was The Ethnic Distance Scale, which was .25, but P value also below .05. After refining these questionnaires, the large-scale investigation was processed.

Because of welfare policy offered by the institution of technology, most of the female aboriginal adolescents were drawn to the focal school. The population in the school was around 1,600 which was composed the largest population in Taiwan. Stratified random sampling procedure was used to include participates. All questionnaires were delivered and the full in notices were explained by all researchers. For better retrieving, the investigation was implemented in evening time at student's dormitories and retrieve at once questionnaire response rate. was excellent which was 99.7 % (N=726) SPSS was used for data analysis.

Results

First, according to the demographic characteristics data, all the participators were female and the average age was 17.4 (S.d. =1.25). The participants consist of two major race which were aboriginal tribes 51.1% (N=371) and the majority, Han, 48.9 % (N=355). The former composed of 11 tribes within the aboriginal group: 阿美 27.7%,泰雅 24.9%,排灣 21.6%,布農 14.5%, 太魯閣族 5.5%, and each other tribes account for around 1% (卑南、鄒族、雅美、賽夏、魯凱). The Han group included four subgroups (閩南 35.1%, 客家 8.3%, 外省 3.6%, 其他 1.7%).The prime resource of

knowing aboriginal culture came from, for aborigines no doubt, the upbringing experience (65.5%) The secondary resource was listening stories to the relatives (39.4%). On the other hand, for Han group adolescences, they acquired aboriginal cultures mainly from classmates (74.4%) and the secondary resource came from life experience (37.5%). The registered time for identify an aboriginal state nearly 89% was on the birthday and the second highest was when they entered the junior high-school (5.7%). The social class state score (SCSS) of aboriginal parents was 26.14 which was equal to social class state index (SCSI*) 4 , middle-low level, while the SCSS of Han group's parents was 30.04 which equal to SCSI 3, middle level. After t-test, there was a significant difference of SCSI between these two groups.

The Ethnic Identity score showed that there was a quite high level of ethnic identity 176.3(range 54-216). ANOVA was used to test is there significant different identity score within these tribes and also within 4 grades. The results reveal that no matter what tribe the aboriginal student belongs, the identity score was no significant differences within tribes (F=1.01). This meant that every aboriginal adolescence identify their own tribe well. However, there were two independent variables showing to significant different identity score; the aboriginal participators who have aboriginal names (N=259) had significant high score than those who without their aboriginal names (N=78) (t=4.58, P<.001). In addition, the identity score of whose census registered in a

countryside (N=211) was significant higher than those census registered in a city area (N=126) (t=3.84, P<.001).

The Ethnic Distance Scale to aboriginal was quite low, the overall mean score is 10.99 (range 10-20). This seems that there was not a big distance between the Han or aboriginal tribes. But take a closer look, using t-test to exam the Han group and aboriginal group response of the aboriginal distance. The result was significant difference (t=-8.82, P<.001), implying that Han participants would not prefer developing a very close relationship with aborigines.

The Ethnic Impression Scale divided into two parts which were the Aboriginal Impression Scale and the Han Impression Scale. The result turned out a very interesting way. The overall score of impression toward aborigines (mean=66.14) was much higher than the impression toward Han group (mean=51.49). The gap was as big as 15(range 12-108). This meant that no matter what was the participant's ethnic, she held much more positive impression toward aborigines than the Han group. After comparing the Han Impression score between Han and aborigine groups, there was no significant difference. Nevertheless, the aboriginal group held significant higher score of Aborigine Impression Score than Han group did.

The Ethnic Interaction Scale also divided two parts which composed of the Aboriginal Interaction Scale and the Han Interaction Scale. The all over all average score of both scales were quite close, the former was 48.18 and the latter was 49.72.

After t-test test, the result of the Aboriginal Interaction Scale showed that the aborigines had a higher score compared with the Han participants, reaching statistic significant level(t=11.6, P<.001). As to the Han Interaction Scale, the results similar to the Aboriginal Interaction scale. The Han group got higher score than aboriginal group on the Han Interaction Scale and also reached the significant level (t=-3.02, P<.01). Finally, stepwise regression was implied to find the best fit model. There are four independent variables researching the significant level and included in the mode: The Interaction score, with or without aboriginal name, The Impression score toward aboriginal and the domicile register area. The total adjusted R (20%) square was not high enough.

Discussion

Like the previous studies, younger generations held rather high ethnic identity level, which was not as pessimistic as predict[11]. It seems good news and also should be regarded as a potential benefit for the development of aboriginal tribes. What are the factors contributing to the results? It is worth further exploration.

The finding that the countryside domicile register area showed higher identity score than the city area seems indicated that the upbringing background is a crucial factor influencing the identity score coincided with the research finding of Shu[11] and Kvernmo & Heyerdahl[12]. In their researches, the adolescents who live in great integration and assimilation area identified themselves as bicultural, while the adolescent in highland (with strong ethnic support) identified themselves as Samis. It

suggested that Community context (regional and family context) is an essential factor of shaping ethnic identity[13].

The connecting between aboriginal name and identity level is rare among previous researches, While in this research indicated that aboriginal name may played a crucial role on emotional connection.

The adjusted R square value stepwise regression shows that the model accounts for only 20% of variance of identity. This may indicated that some more important variables should be taken into account. Furthermore, it implies that ethnic identity is a multidimension concept that have effected by vast variables and constantly changing[14,15]

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＊ Social class state score (SCSS) =education level X 4 + job index X 7. Score range of SCSS 52-55 record 1 which is the highest level of social class state index (SCSI); Score range of SCSS 41-51 record 2 which is the middle-high level of SCSI; Score range of SCSS 30-40 record 3 which is middle level; Score range of SCSS 19-29 record 4 which is the middle-low level of SCSI; Score range of SCSS 11-18 record 5 which is the lowest level of SCSI.