

Conference Proceedings

2014 “Bald Eagle & Panda” U.S.-China Culture Exchange Virtual Conference



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Editors

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Preface

These proceedings contain the papers submitted to the first “Bald Eagle & Panda” U.S.-China Culture Exchange Virtual Conference held at Henan Normal University and Xi’an International University on May 25-26, 2014. It is our great pleasure to share with you that this year we received more than 40 proposals. Thirty-one proposals were accepted as presentations at the virtual conference and 20 were invited to submit full papers for consideration of the best paper competition.

All the proposals were managed by the conference planning committee. Coordinated by the committee, 22 reviewers contributed to the rigorous paper review process. All the reviewers held Master or Ph.D. degree in diverse disciplines within the social sciences. Each paper was blind-reviewed by at least two reviewers. Detailed comments were offered to the authors to further refine their full proposals. These proceedings are the final quality work contributed by the authors, the reviewers, and the conference planning committee.

It is important to note that these papers were written by Chinese university students for whom English is NOT their native language. Virtually none of the authors had visited an English speaking country nor had extensive language instruction other than that through the educational system. These papers retain some grammar “errors” that would be expected for undergraduates struggling with a second language. We present them as their authentic work.

We would like to thank all of the authors, reviewers, and the conference planning committee for making this project possible. Special thank to all 22 reviewers for their valuable time and comments to the authors. The paper review process could not be implemented without the dedication and expertise from diverse fields of all the reviewers.

Last but not least important, we would like to express our gratitude to Dr. Qingyi Duanmu at Henan Normal University, Director Qiang Zeng at the Xi’an International University, and Dr. Ian Newman at University of Nebraska Lincoln for their support during the entire process.

Congratulations once again to all of the authors whose papers were accepted at the 1st “Bald Eagle & Panda” U.S.-China Culture Exchange Virtual Conference!

Sincerely,

Liang (Rebecca) Tang, Ph.D.
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DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHINESE AND WESTERN FOOD CULTURE

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Abstract: Food plays an important role in Chinese culture in ancient times. With the development of China, we have higher requirements on food. Today, I will share my point of view on Chinese and Western culture from three aspects. They are diet concepts, tableware and the table manners. The purpose of this topic is to make us know more about our traditional and American's culture so that we can adopt an objective, tolerant and respectful attitude to different cultures.

Keywords: Chinese, diet, culture, America, food

摘要：食物在古代中国文化中扮演着重要的角色，随着中国的发展，我们对食物也有了更高的要求。今天呢，我将会从三个方面发表我有关中美文化的观点。分别是饮食观念，餐具和餐桌礼仪。这个主题的目的呢是让我们知道更多中美文化，从而让我们采取一个客观的，平和的，尊重的态度对待不同的文化。

关键词：中国，饮食，文化，美国，食物

I. Differences in diet concepts

Chinese diet aims at the pursuit of delicious cooking, by contrast, westerners put nutrition to the highest guideline. They hold the rational diet idea that the nutrition comes first. They care about the intake of calories, vitamins protein and so on a day. It is consistent with western philosophy of which metaphysics is the main characteristic. This kind of philosophy gives western culture vitality. Nevertheless, it hinders the development of diet culture. For example, at the banquet, they pay attention to tableware, the ingredients and service, etc.

Chinese have put food to the top priority. As the saying goes, "Hunger breeds discontentment." That means the masses regard sufficient food as their heaven. Actually because of our low level of productivity, people were always concerned about whether they could be hungry. It probably evolved for survival at first. When we meet our acquaintances, we would greet him or her, "have you eaten the meal?" which proves that our diet culture have become the most unique culture that we regard food as everything. In Chinese cuisine, the pursuit of flavor has reached an excellent level. But when we enjoy delicacy, we ignore the most basic nutrition of it. We pay attention to "color, flavor, shape and implement." But the actions during cooking may destroy the nutrition constituent. It is our fatal weakness.

When we taste one dish, we always say that this dish is delicious, that is not delicious.

But when someone asks us what delicacy is or why it is delicious, I suppose the majority of Chinese can't answer it. It tells us what we Chinese pursue is a kind of imagery beyond words. It is consistent with our Chinese traditional philosophy whose remarkable characteristic is macroscopic, intuitive, fuzzy, elusive. The reason why Chinese cuisine possesses so unique charm is flavor. How to generate flavor lies in moderation. It contains its own taste, the taste after being processed, the taste of ingredients. All of them are mixed thoroughly. They complement with each other, they interpenetrate, they are in complete harmony. Chinese cuisine stresses the beauty of moderation, the quintessence of Chinese cuisine. Color and shape are external presentation and flavor is internal stuff. We stress internality instead of external decoration by design. We stress flavor but not show off shape and color excessively. That is the most significant reflection of Chinese artistic diet culture.

II. Differences in tableware

As for the tableware, the differences between east and west are obvious. In China, or even in some Asian countries, chopsticks are used to eat, spoon is used to drink soups, bowl is used to contain the meal. In the west, they use knife and fork to eat. When it comes to chopsticks, we associate with Chinese. On talking about knife and fork, the western tableware floated through our mind. Therefore, as two kinds of typical tableware, to some extent, they two can reflect different cultures between west and east. Now, I will explain it in detail.

Chopsticks originated from the place where abounds with bamboos. There are rich timber resources in the north of China, while bamboos are abundant in the southern area. Then our ancestors came up with a good idea that using local ingredients. As time went by, both woods and bamboos became the most original ingredients of chopsticks. Until now, we are using woods as the material of chopsticks. Knife and fork's initial origin is related to nomadic nations' life style in ancient Europe. They lived on the horseback carrying their knives. They always roasted the meat and cut it to eat directly. After a while, they began their resident life. Knife and fork came into kitchen. Chopsticks are mainly made from woods, the material of knife and fork is mainly steel. Chopsticks are excessively primitive and natural tools with no any complex technology. Nevertheless, westerners replaced twigs with stone and knife in advance. Then they began to use metal to manufacture tools. At length, knife came out. To some extent, it reflects the westerners' emphasis on heavy industry.

Since ancient times, the way of using tableware between east and west is different. This kind of difference results in diverse lifestyles. This is especially apparent in knocking at the door. When we Chinese knock at the door, the back of our hand is facing the door and the palm is toward ourselves. However, westerners are absolutely opposite to us. Similar to two kinds of animals, the actions of using chopsticks are just like bird's pecking, and the actions of using knife and fork resemble that animal claws tear their preys. Knife and fork must cause the situation that everyone enjoys their own share separately. Chopsticks consistent with the scene that family members sit

around and share the meals. Westerners ate separately at first. It may be one of the reasons why they emphasize their dependence. When their descendants grow up, they will naturally generate the idea that they should make a living by themselves. Our Chinese sharing highlight our family units, even our stubborn family concepts. The most obvious characteristic of chopsticks is that cope with shifting events by sticking to a fundamental principle. Square or oblate, long or short, hard or soft. Whatever it is, all of them can be eaten with chopsticks. It is really magic! Use light energy but gain amounts of food. There is an evaluation about chopsticks, such simple stuff utilize leverage principle skillfully. Chopsticks are extension of our fingers. How smart it is! It is precisely proved that our ways of thinking are indirect, not straight. We are good at using tricks and strategies.

III. Differences in table manners

As for the table manners, there are also many differences. In China, no matter what kind of feast, there will be only a common phenomenon, that is, we sit around and share dishes, delicacies are on the center of the round table. We toast and drink-urging, put food in the bowl or plate of others. These behaviors are showing our respect and politeness. The place where we are eating will be filled with laughter and the voice of talking. This scene is bustling and harmonious. There will be a courtesy and comity atmosphere. In western countries, when they have a banquet, the hosts may be not very enthusiastic, they just eat their own food. Contrary to us, it is forbidden to put your food on others' plate, because it's a embodiment of impoliteness. It may result in more serious consequence that they will think you have poor personal hygiene.

There are some general behaviors in America, that is, do not make unbecoming noises while eating. Do not talk at an excessively loud volume. Chew with your mouth closed. You can find the mutual features, no talking during their dinners. In China, traditionally, it is polite for the youngest members of the table to address each and everyone of the elderly members of the table before a meal starts and literally tell them to "eat rice," which means "go ahead and start the meal. " It embodies our traditional virtue, "respect the old and cherish the young ." What's more, in China, you're allowed to leave some dishes, the hosts will think you are satisfied with their treatment. But in western countries, if you finish eating everything on your plate, the hosts will believe the dishes they prepared are delicious. Also, except in a public restaurant, do not ask to take some of your uneaten food away from the meal after it ends, especially when having a formal dinner. This is not polite in both China and America.

Conclusion

Diet is indispensable for our daily life; it is highly likely that different cultures cause different dietary habits in concept, targets, style, etc. To research on these differences, we can find the mutual features to promote east-west cultural exchanges. What's more, because of economic globalization, it's easier to know their cultures. So in the face of

different food culture, what we should do is to find their mutual advantages so that our Chinese cuisine can be more outstanding, and then to enrich our traditional culture. It is well known that China is a great country with a long history. In the course of development it absorbs a lot of different cultures. Therefore, we need to use such an opportunity to learn excellent cultures from other countries to make the world know China better. To sum up, I believe that the cultural differences between Chinese and western food culture will no longer be the different.

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHINESE AND AMERICAN DIETARY CULTURE

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Abstract: Dietary culture is an important component of the national cultures. With the entrance of the 21st century, Sino-US cross-cultural communication has become more and more frequent, among which dietary culture has been one of the most popular topics. Because of the differences in living environments, customs and value concepts, China and America have formed their own different dietary cultures. As a result, sometimes misunderstandings appear between Chinese and Americans in their communication. That's why I'd like to write a paper entitled *the Differences between Chinese and American Dietary Cultures*, which will analyze these differences in dietary cultures between China and America ranging from dietary concepts, raw materials, dietary structures, and cooking patterns, to tableware and dining atmosphere, followed by reasons behind each difference, aiming to facilitate the efficient communication between Chinese and Americans and help them avoid unnecessary misunderstandings.

Knowing the differences between dietary cultures in China and in America is also good for English learners so that they have a better understanding of both eastern and western cultures, and it also increases the chances of success in their cross-cultural communication. Meanwhile, both Chinese and American dietary cultures will develop in the Sino-US continuous communication and keep improving in the process of conflicts. In addition, people in China and America will be able to enjoy more delicious and nutritious food.

Keywords: China, America, dietary cultures, differences

摘要: 饮食文化是国家文化的重要组成部分。随着 21 世纪的到来, 中美人民跨文化交流愈加频繁, 饮食文化是交流的最日常话题之一。由于生活环境、传统习俗和价值观念的不同, 中美两国形成了各自不同的饮食文化。因此, 人们在两国跨文化交流中容易出现一些误解。为了帮助解决这一问题, 我写了这篇题目为《中美饮食文化的区别》的论文, 文章将从饮食观念、原材料、饮食结构、烹饪方式、餐具和用餐氛围五个方面逐一分析两国饮食文化的不同, 同时解释了区别背后的原因, 旨在促进中美两国人民的跨文化交流, 帮助避免交流出现不必要的误解。英语学习者学习中美饮食文化的区别能帮助他们更好地理解东西方文化, 促进其跨文化交流的顺利进行。同时, 中美饮食文化也将会在两国人民跨文化交流中得到发展, 在碰撞摩擦中得到提升。另外, 中美两国人民也能从中受益匪浅, 品尝到更加美味营养的食物。

关键词: 中国; 美国; 饮食文化; 区别

I. The Differences in Dietary Cultures between China and America

1. Differences in Dietary Concepts

As a famous Chinese saying goes, *Min yi shi wei tian* (The masses regard sufficient food as their heaven). It shows the importance of eating in the mind of Chinese people. Chinese people take a good meal as a pursuit of art of beauty. They try their best to perfect a dish not only from color but also from incense, taste and shape. It means that in the eyes of Chinese people, a dish should look beautiful, smell good and taste delicious. Chinese have a high demand of the appearance of a dinner. They not only stress the beauty of the food but also the beauty of the environment and the tableware. Various kinds of beauty are reconciled in a well-prepared dinner. The chefs match the colors of food carefully, such as the collocation of the main colors and the sub-colors, and the collocation of warm colors and cold colors. This makes the dinner look colorful and stimulate people's appetite. At the same time, many raw materials, which are engraved into the shapes of flower, bird, mountain and human, are put on the plates next to the main dishes, bringing a sense of beauty to the eaters. In addition, the dietary environment is sometimes full of a kind of elegant and attractive city ambiance, but sometimes brims with a quiet and beautiful rural atmosphere. For example, the Mexican Restaurant in Beijing Exhibition Center is a building with a Russian style. The *Teng Ge Li La* Cafeteria looks like a big Mongolian yurt. (Xu 2005, 68) Besides, the tableware in these restaurants also looks perfect. The size of the table ware matches with the amount of food, the pattern matches with the shape of the food, and the color of the tableware matches with that of the food. (Li 2011, 25) The appearance of a dinner is very important but Chinese people regard taste as the most important. Therefore, it is no wonder that Chinese people are very interested in the taste of a dish. They try to reconcile the flavor of every ingredient to get an attractive taste. (Zhao 2003, 105)

Compared with Chinese people, Americans pay less attention to the form and taste of a dish but focus much more on nutrition. They pay much attention to the amount of protein, fat, heat, and vitamin. They analyze whether the dish has an appropriate collocation of nutrition, whether the amount of calories is moderate, and whether the nutrition can be fully absorbed. (Lin 1998, 68) They emphasize on the original flavor and nutrition of food. Therefore, they adopt fresh raw materials and try to keep their original nutrition and taste as much as possible when they cook them. Even though the dishes are bitter to eat, they will eat them provided they contain lots of nutrition.

2. Differences in the Use of Raw Materials

Chinese people have a wide interest in eating, so they use many kinds of raw materials in cooking. There is a saying that things in the air except plane, things in the water except submarines and things with four legs except benches are all Chinese people's food. This saying is not totally in accordance with the reality but it is not far away from the truth. (Lu 2002, 96) There was a case of killing pandas in the 1980s in Sichuan province. When the policemen reached the home of the suspect, panda meat was being stewed in his pot and it was perhaps the most expensive meat in the world. Chinese people not only eat those that fly in the air, swim in the water and run on the ground, but also eat every part of them, from top to toe and from the outside to the inside. Even traditional Chinese medicinal materials can be severed on the table with the name medicinal food, such as Stewed Black-boned Chicken with Chinese Herbs. (Yang 2004, 36)

In the aspect of eating, Americans treat the food they do not know cautiously. They do not eat fish which lives in the river and seldom eat pork and abdominal organs which can be made into delicious food in China. They also do not eat animal skin because it is high in cholesterol. What they favor the best is beef, chicken and fish. Chinese people like chicken feet very much and give a beautiful name to them that is *Fengzhua* (phoenix foot). Song Meiling lived up to 103 years old and she loved chicken feet the best during her life-time. (Yang 2004, 36). But Americans do not eat chicken feet so they sell them to Chinese at a low price.

3. Differences in Dietary Structures

Chinese dietary culture is rooted in the agricultural economy. China has been a great agricultural country since the ancient. Chinese's main food is mainly made of rice and wheat. Besides, millet, maize, *kaoliang*, potatoes and sweet potatoes also occupy a proportion in their main food. Lots of food which made of flour such as steam buns, noodles, clay oven rolls, and fried bread stick; all kinds of porridge, pies and snacks contribute much to people's colorful life. (Xue 2001, 253) Chinese people do not eat meat everyday. Only when holiday comes or when people have a high level living condition do they eat some meat. According to Western investigators, the vegetables Chinese people eat are more than 600 kinds, six times than those of Americans. (Guo 2010, 93)

While America is developed from a nomadic nation, therefore they have a developed animal husbandry. In their diet, meat and dairy products are a requisite part and occupy a big proportion on the table. They pay lots of attention to the ingestion of animal protein and fat. Dishes made of meat are always seen on their table. (Pang 2011, 268) Thus Americans are much stronger than Chinese people. They seldom suffer from bone diseases. However, many of the old people in China turn to humpbacks and suffer from osteoporosis for they seldom drink milk in their daily life.

4. Differences in Cooking Patterns

The difference in cooking patterns between China and the West is first shown in the use of knife. Chinese Cutting is the most famous in the world. There are more than ten kinds of Cutting in China such as dicing, slicing, mashing, mincing, grinding, filleting, shredding, and flattening and roll cutting. (Jin 2003, 178) Chinese chefs also make beautiful engravings with the raw materials. While the Americans usually choose large pieces of raw materials in their cooking. Chicken and beef steaks that are as large as palms are very common to be seen in America. (Han 2011, 73)

The second difference lies in the cooking methods. China has a rich kind of cooking methods, such as braising, quick boiling, scaling, stewing, gradual simmering, slow red cooking, steaming, decoration and so on, up to more than thirty kinds. (Ji 2011, 128) Besides, the dishes cooked with these methods are numerous. That is why Chinese feel it is very interesting to cook. However, Americans emphasize much on scientific diet and the collocation of nutrition. They usually use cooking methods like frying, sautéing, baking, grilling, etc. They cook according to scientific disciplines all the time, which is somewhat mechanized and monotonous. (Han 2011, 74)

The third difference lies in the master of the cooking time and the amount of ingredients. In China, a meal can neither be cooked too long nor too short. The master

of the cooking time lies on the experience of the chefs and has no definite standards. (Li 2009, 25) However, Americans have a strict control in their cooking. The preparation of the raw materials is accurate to one gram and the cooking duration is accurate to one second. And most Americans prepare all kinds of cooking tools in the kitchens, such as measuring cups, platform scales, thermometers, elapsed time clocks, not to say forks to separate the egg white and the egg yolk, and cramps to clamp different kinds of food. Some other tools whose names are difficult for Chinese to call are also common in their kitchens. Stepping into their kitchens is somewhat like entering into chemical laboratories. But Chinese people like to be optional for the amount of ingredients, therefore people can often read directions like this “with a little salt, some oil and moderate sugar” in Chinese cookbooks. (Lu 2002, 97)

The fourth difference lies in the taste. Chinese dishes require the reconciliation of tastes. The character of each material is eliminated but the dish is splendid in the whole. With one kind of material, the Chinese chefs can cook many dishes with different flavors. You may find the taste of fish in tofu, and feel the flavor of meat in vegetables. However, the Americans emphasize on distinction. The original taste of each material can be felt in each dish. In addition, they often eat raw vegetables, not only tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce but also cabbage, onions and broccoli. Not like Chinese, they use fewer kinds of seasonings in their cooking. They seldom use fennels or wild pepper and they eat no monosodium glutamate, because they think it contains little nutrition and may produce side effects. (Zhang 2009, 75)

5. Differences in the tableware and dining atmosphere

Chinese people usually use chopsticks and bowls for their eating, while Americans often use forks, knives and plates. Usually, they take fork in their left hand, and cut off a piece of meat or whatever it is in the normal manners with the knife in their right hand. Then they put the knife down, transfer the fork to their right hand, and only then do they transport the food to their mouth, which is somewhat tedious in Chinese people's eyes.

Chinese people prefer to toast each other and urge others to drink more in a lively atmosphere. On the contrary, Americans usually eat food quietly, even no talking. For drinking, they only symbolically take a sip. In a banquet, the host helps the guest to food for only once, and then asks them to eat any more, which is not like Chinese people's habit of urging somebody to drink frequently. It is not allowed to make a noise while eating the food, but the guests should pay attention to appreciate the meals that the owners have prepared. If the guests want to talk with others, they can only talk with the ones besides them which is considered polite.

II. Reasons behind the differences

The different national cultures in China and the America contribute to the differences of dietary cultures between them. These differences are due to the different histories, philosophies, living environments, economies, customs and so on between Chinese and Americans.

III. Conclusion

China and America are very different in dietary cultures, but both of them have their strengths. With the progress of globalization, the two cultures are reconciling gradually. Now lots of American foods, such as hamburger and sandwich, have

entered into Chinese market. Fast food restaurants like KFC and McDonald are common in every city of China. Chinese food has also entered American market. These two cultures are improving in the process of conflicts. Now most Chinese pay more attention to the nutrition of food and their cooking is becoming more and more scientific. At the same time, Americans begin to pay attention to the color, incense taste and shape of food, which is getting closer to Chinese food. Chinese and American dietary cultures will develop in the continuous communication, and people in these two countries will be able to enjoy more delicious and more nutritious food.

FOLK MUSIC, STILL A WONDERFUL LANGUAGE TODAY

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Abstract: Folk music is very popular among civil people, and has strong ethnic characteristics. It is wide-ranging with a long history, including not only religion, love, war, work, but also drink, dance for fun, festivals and so on. Performance of singing folk songs is a nation's feeling and has its unique scale and exotic style. For example, Italian folk's enthusiasm, British folk's simplicity, and Japanese folk's grief and indignation. These all reflect a national temperament. Then, let us focus on the folk music of China and the USA, feeling the fascination of them.

Keywords: History, Comparison, Story, Communication, Summary

I. History

1. China: First of all, let us enjoy the folk music of China. In the 2014 CCTV spring festival gala, Chinese folk singer Hao Yun performed a song which reflected the present situation that people prefer to text to a group rather than prepare a sincere blessing during the festival. Many people think highly of his show owing to its strong realistic meaning. Nowadays, most Chinese people, especially the younger generation, only focus on those folk songs during some big events and are seldom willing to know more about it.

As a matter of fact, like any nations in the world, Chinese folk music was also created when their ancestors did the primitive hunting, offered sacrifices, got married, went to graze and other activities in the initiation and then spread gradually. So, it was early established "the labor songs its story, hungry people sing for food" or "in the sense of sorrow, send for the matter" and so forth traditional art of realism. It is said that there were folk songs as early as in the Yellow emperor era. The outstanding chapters in early folk singing provided partial basis for us to understand the social life at that time, and also let us see the ancestors' capacities in oral observation, summary and description for their work, marriage, beliefs, behavior, and emotion to the stunning art level thousands of years ago.

About sixth Century BC, the first anthology poetry -- "the book of songs" emerged in China. There are 305 works and 165 pieces of them are folk songs. Besides, the social and historical content are recorded in these works which have not only wide range, but also the typical and deep connotation. It is the way of singing that reveals Zhou Dynasty's civil society for 500 years, and those songs can be called "the century history". In particular, these poems are mostly adopting the "four words". The word lattice is relatively stable and widely used, which play an irreplaceable role in the

further development and diversification of the librettos and sentences of Chinese folk songs later.

Since the Han Dynasty, folk songs continued to expand, and their forms had changed. The special music institution called “Yue Fu” which played an important role in the recording and promotion of folk songs in the Qin and Han Dynasties. It could be called another peak in the Chinese folk music history since the appearance of “the book of songs”.

In the Tang Dynasty, the emperors vigorously developed cultural exchange with foreign countries and widely learned surrounding national music history. Therefore, the folk singings still maintained their vitality. In general, in addition to producing new varieties of the genre, the biggest feature of the style of the Tang Dynasty folk songs was that the "seven words" were fully mature and widely used.

From the Song Yuan Ming and Qing Dynasties, on the one hand, a variety of original folk genres continued to spread, such as the farmers’ songs, the fishermen's songs, the mountaineers’ songs and the boatmen’s songs etc. On the other hand, some new genres were appearing because of the township commercial and economy’s prosperity.

Since the 20th century, because of the Xin Hai Revolution in 1911 and the "May fourth" new culture movement, folk songs entered into a new stage. And songs about anti-imperialism, anti-feudalism reached a climax. After the foundation of the Communist Party, the majority of farmers and herdsmen came round. So folk songs got the revitalization. During this period, New Folk Songs which reflected themes about people's revolution and unity to resist foreign aggression achieved unprecedented prosperity. In addition, a number of folk songs about the fight for freedom of marriage and drugs, gender equality were appearing. Since the foundation of new China in 1949, labor forces were truly respected, Chinese folk songs had entered a new era. And most songs showed people’s new life.

In a word, Chinese folk songs have experienced propagation, transformation, innovation and accumulation for thousands of years. And after that, the genres and categories are formed to adapt to different social strata and different folk scenes which have reached a very mature position. What’s more, Chinese folk songs fully display the national and regional styles. And they all make this kind of folk music have a long history, inherit constantly and finally become a national cultural treasure. Just in this meaning, some people pointed out: Chinese folk song is a “Encyclopedia” of the Chinese nation’s social life, and it also provides a rich source of nutrition for other folk music.

2. The USA: Then, let us focus on a popular film< Inside Llewyn Davis> . The film made reference to 60's folk singer Dave Van Frank's own experience, directed by Cohen brothers who personally rearranged the story. It told the story of a folk singer

Llewyn Davis who was born in the Queens Borough of New York, struggling in the 1960s during the folk music heyday. In fact, this is not a folk singer biopic but to recall 1960's golden age of folk music. And the film recreated a plurality of folk music rendezvous, including Gerde's Folk City of New York west, The Gaslight Café of Greenwich Village and Chicago's bar Gate of Horn. The bar has witnessed the glorious era Bob Dylan and a group of folk singers. "Who you are is not important, what is the most important is that you are a part of this ballad tide", said the director, that is the movie's true theme. In fact, in the prevalence of pop music today, the movie appeals us to review the folk music and know more about it.

Next, we'll go into the history of the USA's folk music. Folk music existed only in working class in early days. Due to the fact that it was only concerned in specific areas, succeed was almost impossible in business. In those days, there were a variety of themes of folk songs, such as war, work, civil rights, poverty, irony, of course, there is love. It appeared at the beginning of American history when people need it most. The earliest folk songs were from the slaves hymns, such as "Down by the Riverside" "We Shall Overcome". All the songs were about the struggles and hardships, but also full of hope. Slaves used these songs to express their yearning for the world they imagined.

In the 20th century, folk music went back to American mind and became a tool to struggle for the child labor laws and eight-hour shift. Workers and folk singer gathered in the church, the living room, or the union hall to sing those folk songs. At the same time, they dealt with the difficult environment in use of these songs. Joe Hill was a folk singer and a union leader. His songs absorbed the melody of Baptist hymns. Then he used poems which took the workers' movement as the lyrics. The melody resounded in the workers' struggle and union all the time. In the 1930s, influenced by the stock market, most workers were fired by their employers. However, folk music gained a new life in this stage. During this period, a series of droughts and sandstorms forced Dust Bowl farmers went to California or New York to look for hope. The farmers set up camps in the jungle and regarded trucks as their houses, in the meanwhile, workers were forced to change jobs frequently in exchange for survival. As a worker, Woody Guthrie traveled to California in search of his future, having written hundreds of songs about poor people during that time. In the 1940s, bluegrass began to develop into a distinct folk music genre. Bill Monroe and Blue Grass Boys are representatives then.

During the 1950s folk music became popular again. Martin Luther King wanted to improve the lives of black Americans. He led peaceful marches to change the laws in the US. The marches sang old folk songs like "We Shall Overcome". In the 1960s many people were against the war in Vietnam. Folk singers like Bob Dylan and Joan Baez wrote anti-war songs like Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind" and other songs about the problems of American society. Folk music continued to be the most political of all music in America.

At the early 21st century, as workers were nostalgia, American folk music started a new development. New York, Boston, Austen, San Francisco's folk singers emerged in a new image. The new Alt-Country style had grown constantly over the past 20 years, and a new generation of bluegrass singers called their own style newgrass. A young audience who joined the ranks of their fathers cheered for the Folk Music Festival. And like Red House and Lost Highway were widely spread. What's more, the bright younger generations were passing through the American interstate highway, and brought their songs to the bar, Cafe, the United Christian Church, peaceful demonstrations, and chamber-music concert. Folk singers may rarely obtain platinum, but their efforts can really resonate with everyone in their lives. Moreover, their legacy will continue to shock the world.

II. Comparison

Honestly speaking, what I have introduced is just a little part of two kinds of music. But according to my brief introduction, we can take a comparison between them, and we can find that there are much in common in two countries' folk music. Firstly, two kinds of music all has a long history and is the origin of other music. Secondly, they all come into being and develop among working people. And folk music exists almost across the country. Generally, the themes of folk music are associated with current social development. In the process, both of two countries' folk music have changed a lot but something is still preserved completely. However, there is also something different between them. For example, unlike the folk music of America was used to express their desire for a better life from the beginning. At first Chinese folk music was used to describe their daily life. With regard to the performance form, Chinese usually use some traditional Chinese instruments, and sometimes just sing without any accompaniment. When American perform the folk music, what they use is relatively simple. At times, a guitar is enough. Furthermore, as for the costumes, Chinese always wear traditional clothes to sing. But American don't care too much about that.

III. Story

Now, I'd like to talk something about the folk music and me. To be honest, several months ago, I didn't like folk music at all. And I thought it was very old, boring, and out of date. Moreover, a simple survey about whether you love folk music was ever made by me, the fact was that nobody around liked it when I asked almost 100 students. What we loved most was pop music or some R&B which was popular all over the world. On the contrary, my mother liked Chinese folk music very much. At first I thought it was because of her age so that she couldn't inspire the pop music. However, when I asked her about it, she said she could feel some pure things which modern music didn't have from the folk music. After that, fortunately, I took the class of music appreciation, and the teacher taught us folk music by coincidence. Why both my mother and my music teacher love folk music? What kinds of charm were attracting both of them deeply? Whether every country's folk music has their

similarities or not? Hit by so many questions, I started to search for the answers. When I referred the data, I found I fell in love with folk music gradually. We can learn a lot from it because of its long history. We can enjoy a pure emotion among people. We can also make ourselves calm down in a different world. And in this world, folk music is a beautiful language. Modern communicate with history. People from different region can link up with each other. And culture can also exchange through it. What a rich treasure we have.

IV. Communication

Believe it or not, only the melody exists, can people understand each other. For example, Chinese singer Deng Ziqi and American folk singer Jason Mraz had sung a song <Lucky>together. And Chinese folk singer Song Zuying performed at the Grammy Awards. Despite we had the language barrier and cultural differences, we could understand each other well through the singers' performance and the melody of the song. Therefore, folk music is truly a beautiful language. Last but not least, folk music can bring people closer and convey our love to everyone and cement our friendship.

V. Summary

All in all, maybe we have adapted to the quick life today. Nevertheless, folk music can bring us into such a pure world that we can escape from the noises in the reality. Above all, we all should know, folk music is not only a kind of music but also a spirit needs us to inherit. We are facing a situation where some traditions are dying out and fewer and fewer people love folk music, but I believe no one wants the folk music to disappear one day. Because folk music is still a wonderful language today.

THE DIFFERENCES OF EDUCATION BETWEEN CHINA AND AMERICA

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Abstract: The differences in cultural background, social values between China and America exist in the decision of the two countries' education in the curriculum, teaching methods, and different teaching processes. Chinese education especially focuses on students' studious attitude on learning and a solid grasp of the basics; while American education focuses more on student's interest, with special emphasis brains and hands-on training, focus on cultivating innovation ability. Differences in education between the two countries, reveal to us when we exert the advantages of traditional education, we should learn from the excellent ideas of American education, combine hard work and practice with mobilizing interest hands with brains, and focusing on basics with innovation. Then we can explore an educational model with Chinese characteristics and education system. Moreover, the study of Sino-US differences in education can promote harmony and peace in the world, in order to create a more powerful and harmonious world!

Keywords: Education, China and America, Differences

摘要：中美两国在文化背景、社会价值观存在的差异，决定了两国教育在课程设置、授课方法、授课过程上的不同。中国的教育特别注重培养学生勤奋好学的学习态度，注重掌握扎实的基础知识；而美国的教育更侧重培养学生的兴趣，特别重视动脑与动手的训练，重视创新能力的培养。两国教育的差异，启示我们在发挥我国传统教育优势的同时，应当借鉴美国教育中的优秀理念，把勤学苦练与调动兴趣结合起来，动手与动脑结合起来，注重基础与重视创新结合起来，探索一条具有中国特色的教育模式、教育制度。而且，对于中美教育差异的研究，能够促进世界的和谐与和平，营造一个更加强盛和睦的世界！

关键词：教育，中国和美国，差异

Introduction

There are differences between China and America both from viewpoint of value, culture background and social consciousness; this also decides the differences of teaching methods, curriculum design between two countries in education. Chinese education first pays attention to the cultivation of the studious learning attitude of students, and then asks students to focus on the solid foundation of knowledge; and the America education focuses more on the interest of students, especially brains and hands-on training of students, thereby strengthening the cultivation of innovative ability. The educational differences between China and America inspire us that in adherence to the traditional education of our country, which lay a solid foundation of knowledge basis, should draw lessons the excellent idea from American education

and attach importance to the cultivation of interest, to make our country's educational mode is more perfect. What's more, the more the cross-cultural communication carries on, the more misunderstandings would be avoided and reduced. In doing so, the world would be more harmony and peaceful. In short, it is essential and vital to communicate among countries for creating a more wonderful world country.

I. What is education?

Education refers to the process of learning and acquiring information. It can be divided into two main types: formal learning through an institution such as a school and self-taught learning or what is often termed life experience. Generally, education is important for learning basic life skills, as well as learning advanced skills that can make a person more attractive in the job market. Education is the process of learning and knowing, which is not restricted to our school text-books. It is a holistic process and continues through our life. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the existence of human beings is fruitless without education.

From its broadest general sense, education means to cultivate new generations ready to be engaged in the entire process of the social life. The art of education is to make the students like what you are teaching. When an individual thinks of becoming educated, most commonly he thinks first about formal schooling. Formal schooling exists in a classroom setting where a teacher provides curriculum according to an accepted plan of what must be learned. In the United States, a standardized testing system helps set the rules for what curriculum and lessons a teacher should be teaching. Programs such as No Child Left Behind, which was instituted by George W. Bush during his presidency, create a way to measure how much each child is learning across different school systems to ensure that all children receive a minimum level of knowledge.

Formal classroom learning generally starts when a child is relatively young — age five in the United States — and continues until the child has reached adulthood. The purpose of most classroom learning is not to prepare a child for a specific job, but instead to prepare a child to develop critical reasoning and thinking skills that he will use in further academic and career pursuits. Courses such as math, science, English, composition, writing, history and geography are all common. In the earlier grades, more basic skills such as reading, writing and arithmetic are taught, making these early educational classes vital for survival in the world. School learning can continue for many years, especially if a child decides to pursue higher education. Colleges or universities provide specialized additional training and learning for a fee. Graduate schools and specialty programs, such as law school or medical school also provide additional information to help a person prepare for a career. For many professional careers, both a bachelor's degree from a four-year accredited college institution and a master's or graduate degree are required to prove qualification for the job.

II. The significance of education

Education provides us with knowledge about the world. It paves the way for a good career. It helps build character. It leads to enlightenment. It lays the foundation of a stronger nation. Education makes a man complete. Kautilya, an Indian philosopher, royal adviser, and professor of economics and political science very rightly underlined the importance of education, some 2000 years ago. He has highlighted the fact that education enriches people's understanding of themselves. He has said that education is an investment in human capital, and it can have a great impact on a nation's growth and development.

2.1 It gives knowledge

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.” - Benjamin Franklin

A direct effect of education is knowledge gain. Education gives us knowledge of the world around. It develops in us a perspective of looking at life. It helps us form opinions and develop a point of view. The information we are constantly bombarded with, cannot be converted into knowledge without the catalyst called education. Education makes us capable of interpreting things rightly and applying the gathered information in real life scenarios. Education is not limited to lessons from textbooks. Real education is obtained from the lessons taught by life.

2.2 It leads to career progression

“An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less.” - Nicholas M. Butler

Education is important because it equips us with the expertise that is needed in helping us realize our career goals. Expertise is an in-depth knowledge about a specific field and it ought to open doors to brilliant career opportunities. Education fetches better prospects of career growth. Good education is an eligibility criterion for employment in any sector of the industry. Be it any field, education always proves to be rewarding. We are weighed in the market on the basis of our educational skills and on how well we can apply them.

2.3 It builds character

“A man's own manner and character is what most becomes him.” - Marcus Tullius Cicero

The words ‘cultivate’ and ‘civilize’ are synonymous with ‘educate’. That says it all. Education is important as it teaches us the right behavior and good manners, thus making us civilized. It is the basis of culture and civilization. It is instrumental in the development of our values and virtues. Education cultivates us into mature individuals; individuals capable of planning for the future, and taking the right decisions in life. It gives us an insight into living, and teaches us to learn from experience. It makes us self-confident, and develops our abilities to think, analyze, and judge. It fosters principles of equality and socialism. It forms a support system for one to excel in life. It is the backbone of society. It won't be wrong to say that good education makes us more human.

2.4 It leads to enlightenment

“Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.” - Socrates

Education paves the path to disillusionment. It wipes out the wrong beliefs from our minds. It helps create a clear picture of things around, and erases all the confusion. It kindles the flame of curiosity and helps awaken the abilities to question, and to reason. The more we learn, the more questions we have, and without questions, there are no answers. Education teaches us to find answers. It makes us more self-aware. It leads us to enlightenment.

2.5 It helps a nation progress

“Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. The human mind is our fundamental resource.” - John F. Kennedy

Though not enlisted as one of the three basic human needs, education is equally important. For the progress of a nation, for the enrichment of society in general, education is important. A country's literate population is its asset. In today's competitive world, it won't be wise to neglect the importance of education for the development of society as a whole. Most countries have realized this. It has led to the development of many government-aided educational programs and government grants to schools and colleges. The motive behind this is fostering education in society. The future of a nation is safe in the hands of the educated. Education is important for the social development and economic growth of a nation.

III. The differences of education between China and America

In generally, because there is a big difference between different countries in the world social, cultural and educational development, each country forms their own educational system in the long-term development process. As we all know, America is a developed country while China is a developing country today. A country's development depends on the quality of talents. There are many differences to compare Chinese education with American education.

Based on checking the extensive literature and summing up the evidence, it is clear that study about differences of higher education between China and US has carried out a lot which mainly explains the differences from different aspects of higher education. Such aspects mainly include the following seven parts: university entrance examination, educational model, on learning, situation of students in class, the relations between teachers and students, puppy love and pocket money. In the Integration of these differences, advantages and evils of both educational systems have been evaluated respectively, and corresponding improvement measures have also been put forward.

1. University entrance examination

In China, the university students still think that it will be good if they pass the university entrance exam. However, American students deem that passing the exam is

only the beginning of their study.

2. Educational model

China is examination-oriented education. Chinese education focuses on the knowledge to accumulate and indoctrinate, on how students use and manage the knowledge they learned at school and on how to understand the knowledge system and structure. Chinese parents, in their childhood the parents spoil them, but when grow up many restrictions, even university major and girl friend is all interference. In China, Parents usually prepare everything for the kids what they should do is to accept without any doubt which means respect.

On the contrary, America is quality-oriented education. American education hours are very tightly, American parents would set many rules, when the children are young. American cares more about how students use knowledge in society. It lets student challenge the knowledge, animadvert ideas, and focus on, exploit or create knowledge. In the US, children are more independent. They know what to be at an early age, and plan carefully to achieve the goals.

3. On learning

What the China's traditional culture grasps is life and morals, so the Chinese value life and the human relations extremely. Therefore, the Chinese teacher has regarded the morals as Chinese mind; "the good child" is a child who is obedient and sensible. In that case, the parents train the child to practice the moral culture, cultivate mental poise, self-restraining and the idea of social rank. The main connotation of Chinese school education is "the mercy, righteousness, the ritual, the wisdom, the honesty, loyalty, forgiveness.

In America, the teacher mainly arouses the child's the curiosity about and the imagination of nature. As we all know knowledge creation comes from curiosity. So teachers by making students interested in the nature and fairy stories, let the student shave a broader imagination space, so as to help the knowledge creation. In addition, they regard the psychological development as the highest direction, so the cultivation of student's interest and the creativity is the main point of American school education.

4. Situation of students in class

In class, Chinese students are reverent and respectful to their teachers and have a studious attitude on learning. They totally accept what their teachers say in class through Chinese traditional education. In this class, students are silent in most of the class time. They are so consistent. While American students are active and their seats are not fixed. Their teacher is just a leader and leads them to open their minds and use their hands to explore. In this class, students are the protagonists and they say more in most of the class time.

5. The relation between teachers and students

In china, the relationship between teachers and students can be quite formal. They are taught since the first day when they go to the kindergarten that they should sit up straight and obey all the disciplines. In class they seldom challenge the teacher's ideas. The Chinese teachers think the value of education is studying for entering a higher school, they only ask the child to study attentively, without bothering about other things. So the children's consciousness of all-round development is faint. They have no opportunity to develop and enhance their qualities in many aspects. Therefore, the child becomes all dependent on individual and lacks independent character. The meticulous concern helps to form the habit of relying on others. So when facing the storm, one is unable to do anything. Being unable to get the help, one will blame everyone and everything but himself.

In America, teachers are no longer authority, meanwhile students don't have to carry out every instruction from their teachers, most of them have their own thoughts, and they may pose questions and challenges to teachers.

6. Puppy love

Puppy love is an informal term for feelings of love or infatuation felt by young people during childhood and adolescence.

- From Wikipedia

It is a very widespread experience in the process of growing up. To this point, it's same to Chinese children and American children.

In China, parents are conservative. They hold the strong opposition to the puppy love and even limit the distances between their kids and the other kids of the opposite sex to avoid the puppy love.

On the contrary, in America, parents are open-minded. They permit this normal emotional feeling and even encourage their kids to take more part in the dancing parties and make more friends.

7. Pocket money

The Chinese student's parents said: "Do you run out of your pocket money? If so, and you can get some money from the drawer by yourself." Most of students get pocket money from their parents. The American student's parents said: "we have to inform you that your pocket money is beyond the budget! Go to clean the garage, brush the swimming pool or cut off the grass in the garden. If so, and we can give you some money." See, that's the difference. All in all, Chinese parents always spoil their kids and make them so dependent on others; however, American parents train their kids to know that if they want to get more, they should pay more.

Conclusion

To sum up, education can mirror the culture. Chinese and American people live in the

different cultural environment, and lead to a great amount of cultural differences between the two countries. In order to communicate each other well, the people from these two countries should strengthen communication to acknowledge each other well and avoid the misunderstandings in between due to the cultural disparities. The more the cross-cultural communication carries on, the more misunderstandings would be avoided and reduced. In doing so, the world would be more harmony and peaceful. In short, it is essential and vital to communicate among countries for creating a more wonderful world country.

THE DIFFERENCES OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION CULTURE BETWEEN AMERICA AND CHINA

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Abstract: With more and more contact between the two countries, America and China have a more and more harmonious relationship. However, there are not adequately many people who have clarity of many details on interpersonal communication cultural differences. I'd like to take this paper as a bridge which will has a great effect on the Sino-US communication relationship by showing the reasons for the differences and the distinct details of interpersonal communication culture. There are three points for the reasons: different views of traditional ideologies, different views of social cognition, different views of thinking orientation. Besides, I will divide the distinct details into three parts: greeting, address forms, invitation and compliments.

Keywords: China, America, differences, Interpersonal communication, reasons for the differences, distinct details

摘要：随着日益频繁的交际，中美两国之间的关系越来越融洽。然而，并没有足够多的人了解中美人际交流文化的差异。因而我想将这篇论文作为一个桥梁，通过展示中美人际交流文化差异的原因以及一些差异的细节来对中美人际交流关系做出一定的贡献。产生差异大致有以下三个原因：不同的传统观念，不同的社会认知，不同的思维模式。而差异细节也可分为以下几类：不同的打招呼方式，不同的称谓，不同的邀请和称赞文化。希望可以增进彼此间的感情。

关键词：中美关系，人际交往，差异，原因，细节

I. The Significance of My Topic and the Writing Purposes

As John Stuart Mill once said that: "he who knows only his own side of the case, knows little of that". People need to communicate in either interior or exterior in order to learn new knowledge and technologies and provide assistance which leads to a more bright future and better life. As we all know, China, as the largest developing country with a rapid development in many kinds of aspects, has a more and more close-knit contact with America, the world's largest developed country, which has the most advanced technologies as well so that people between the two countries are in a pressing need of communication by learning from each other and establishing sustainable friendship and cooperation in harmony, which demands a clear thinking of the differences of interpersonal communication culture between the two countries. Therefore, it would be a matter of course that we are ought to notice the significance of how to make interpersonal communication: firstly, there is a popular tendency to go abroad with a large population in both of two countries so that this topic shows such importance to promote the understanding of Sino-US cultural differences and get

rid of the unnecessary misunderstanding and embarrassment. What's more, we will learn many more advantages from each other as a result of remedying our own disadvantages.

II. The Reasons for the Differences of Interpersonal Cultures

1. From the view of traditional ideologies

Chinese nation lives in the capacious inland ground with subtropical monsoon climate, which makes it distinctive in four seasons. On account of the abundant natural resources and steady environment, the ancients inland lived on agriculture which lived a regular life by the labor form of "working when the sun rises, resting when the sun falls". Given the self-sufficiency, Chinese has formed the philosophical ideas: Everything is limited, finite concept resides in the infinite concept, whose thinking mode characterized by dialectical thinking and organism thinking. The communication and interpersonal relationship in China is greatly influenced by Confucianism emphasizing the relationship between individuals and society, who advocated "Brief, Harmony, Moderation, Symmetry and Balance". So Chinese uphold the "middle of the road for adjustment and compromise as the most important principles when they face others.

While American whose ancestors stem from European coastal countries and regions, are completely opposite, they keep antagonistic state with the nature because of the abominable natural conditions, changeable climates and the harassment by Indian. They are used to trying their best to conquer the nature and change the world. The progress of seafaring makes people believe in the human power, advocate personality play, face explorers and challenge bravely as a result of the attention on efficiency. People's thinking mode characterized by Aristotle's logical and analytical thinking emphasizing on personal characteristics and freedom in ancient Greece. They like to bring forth new ideas and accept new things to guarantee their indefectible status. On such state, they found transient friendship with the hope of getting what they want for themselves with each other according to their demand.

2. From the view of social cognition systems

Broadly speaking, Chinese people are inclined to dependent in self-structure with a more complex social relationship while the relationship between western people is relatively simple.

When it comes to the Sino-US philosophical and epistemological theories in the social and historical background, Chinese are used to knitting an intricate network to establish a complicated social relationship, which forces them to pay much more attention to the outside world. On such situation, they are dependent in their self-structure. By contraries, America has simple relationship which leads that they care more about objects and their own goals. As a result, different features of social cognition systems have a great effect on people's psychology and the methods of interpersonal communication: Chinese's awareness is taken the situation as the center

while Americans just take oneself as the center of the awareness. Chinese are accustomed to behaving a passive attitude towards interpersonal communication. Americans like conquering the world and interpersonal relationship in an initiative attitude.

3. From the view of thinking orientation

In America, their thinking orientation inclines to individuals. On the contrary, it's an interpersonal thinking orientation in China.

Individual Freedom is the most important one of the American thinking orientations. It originated from the tradition of the American ancestor's pursuit of religious freedom. From now on, it has evolved into the pursuit of individual freedom and liberation. Americans often use "I think....." "I believe....." "My opinion is....." "As far as I'm concerned....." to express themselves with a strong personality by using these colorful words. Americans believe that every man is free. However, you must rely on yourself if really want to enjoy the freedom by self-reliance. The equality of opportunities is reflected in every aspect. Americans are apt to listen to others, give someone a chance, respect somebody's other rights after they make mistakes.

Chinese focus more on interpersonal relationship and collectivism. They always stress on the combination between oneself and the whole society. The idea: "collective benefits outweigh personal interests" are deeply rooted in all ages. They found hierarchical structure to maintain social order. They value traditional code of conduct so the laws in China demonstrate the human relationship everywhere while American is more objective and equal. They often consider more about others or collectivity's profit in a modest attitude to make a harmonious atmosphere when they deal with personal relationship in China.

III. The Details of Different Interpersonal Communication Culture

1. Greeting

1.1 Different meeting etiquettes

With the cultural fusion recent years, there are many similar meeting etiquettes between the two countries such as shake hands, exchange business cards, etc. However, the embrace and kissing is prevailing between friends and relatives when they meet each other after a long time parting or farewell and even in the occasion of congratulation and expressing one's thanks both in folks and authority in America. In China, there are special etiquettes as well, such as fist and palm salute, bow to salute and Namaste. Fist and palm salute are always used to pay a New Year Call, offer congratulations and thanks. Many overseas Chinese are fond of this etiquette when they first meet. Bow to salute is accustomed to express deeply respect to elders, thanks. It's also popularly used in wedding and funeral. People always salute when they praise eulogy and greet people.

1.2 Different common topics

Generally speaking, Americans show more respect on privacy than Chinese.

For instance, when people meet for the first time, American always use “How do you do?” “Good morning.” “Nice to meet you” and so on to express their friendship politely while Chinese often greet each other by saying:” So nice to meet you for the first time. I’d appreciate it if you are willing to pardon me and correct my mistakes in the future.” The greeting words of acquaintances are quite different between the two countries. American often says:” Hello” or “How is everything going”, Sometimes they even don’t say anything but signal by nodding, while in China, people are used to saying:” Have you eaten yet?” “Where are you going ?” to show their concerning.

In America, personal topics should not be discussed too early in a relationship. It is acceptable to ask how old small children are, but it is not normal to ask how old adults are. Other topics such as the cost of purchases, the cost of one’s possessions or a person’s ability to drink alcohol are not discussed soon after meeting for the first time. But it’s common to talk about one’s social identity, including education, employment experience, technical and general knowledge, personal interests, family, routine activities, likes and dislikes, and leisure time at activities. However, it’s not inappropriate to ask adults’ ages and the cost of purchases in China.

2. Different address forms

2.1 Different address forms between relatives

In a word, Chinese has a large amount of address forms to rank and order the distance between relatives who take blood relationship seriously. However, American acknowledges the relative relationship by the inner form of legal consciousness. Chinese use different appellations for father’s parents and mother’s parents, American doesn’t distinguish them particularly. Every relative has its own settled address form in China, while in America, they don’t distinguish them by the father’s or mother’s side of the family and age. For example, they use “uncle” for the male and “aunt” for the female to address their parents’ generation. And they only use one form “cousin” to address their generation.

2.2 Different address forms between friends, acquaintances, superiors to subordinates

In China, people address their friends, schoolmates, colleague by using their full name to show their closeness. They are used to adding “Lao” which means “old” in front of one’s name and “Xiao” which means “young” in front of one’s name to show their care and the attitude of equality when common friends, acquaintances or superiors to subordinates greet each other. Subordinates are supposed to address their superiors in the form of “family name + the title of technical post” to show their respect and modesty, for example, “Wang teacher”, “Zhao president”.

In America, it’s common to hear people directly call the first name between colleagues, neighbor’s, schoolmates, elder to juniors and superiors to subordinates. Sometimes you can even hear that the subordinates and juniors call their superiors and elders using only the first name to show friend and equality. However, they also use

“Mr. + Last name” in formal occasions between business partners and acquaintances. There are not so many titles of technical post in American address forms. “Professor” and “Doctor” are the most widely used address forms. However, they don’t take other titles such as nurse, driver, waiter, porter and so on as respectable address forms. What’s more, American doesn’t like someone connect them with “Old”, which is different from Chinese for no one really wants to get old.

3. Three different points about invitation and compliment

3.1 In the American invitation culture, it’s important to consult a proper time before you invite someone to attend a banquet or take part in other social activities or you are invited. If someone says:” I’d like you to visit me one day” without affirming an accurate time, they just show their friend by saying such cheerful words. You are not supposed to go directly to his home without making any appointment in advance for he will be unpleasant for your crude and rash. On the contrary, there’s nothing impertinent when you direct to one’s home without making an appointment in advance.

3.2 Chinese are used to attending the banquet ahead of time while American are used to being late for several minutes. In China, you are allowed to arrive at the party ahead of time to help the owners put up the field set, which shows you politeness and friend. On the opposite, the Americans are accustomed to be later for several minutes than the promising time.

3.3 When it comes to the response to compliments, Chinese tend to efface themselves in words who take pride in “modesty” while Americans are “straight forwardness”. Let’s take it an example, when someone praise a Chinese lady’s skirt:” It’s so beautiful”, she will say:” No, no, no, it’s only an ordinary skirt” to show her modesty even though she does think it a beautiful skirt. However, the American will responses that:” Thank you very much. Your skirt is nice, too.”

IV. Conclusion

On account of different views of traditional ideologies, views of social cognition systems, views of thinking orientation, it differs a lot in the interpersonal communication cultures between America and China, we are supposed to know the common sense of the different interpersonal communication cultures between the two countries.

HEROISM IN AMERICAN AND CHINESE MOVIES

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Abstract: Movie is very popular with people as a kind of entertainment. And hero is eternal topic and dream of human beings. Reflected in movies and TV plays, heroism is a foremost theme in both western and eastern cultures. So, by comparing the interpretation of heroism in American and Chinese movies, the differences between American and Chinese cultures can be observed.

First of all, I want to introduce the definition of heroism. The dictionary says that it means very great courage. In the world, almost all the heroism card is similar. No matter *Odyssey* in the west, or *Journey to the west* of China, when the people are on the way to success and fame, everyone should go through dozens of trouble. And heroes should be full of courage. This is the same point. But different countries' heroes have different performance. And each culture shapes its own unique heroes. To some extent, heroism affects the development of the society. Heroism comes from the human experience of overcoming adversity and fulfilling the desire to do great acts. Heroism can be positive achievement such as excellence of skill in living, not being afraid of death, never giving up.

Keywords: heroism, movies, culture, differences, China, America, courage.

摘要：电影是流行于大众的一种消遣方式。英雄是人类永恒的追求和梦想。反射在电影中，英雄主义是一个首要的主题在西方和东方的文化中。通过对比英雄主义在不同文化中的诠释，可以透视中西方文化的差异。

首先，我想介绍一下英雄主义的定义，字典说它的意思是十分巨大的勇气。在这个世上，几乎所有的英雄名片都是相似的。不管是西方的奥德赛，还是中国的西游记，在人们通往成功和名誉的道路上，每个人都要经历许多磨难。所以英雄都应充满勇气。这是共同点。但是不同国家的英雄有不同的表现。并且每个文化有他自己独特的英雄。英雄在一定程度上影响社会的发展。英雄主义来自于人们在克服磨难的经历和实现良好表现的渴望上。英雄主义可以是积极的成就例如良好的生存技能，不惧怕死亡，从不放弃。

Now, I will talk something about my point of view on Heroism in American and Chinese movies.

It is sometimes said that it can be lonely attend top. In most American movies, hero is always showing a solitary form, and they often get success with unremitting efforts by themselves. American movies emphasize individualistic heroism. They also emphasize self and personal value. For example, in movie *Patton*, Patton is a person of arrogance, he only does thing in his willingness, never consider secular opinions.

Besides, there are four traits in American movies. First, heroes invariably suffer a lot before success. Just like *Captain America*, he was a very thin and weak man before, but he took a kind of secret medicine and overcame many difficulties, then he became a hero. To be honest, American heroes appear to be very realistic. No matter what character the hero is, he should be human first. Spiderman was also a normal student before he got attacked by a spider. Then he became a super hero. Second, heroes have responsibility to their family, and they love their family much. In movie *Olympus Has Fallen*, Michael and his wife were very close, after he saved all the people, what he did first is calling his wife's phone and telling her that he was ok. *The Incredibles* is a warm movie that tells a family's story. Each family member has super power, and they help each other to defeat the evil. Thus it can be seen that most Americans look forward to a harmonious and warm family relationship. Third, the humor exists in a movie everywhere. Most of the heroes have a sense of humor when they face the danger. In *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*, Captain America "stole" his own uniform from his memorial hall that his country set up for him before fighting. When the administration saw the naked of Captain America's model, he said: "I have to be fired this time." Nearly all the people laugh when seeing the scene. Also, in *The Terminator*, when Schwarzenegger backed to the enemy, he lit a cigarette, and said: "To be, or not to be." Then he threw the cigarette away suddenly so that the gas behind him exploded and his enemy died immediately. American culture is famous for its special humor, and they use it properly and well in their movies. Fourth, not only strong and healthy heroes are, they are also have wise and courage. For instance, in *Brave heart*, when William Wallace spoke French calmly in front of the French princess, people regarded him as a real hero. As we all know, the Superman has a good knowledge of everything and a smart brain, so this may be an important reason why we worship him badly.

American love heroes and heroes have been in their consciousness and media more than any other country. Most of American heroes have embodied the warriors or kings, the winners in battle, on athletic playing fields and in business enterprises. So America has survived and thrived at home and abroad as a symbol of both freedom and power. In *The Patriot*, Benjamin Martin was a hero in war before. The brutality of war makes him hate wars badly. But finally, in order to striving for real freedom and independence, he took part in the war absolutely. America loves heroes, but also has a shortage of heroes. There is a tone that there are fewer real heroes in reality. If heroism has disappeared from American life, you could not be convinced by watching Hollywood movies. Movies are the most convenient carriers of a country's culture and heroes in movies are the easiest acquirable models for modern people. In America, there is nothing harder to argue with than success, and to nearly everyone's surprise, *Forrest Gump* has a success beyond the film's soaring box office numbers. It is a mirror of American heroism. It shows us a clear view of what the real American heroism is. Although Gump was a little "slow" in IQ 75, although he was abandoned by Jenny once, although he experienced up-and-downs, he never gave up. He kept "running", finally he ran to completion. Whatever the world was, wherever he was,

whoever he was with, he always remained as before, pure and kind. “Life is like a box of chocolate; you never know what you are going to get.” “Stupid is as stupid does.” “I guess sometimes there just isn’t enough rock.” Following these folksy aphorisms, Gump’s choices in life seemed to determine his niceness.

Be different from American heroes, Chinese heroes perform the inner quality more. The key point is that most Chinese heroes have the sense of responsibility for the nation. The fight against nature is along with the emergence with humankind. Every year there are many disasters in China. The people, who dare to fight against the nature, are called heroes. Meanwhile, those who save people in the disaster are called heroes. In *As The Light Goes Out*, the movies shaped several heroes. Finally, three heroes sacrifice for saving people. And in Chinese myth, there is a story about a young man called Hou Yi. In the place he lives in, there are ten suns in the sky, and all things in the ground are scorched. Crops are destroyed, the rivers dry up, and masses have no means to live. Under this circumstance, Hou Yi shouts nine suns off to ensure that people live a normal life. Confucian culture spread far in China, which has quietly affected the generations of Chinese people for thousands of years. It has three principles, first, self-supervision and self-taught. Secondly, loyalty and tolerance. Thirdly, the most sincere and the most love. A qualified hero must regard collective interests as the first. When necessary, they have to sacrifice themselves to help others. The movie *Hero* performs a typical hero image. When there is a conflict between personal interests and national interests, Wu Ming chooses the country. He gives up his task just for the peace of country. The other trait of Chinese heroes is that they are always perfect and have no shortcoming. Just like martial movies, not only handsome heroes are, but they are also highly skilled in military drill. And their have good quality, too. Yang Guo, Chu Liuxiang, Zhang Wuji are the typical representative. We observe that the trend of military novels inclined to heroism answers the current social spiritual demand. The Anti-Japanese war brought so much damage to China and hurt Chinese people badly. At this time, many new heroes appeared. Actually, this new heroism, on one hand, shakes off the “complex of perfection”, on the other hand, mixes heroes with common people. The characters of heroes are so full and round that the audiences now are able to see more literary heroes. Take Li Yunlong for instance. He is completely different from the traditional heroes. He is irascible and aggressive. He never wears the army cap rightly; always wears sly smile. Nevertheless, he cherishes the talents; holds banquet to select talented soldiers, and yet affords meat for the able soldiers only. In usual exercise, he orders the soldiers to fight hand to hand with real blade and guns in order to ensure fewer casualties and more victories in the battlefield. He makes great contribution yet he has quite a few bad habits and often makes mistakes. Well, the core of Chinese heroism is more about national dignity and patriotism than some good-looking Kong Fu moves. The winning is not about how you kill your enemies but how you defeat enemies in moral levels and how do you keep your pride and dignity even when you are actually defeated. In *Ip Man* and *Fearless*, Ye Wen and Huo Yuanjia, they both make large contribution for protecting national dignity.

To sum up, we can see that the Chinese heroism is the hope of the whole nation. Many times, this is also a kind of symbolic spiritual symbol, they look like the scared heroes who beyond the average persons. American heroism reflects the personal freedom. It often expresses to establish individual merit and the achievement of personal status in the history. Though we are different countries, we also have something in common on heroism. What is a real hero? A hero must be the one who has encountered extreme hardships and difficulties, but still has a strong faith in his or her heart and finally arrives at the destination. The heroes, with all the good qualities expected, can always provide powerful supports and protections in the most strenuous situations.

Heroism is just one important part of a country's culture; we can not totally understand a country with just one or tow aspects. But by analyzing the heroism, we do have some understanding towards China and America. Chinese people value the collective heroism, calling people to devote themselves to the nation and hold high moral for one's lifetime. While Americans prefer the process of self-fulfillment, they emphasize more on the value of individuals. Anyway, no matter how the history goes, heroism is definitely the very important part of different countries. Especially in modern times, the publicity of heroism and patriotism seem to play an important role, because those are both necessary for building a strong and hopeful country.

THE COMPARISON BETWEEN AMERICA AND CHINA IN SPORTS

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Abstract: As is known to us all that China and America are the two predominant countries in sports. The differences are not only lie in their advantages and disadvantages in sports events but also in the background of their sports culture. Chinese sports culture is a typical oriental sport culture; while American sports culture is a typical widely-publicized western sports culture. This article will illustrate them from five perspectives.

Keywords: dominant events; selection and training; college; spirits; values

I. Dominant events

1. America's dominant events

As a country of diverse ethnics, America has its multiethnic athletes such as Michael Jordan, also known as Air Jordan, an African American basketball player in America who was one of the best basketball players in the world, making more than 10 billion dollars for his club. Michael Phelps as well, was an American swimmer of importance, and the most decorated Olympian of all time, with a total of 22 medals. Another is Shu-How Lin, one of the few Asian Americans in NBA history, and the first American of Chinese descent to play in the league. These athletes above make this nation one of the best countries in events competing in the world. And also makes it has great achievements in various sport events like basketball, tennis, track and field, swimming, etc.

2. China's dominant events

In terms of its large population, on the other hand, China owns its unique features in its major sports events. As an Asian country, compares to the American, China has its evidential distinction in athletes' physique. Chinese athletes are short in stature, which makes its substantial development in some specific sport events which require coordination like table tennis, badminton, diving, and weightlifting. For instance, Lin Dan, widely considered to be the greatest badminton player of all time, by the age of 28 he had completed the "Super Grand Slam", having won all nine major titles in world badminton: Olympic Games, World Champions, World Cup, Thomas Cup, Sudirman Cup, Super Series Masters Finals, All England Open, Asian Games and Asian Champions becoming the first and only player to achieve this feat. Zhang Yining is a famous Chinese table tennis player, has won a second consecutive champion in the Olympic Games, and she is considered one of greatest female table tennis players in the history of the table tennis. Another celebrated player is Guo

Jingjing, a diver in China, is the leading member of the Chinese national women's diving team, and is known in China as "The Princess of Diving". What these two players playing are the representatives of Chinese typical predominant events.

II. Athletes' selections and trainings

1. Overview of the two nation's athletes' selections and trainings

Despite of these many differences, the two nations also have their athletes' selections in common. For example, America and China both have their athletes' selections from a young age. And the athletes from both nations must exhibit their immense talent so that he or she can be chosen to become a member of the sport team. However, they also have some differences in choosing athletes.

2. China's athletes' selections and trainings

In China, talented students are selected from a very early age. Gymnasts may be selected as young as 4 years old, weightlifters, from 7. Some of these athletes are selected from village and if they get the opportunities to be in a sport team, it will guarantee their food, housing, and even get a monthly stipend. Through this way, many children begin their rigorous training when they are young, and gradually become a professional athlete in sport team, getting their training all year round which will give them intensive training and ensure the continuity of the country's traditional predominant events' developing.

3. America's athletes' selections and trainings

While in America, it has a completely different mode of selection of athletes. A lot of talented athletes are not found until they are in their middle school or even high school. Students get their cultivation in school or sport club by the organization of all sorts of the sport associations, they don't have to spend all day long getting sports training. At the same time, they put their study in priority. Therefore, the sport events will gain popularity and improvement throughout the country.

4. Common points

However, with the development of competitive sports currently, these two modes are becoming more and more integrated; both nations are not merely using their past training pattern any more, but adopt each other's strengths and promote their athletes level as well as their competitive level. Take Chinese tennis player Li Na for example. Li quit the national team as well as the state-run sports system in 2008, beginning her Fly Solo from then on. As a result, Li had the freedom to hire her own coaching staff and she would be solely responsible for the cost of training and coaching and tournament expense. During this time, Li received much more professional training as well as psychological counseling than ever. To date, Li has won nine WTA singles titles including two grand slam singles titles at the 2011 French Open and 2014 Australian Open and is now ranked world No. 2 by the Women's Tennis Association (WTA). Well in America, in the meanwhile of organizing the sports clubs, it will also have its intensive training, especially when they participate in some big sport

competitions; they will use this intensive way to improve the athletes' performance.

III. Sports culture in college campus

1. Overview of the two nations' sports culture in college campus

For one thing, China and America have both contributed a lot in college sports area. They invest a lot of money, build many sports facilities, and organize various sport activities. For another, they do have discrepancy in the spots culture of college campus.

2. America's sports culture in college campus

The sports competitions in the American colleges and universities are frequently held and American college of intercollegiate sports competitions are organized very orderly by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). According to the earlier data statistics, NCAA organized and hosted 79 times of National Champions from the year of 1992 to 1993. Besides, American colleges also attach importance to the management and host of the sport competitions, and have a good institutionalization and standardization of the management of intercollegiate sports.

3. China's sports culture in college campus

In China, there are hundreds of thousands of universities, and different universities have different mode of playing sports and their culture. Some schools now own their sport clubs; students can have their classes in the clubs and choose their favorite subject. However, large portion of schools don't use this mode of having classes due to the short of high-level sport equipment and facilities. In the respect of competitions, Chinese universities don't have as many intercollegiate sport communications as American's. The university where I am studying has competitions among colleges frequently. We participate in basketball, baseball, soccer games. But we seldom have some games among other schools.

4. Common points

As the cultural exchange between China and America is more and more frequent, the two nations are gradually developing their sports culture communications between their universities. And they have now begun the learning from each other.

IV. Sports values

1. Overview of the two nations' sports values

By the impact of the golden mean, China has become a country of full of introverted culture, it involves in the sport culture naturally. Because of its emphasis on the development of inward, it forms a collective identity. While America forms an individualism identity. We can see either the training methods or the participation of the competitions have both shown the differences in values.

Because American culture is based on European culture, and has been under the influence of the Renaissance and the Enlightenment. This makes America forms an efficient and intense competition mechanism in sport.

Chinese culture pursuits that man is an integral part of nature; body and soul are in harmony; morality and strength are in harmony. Thus China forms a principle that takes soul as the basis.

2. Sports values' influences on individuals

Americans advocate individual, aggressiveness and struggle while Chinese advocate collectivity, loyalty, harmony. The two one stands for outside, one stands for inside; one is strong, one is gentle. They are both inferior by comparison, but at the same time they benefit each other by associating together.

V. Sports spirits

1. Example of Chinese athlete about sports spirits

August 29th, 2011, Liu Xiang participated in the men's 110m hurdles world championship in Daegu with Robles. In the ninth hurdle, however, Robles' right trailing hand hit on Liu's left hand. As a result, Liu's rhythm was disturbed and his blistering pace slowed down. "Right after the race, I was kind of sulky," Liu admitted. "And then I decided to let it go. It was just a race. Although he lost his chance to win the champion. He is still strong enough to fight back to peak form after a very serious injury and show such a tolerance to his rivals.

2. Example of American athlete about sports spirits

On 20 August 2004, during the Olympic Games in Athens, a 23-year-old American shooter Matthew Emmons put in a dominant display in the 50m rifle prone, finishing top of the qualification round and then securing the gold medal with a score of 703.3. The American shooter was on course to claim a second gold two days later but, despite appearing to have victory within his grasp, he cross-fired his final shot in the 50m rifle three positions and dropped out of the podium placing. In 2008, he lost again in the Beijing Olympics. President of International Olympics Committee Rogge has once said, what makes me the most impressive was his attitude: Matthew said, even though he failed, he would take the responsibility and come back to win the gold medal.

3. Common points

They are representatives of two nations' athletes; but they embody the common spirits of competence, struggling, patriotism, and friendship in sports.

Conclusion

Through the comparison between two nations, we can draw the conclusion that although the two nations are quite different in many ways, they still develop their unique ways becoming the two representative powerful sports countries and play very important roles in the world.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHINESE AND WESTERN DRAGON CULTURE

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Abstract: During holidays, and in everyday-life of the Chinese people, there is a certain mythical figure everywhere. This figure is called a “dinosaurs”, or a Chinese dragon. The dragon is a spirit symbol of Chinese people. There are some different cultural connotations between Chinese dragon and Western dragon. The Chinese dragon is a symbol of propitious omens and good fortune. And it also stands for the supreme imperial power. While Western dragon is the incarnation of evil and greedy. Because of cultural differences, western people are different from Chinese people in understanding and using dragon images. Therefore a good grasp of its historical and cultural connotations allows people to truly understand the meaning of another culture in cross-cultural communication.

Keywords: dragon; Loong; cultural differences; origin; mythology; symbolic meaning

摘要：在中国，无论是节日还是每天的生活，有一种神秘的形象无处不在，这个形象被叫做“龙”。龙代表着中国人的精神。中国龙与西方的龙各自有不同的文化意蕴。中国龙是吉祥的象征，好运的符号，同时也代表了无上的权威。然而，西方的龙却是邪恶和贪婪的化身。由于文化的差异，在理解和运用龙这一意象时，中国人和西方人也有很大的不同。因此，只有了解了文化意蕴，人们才能在文化交流中真正的了解另一种文化。

关键词：龙；文化差异；起源；神话；象征意义

I. Introduction

The dragon is a mascot in Chinese national culture and it is a cultural symbol of Chinese nation. In China dragon culture has a long history. It is very profound and also a reflection of Chinese identity. As an idol, that is nonexistent in science and reality, the dragon has a position in the hearts of the Chinese people that is irreplaceable. The image of the dragon probably originated from the early Neolithic period. The fable is that the Chinese ancestors Fu Xi and Nv Wa both had human faces with a snake-like body. The dragon was formed when the Chinese ancestors united the various tribes along the Yellow River, and wove together the totem images of all the clans. This is why the images of many animals can be found in the dragon. In the Chinese folklore, the dragon has a snake's body, a lizard's legs, an eagle's claws, a snake's tail, a deer's antler, and a fish's scales. For the Chinese, it has long been a potent symbol of auspicious power, and is therefore worshipped religiously. It is also associated with the weather, as the bringer of rain and water. Many Chinese

people often use the term “Descendants of the Dragon” as a sign of ethnic identity. During the feudal period, the dragon served as the symbol of the emperors and imperial authority, only empire could wear dragon robe (a kind of cloth with dragon images on it) and if something was named by Loong (In Chinese it means dragon) that means it is definitely very noble or expensive such as Dragon Well Tea (Long Jing tea), Longyan and so on. The rulers of every dynasty referred to themselves as the incarnation of the dragon. This is why everything in the imperial palace was decorated with dragon designs. It is said that there were 12,654 dragon decorations in the “Taihe Palace” alone, the main lobby of the Qing Dynasty imperial palace. Considering this, the total number of dragons in the entire palace must be countless. Many of China’s folk celebrations are dragon-related. For example, February 2nd of the Lunar Calendar is the “Dragon Awakening Holiday” for the Hans. This occurs during the spring equinox season, and people believe this is when the dragon wakes up from its winter hibernation. They celebrate this holiday in hopes of fair weather and a good crop yield in the coming year. In modern society, the dragon has gradually shed its role as an idol, and has become a mascot figure. It prances as well as soars, occupying the center of attention in many social events. As the mascot figure of China, the dragon signifies success, hard work, and creativity. It is considered not only beautiful and friendly, but also filled with wisdom. It brings good luck to common people, and an expanding economy to the country. It symbolizes the harmony that exists between civilization and nature.

But in the west the dragon is a symbol of evil --the incarnation of Satan. In western mythology, there are many stories about dragon. In these stories, human warriors always want to defeat a dragon in order to get the treasures in the dragon lair or save the beautiful princess who was grabbed by the dragon. Even today in western movies, the dragon is described as a kind of huge monster which is similar to Godzilla. And in the Role-Playing Games, the dragon is often designed as a boss that is ready to be defeated by the players to help them upgrade. Therefore understanding the differences between Chinese and Western dragon culture helps us understand the different cultural backgrounds and know more implied meanings of the dragon.

II. The origin of dragon

The Chinese dragon comes from an ancient totem. In ancient times our ancestors could not make a reasonable explanation about most natural phenomena. So with the totem they hoped they can have the power of lightning and storm, the magnificence of mountains, the flexibility of a fish, and the vigorousness of birds. Therefore the dragon gradually became a nine Unlikeness--a creature which has deer horn, cows ears, camel’s head, rabbit eyes, snakes neck, fish scales, tigers sole and eagle claw. This composite structure means the dragon is the king of animals and the Almighty God of the world. In our ancestors’ minds, dragon can change into anything, it can be small or huge, be short or long, it can dive deeply in the water, can fly above all the clouds. In Ci Hai, it says that Loong is a miraculous animal with scales and palpus in the ancient legends that controls the weather and water. It also says that Loong, with

horn and claw, can mount the clouds and ride the mist, summon wind and call for rain and change unpredictably. Every part of Loong has special symbolic meanings. And all of the meanings is auspicious.

But in Western people's concepts, dragon stands for evil. In Encyclopedia, it says dragon, a legendary reptilian monster similar in form to a crocodile and usually represented as having wings, huge claws, and a fiery breath. It is a magic creature in Western legend which has formidable magic power. And Western people think that there are many kinds of dragons. Dragons can have a variable number of legs: none, two, four, or more when it comes to early European literature. In China we say the Loong has nine sons and each son is different. Yet, in west, they can say the dragon has hundreds of sons and each of them is also different. Some dragons live in the deep sea, some sleep in the volcano, some remains dormant in the swamp and some hide themselves in caves. Nowadays, we often use the word "dragon" when we refer Western dragon. However, in ancient times, people did not use "dragon". Semitics founded Judaism and at that time, some people believed that Seraphim in the Judaism is the embodiment of the dragon with justice power. In Western culture, Seraphim is closest to Loong for its nature and characteristics. Seraphim is not only similar to Loong in its stature, function and significance, but also close to Chinese local dragon in the origin. Chinese dragon likes a huge snake while Western dragon came from the word "Seraph" in the ancient Hebrew language. From the Holy Bible, we can find that dragon is snake. In Revelation, it refers that the great was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole astray. The Old Testament mentions many times that dragon comes from Greece, and it is often described as a huge sea monster or a viper. Since Mesopotamia legend, dragon was treated as symbol of Devil. Therefore people at that time lived near Mesopotamia Plain accepted this idea and passed it until today. So the Christian and Jews treat dragon as a evil creature.

III. Mythologies of dragon

In ancient China there are many mythologies about dragon. For example, in Journey to the West, Tang Seng rides a white horse named white dragon horse. In the book, the white dragon horse is the third son of dragon king in the west sea, but he offended the rules. So Guanyin punished him by changing him into a horse to protect Tang Seng to west. From the book, we can learn that the ancient Chinese people believe dragon is a god who controls the weather and water. "The Chronological Record of Historians" written by Sima Qian of the Western Han Dynasty, was the worlds earliest biographical work of literature, covering a history of 3000 years. Its contents rang from the legendary Huang Di, or Yellow Emperor, to Emperor Wudi of the Han Dynasty. In this book, Sima Qian said our Chinese nation's forefather Huang Di is the incarnation of Yellow Dragon, which is the dragon king. It belongs to earth in Five Elements and earth is in the middle of Five Elements, so Yellow Dragon is the leader of dragons. Because of this, when Huang Di reached the heaven, he became the emperor of heaven. Dragon is also the first of the four Divine Creatures to

Chinese-the others being the unicorn, the phoenix and the tortoise. It brings rain to the earth, hastens the crops and cools the toiling farmer. If a place does not rain for a long time, people will think that's because they have made the dragon king angry. So they will present oblations to fawn on the dragon king.

There are also many legends about dragon in the west. In Greek mythology there is a god who controls business and trading. A dragon with a horn accompanies him. That is why latter people believe dragon likes treasures. In ancient Egyptian mythology, dragon has an image of upper body as the eagle, lower body as the lion. The upper part of the eagle represents the Helios, the lower half stands for fertile goddess Hathor. This image stands for water. It is the earliest prototype of Egyptian dragon. In the Old English poem Beowulf, dragons are said to breathe fire or to be poisonous. They are commonly portrayed as serpentine or reptilian, hatching from eggs and possessing typically scaly or feathered bodies. They are sometimes portrayed as having especially large eyes or watching treasure very diligently, a feature that is the origin of the word dragon. In the ancient Greek mythology, the dragon often appeared as ferocious monster and the caretaker of treasures. In Homer's epic, it mentioned twelve Labours of Heracles and the eleventh is to steal a golden apple of Hesperides. The golden apple was guarded by a serpent-like dragon with a hundred heads whose name is Ladon.

In mythologies, Western dragon and Chinese Dragon are very different in the following two points: First, the Western dragon must have wings, whether large or small, it is essential; although Chinese dragon can fly in the sky, it depends on fabulous ability not wings. Second, the Chinese dragon is incarnation of clouds and rain. In Oriental mythology, the dragon is responsible for rain to moisten the earth. Western dragon is fire-breathing. Its image is evil, and the character is also evil. It hides in the deep forests, but when it appeared, it must cause a disaster for human.

IV. Symbolic meaning of Dragon in old times

Existing in both Chinese and western cultures, dragons have very different symbolic meanings. The Chinese dragon is a sacred symbol and the Western dragon is a terrible monster. Because of different national history, different religion, different customs, different lifestyle and different topography, different people have different understanding about dragon. The mythologies of Huang Di and Yan Di, the legend of Journey to the West etc. show us that Chinese dragons are good favorable powerful and humane while the mythologies of Satan etc. reflect that western dragons are bad, hateful, destructive and monstrous.

In ancient China, Chinese progenitors, Yan Di and Huang Di, have a close relationship with dragon. Thus the Chinese people called themselves "Descendants of the Dragon". Dragon culture has penetrated into all areas and all aspects of China's social and culture. Loong, in traditional Chinese culture, is a sign of good luck and success, a symbol of power, elegance and honor. In feudal society, dragon is the

synonym of imperial power. Therefore, the emperor called themselves “sons of dragon”, their body called “dragon’s body”, their clothes called “robes”, their bed called “bed of state”... In short, all of the things that are related to emperors’ daily life were distinguished by the word “dragon” to show the superior privileges. Another cultural symbolism of Loong is outstanding and out of the ordinary. The dragon is a sacred thing that ordinary people can not compared with. So we often named the people who have noble ambition, Good behavior and outstanding ability with “Loong” such as Zhuge Liang, we called him Sleeping Dragon.

European dragons are usually depicted as malevolent. The dragon has never been appositive image that on behalf of ferocious, brutal and barbaric. In the Bible, dragon represents Devil and Satan. In the west, almost all the dragon can breath fire. Fire is easy to hurt other people, so Western dragon often stands for full of aggression. They are also considered to be greedy liking piles of coins, gems and magic items. In Western culture, because the dragon has a disgraceful image, the derived language often has derogatory sense. In the Middle Ages, dragon is a symbol of evil, and Satan is considered to be the great dragon.

V. Conclusion

Obviously, the cultural connotation of the dragon is very different which is caused by different developing process of culture. It is not difficult to find out that Chinese dragon can be authenticated by historical object and its changes in each period are quite clear and continuous. But in Europe, each nation has a different impression about dragon. In the process of cultural blending, the dragon’s characters were gradually perfected. But no matter how the dragon changes, its origin has something in common: They are produced because of human’s endless imagination; they are evolving; they have already formed their perfect shape and culture. Therefore, in cross-cultural communication, we should notice that different nations have different cultures. Only in this way can we improve cross-cultural awareness.

AN ANALYSIS OF SINO-US DIVERSITIES IN MARRIAGE AND LOVE VALUES

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Outline

- I. An introduction of this topic:
Why I choose this topic and the significance of studying it.
- II. A comparison of marriage-related value orientations between China and the US.
 - 2.1 What are the mate selection criteria of Chinese people?
 - 2.2 What are the mate selection criteria of American people?
- III. Analysis of Sino-US diversities in marriage and love values
 - 3.1 Comparative study at cultural level.
 - 3.2 Comparative study at social level.
- IV. Conclusion.

I. Introduction

Love and marriage is the eternal theme of human and almost everyone will go through it someday. BUT what is marriage?

Marriage is not a ritual or an end. It is a long, intricate, intimate dance together and nothing matters more than your own sense of balance and your choice of partner.
-- Amy Bloom

This is one of the most oft-quoted lines of Amy Bloom who is one of the most popular writers in America. From her perspective, marriage is all about one's own feelings towards love. Is this view justifiable in your eyes? Opinions may vary from people to people especially for those from different cultural backgrounds such as Chinese and Americans.

This analysis thus will focus on Sino-US diversities in marriage, love values and the causes of the differences to offer a platform for the people in these two countries to gain a better mutual understanding. Besides, what dominate love and marriage values is the whole social ideology, thus it is of great significance to study this topic because it can improve people's cross cultural sensitivities and awareness; meanwhile by doing this specific study, we can acquaint ourselves with the different ways of thinking and gradually become tolerant enough with others' various opinions. It will also provide a new framework to reconsider Chinese and American marriage values and encourage young people to make decisions rationally in marriage, which is one of the most important things in their lives.

II. The status quo of marriage-related value orientations in China and the US

In the process of globalization, China's economy has been constantly improved for decades and showed a brand new image to the world. As for common people, it is obvious that their quality of life has been ameliorated significantly and people begin to pay more attention to spiritual fulfillment. Recent years, we have witnessed the rise of television reality dating shows in China, which can be regarded as a microcosm of marriage and love issue in the whole society.

For instance, the Chinese reality TV dating show "If you are the One" is an influential and popular program in China. It started to reveal in January 2010, and has grabbed the attention of a whole nation and its citizens. The deputy secretary of Chinese marriage and family association, ZhaoYanfen said: " 'If you are the One' arouses so much attention of the public because the topics concerned reveal marriage-related values of this generation in a sense. By seeing the program, people not only know the guests' marriage and family values, but also take a reconsideration over their own values and attitudes."

Similar to "If You are the One", there is also a reality TV dating show in America---"The Bachelor". It has been run for more than 10 years and is ranked the first place for the Top Five TV dating shows to watch. Here we can compare " If You are the One " with "The bachelor" to analyze the status quo of marriage-related value orientations in China and the US.

Though the initial concepts of these two dating shows are both to offer opportunities for the single men and women to get to know each other and find "the right one", the formats of the programs are quite different. "If you are the one" have five male participants on the show within about an hour meeting 24 single women. By watching VCRs of the male participants one at a time, girls can know his basic information, love values, love experience and his friends' impression on him to make their decisions whether to choose him or not. During the break of the VCRs, girls can interact with the male participants to exchange their love values more directly and this can be seen as the most entertained part of the show. The process of "The Bachelor" lasts for about three months, which is much longer than "If you are the One". The show is shot in the scenic places and offers the only one "bachelor" with dozens single girls to choose from. It states the process of developing a relationship just as in reality, not in the traditional one on one style but one-to-many style.

From comparison, it is likely to figure out some differences in the marriage-related values between Chinese and Americans.

2.1 What are the mate selection criteria of Chinese people?

The setting of "If You are the One" is basically followed the rule of typical Chinese traditional blind date, which always starts with the judgment of appearance.

According to the participants' performance in the show, we can generalize that as far as Chinese traditional selection criteria are concerned, man should be superior to women still exist. Men tend to choose those who are shorter and younger. Women tend to choose those who are taller and older. Those male participants who are physically attractive are more likely to gain more favor in the "first impression" round, but after exchanging their views of marriage, some male guests will fail. In the following rounds, the participants' views of love and marriage or other considerations on mate selection will be reflected. The personalities and the interests of the male participants will be showed in the VCR, if he is considerate to his girl friend, aspirant in his career, and a man with sense of responsibility and filial piety, he is mostly a "Mr. Right" in girls' eyes. Education also will be take into consideration since many Chinese people believe that if partners don't possess similar educational background, they won't have much in common. In the show, financial status factor reveals frequently, the male participants always talk about their work conditions, salary, whether they own a house or car etc. Many participants explicitly show their requirements on the potential partner's financial status. Ma Nuo, a controversial girl participant in the show famous for her responded to an invitation by a poor young man to take a ride on his bicycle by saying, "I would rather cry in a BMW than laugh on a bicycle." which aroused a huge outcry among viewers, social commentators, and citizens. But it also seems to reflect a pattern obvious in the real world, where dating agencies, online dating websites, and even old-fashioned matchmakers have placed a priority on financial status above all else. Heated discussions on this topic always take place on net. Some people think that's a violation of love, but most people think that's quite understandable in modern society.

2.2 What are the mate selection criteria of American people?

The show "The Bachelor" shows the characteristics of their mate selection. In terms of physical features, it is found that physical appearance has certain influence on the participants' mate selection but is not the deciding factor to a successful match. The case is that the American participants have different preference in terms of physical appearance. The bachelors are always described and praised to be physically strong and handsome. The bachelorettes are always described and praised to be beautiful, gorgeous, physically attractive and sexually appealing. In addition, the bachelor is more likely to choose a young, thin woman, while the bachelorette is more likely to choose a muscular man, with height and age making no significant difference. It is found that different from Chinese participants, the personalities that American participants frequently mention and appraise are several features such like hobby, intelligence, fun, maturity, confidence, and romance. Corresponding with the occurrence of description on personality features, the American participants are more likely to talk about their own interests. During the date performance, they will talk a lot about their interest, and several examples of interested activities in order to help the participants find out their connection and shared values. Compared with Chinese participants, the American participants seem to have far less interest in education background. They hardly put emphasize on their requirement on the potential mate's

education level. All of the participants will introduce their jobs like pilots, firefighters etc. However, the financial status like the participants' salary and whether the bachelor has a house or car are never mentioned or exposed.

In mate selection criteria, some factors in mate selection are compared. It is found that both Chinese and American dating shows start with judgment of physical features, which plays an important role in mate selection but not the deciding factor. Both Chinese and American bachelors tend to choose the bachelorettes who are thinner, relatively more beautiful, and bachelorettes tend to have preference to strong men. Age and height carry more weight among Chinese people than among Americans. Most Chinese participants hold that male participants should be older and taller than female participants. Besides, both Chinese and American participants also emphasize personality and interests. However, they have different preferences for traits of personality. Chinese participants stress more on kindness, affection and family man, sense of responsibility, gentleness and virtue, consideration, filial piety and independence, and most Chinese male participants especially emphasize that their ideal participants should not be domineering. The traits that American participants value most are: intelligence, smartness, fun, maturity, confidence, and romance. Furthermore, Chinese participants care more about educational level, financial status and familial factors in mate selection than American participants do. Economic status is an important mate selection criterion for Chinese participants, especially for female participants.

III. Analysis of Sino-US diversities in marriage and love values

3.1 Comparative study at cultural level

The above findings reflect different cultural values epitomizing Chinese and American cultures. In this study, participants of both cultures seem to have very clear ideas about most valued qualities in mate selection in their culture. Their consideration in mate selection is largely based on what the society believes to be the game rule of the current marriage.

Theoretically, Chinese culture is a typical example of collectivism, and it also tends to be more family-oriented and long-term oriented. Its thousands of years' history endowed this nation with great tradition, and traditional norms and values have a great influence in people's life. Therefore, the Chinese adults' marriage values bear the features of these cultural orientations. The adults' mate selection will be influenced or controlled by parents. When the adults choose mate, they still follow some traditional standards and norms. For example, men should be older, taller, and financially superior to women. Women should be gentle and virtuous.

In contrast, American culture is dominated by individualism, which directly affects its mate selection. "I" consciousness prevails: they pursue individual freedom, and achievement of self value; they pay attention to preserving individual independence and feelings in any condition. Individual is regarded as the most important unit in the

society. Individual decision making is favored and valued. With the women's liberation and feminism, women have achieved an unprecedented level of equality with men, and they have equal say with man. From the very early time, the adults are taught to have a free choice of whom to marry. Personal interest and goals are extremely emphasized. Therefore, they lay more stress on individual feelings, personality and interests, with less consideration of the external conditions like education, family background, and economic status. Americans value free individual emotional expression, whereas Chinese emphasize traditional social norms

3.2 Comparative study at social level

Reform and Opening Up policy changes the landscape of Chinese society and economy, meanwhile brings a storm in people's minds. Chinese economic pattern changes from planned economy to market economy. New economic and cultural elements are added into this nation. As globalization develops and spreads, China develops more quickly, and meanwhile more and more foreign products, value system flow in. Under this context, China now comes in the transformation period, and is moving from a less modern society to a modern society. In the transformation period, adults' self-awareness becomes stronger and stronger, and they pay more attention to the mate's personal condition. The transformation of the society also causes the shift of mate selection. Adults in the transformation period are experiencing the clashes and changes. Their self-awareness, desire of making personal material achievement and gaining personal interests have become stronger and stronger. Women in modern China also can enjoy better education, gain economic independence, and are not tied closely to house work and birth giving. They are not so submissive to and dominated by men. Some women even are more capable than men. In the show "If You are the One", women and men can interact with each other, and women have the equal say with men. The adults tend to attach more on individual personality and mutual love instead of family will. Meanwhile, market economy improves the position of money in people's mind and life, and also put pressure on the adults. Therefore, the adults consider the financial condition (e.g. ownership of a house) as an important factor in choosing mate. And a lot of adults delay marriage, and phenomenon like, Dwelling narrowness and Ant tribe appear in many places. Hofstede noted that as a society develops from a less modern one to a modern one, it tends to be more individualistic, more toward lower power distance, and become more feminine, which is in accord with the findings of this study. In contrast, the findings show that the American adults have never changed the worship of individualism. Because of the women's liberation and feminism, women's role has been greatly changed. Therefore, the adults can freely choose their ideal mates.

IV. Conclusion

The findings of this analysis were based on two reality dating shows. Because of the scope of the participants, the findings may not be generalized to the populations of all Chinese and American adults. However, we still can get a basic understanding of mate selection criteria in China and the US. Chinese adults combine traditional norms

with modern demands, while American adults generally follow their romantic beliefs in choosing mate. The adults in the two countries both list physical features, personality and interests as considerations in mate selection. In a sense, Chinese adults regard marriage as kind of responsibility, and American adults regard it as kind of rights. The current situation of Chinese and American adults' marriage values may have potential impact on the people and society. But how to establish a stable, happy and quality marriage is still a problem. Since marriage values directly affect people's marriage life and practice, helpful guidance is necessary. It is suggested that efforts should be put to study "marriage culture", dealing with issues on love, mate selection, marriage, and divorce, family relationship, to contribute to establishing a stable, happy and quality marriage.

THE EDUCATIONA; PHILOSOPHY BETWEEN AMERICAN AND CHINESE

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Along with the advance of the society, more and more people put emphasis on the correct application of educational philosophy on children. It's wildly acknowledged that, children are the hope of a nation, therefore it is top priority for parents and country to cultivate more competent students. But what do we mean by educational philosophy? This is the more theoretical definition, equally a more practical side. "philosophy of education" can mean one of two related things: it is not only an approach or a theory of learning, but also widely accepted that it is a kind of view of teaching us how education can be perfectly achieved at any standard.

History has shown many obvious differences between America and Chinese. Taking two country's achievements in every technology revolution as an example. At the first science and technology revolution, American steamboat invented which greatly promoted the enterprise of transportation. However, Chinese took measures to its border, rejecting communication with other countries. To some extent, it affected the China's development with outside world. Then the second science and technology revolution came, Zhan Tianyou designed the first railway in China. Edison invented the first electric bulb for the world. What we can find from it is at the same times our inventions in technological skill are much less advanced than America's. As a Chinese, we experience an educational pattern which came into being in a long time ago, beginning at Xia dynasty. Although there is a short time in American history, the government put the education on an important position. So what causes for this distinction? All in all, we attribute the big difference to the talents. We can cultivate all kinds of people with different educational philosophy. That is to say, talents to us what water is to fish. How to foster promising adults is becoming more and more necessary. We are not only conscious of the differences, but also do we are trying to analyze them.

Therefore, this paper tries to investigate the different educational philosophy between American and Chinese from three aspects.

□.The different methods at study

1. Questions

Tao Xingzhi, Chinese well-known educator, said that creation originates from questions, and once people have questions, they have the ability of thinking, then having the way to solve the problems. Similarly, Werner Heisenberg said it is questions that inspire us to study, to practice and to observe. Thus, no matter who we are, all us are aware of the essential of questions. And teachers also collect information from students to teach. Whether a class is significant or not is measured

by students' reaction of raising questions. However, in China, Most students are so anxious about the valuable correlations between questions and contents of teacher's lecture that they would rather not ask questions than ask a "stupid" irrelevant question. However, from American films and books, we usually find that American students in class are comparatively active, and to our surprise, they even ask questions without any relation to the contents of their study. And if it is not too bad, teacher will answer it patiently. It seems that they don't need to think about the value of the questions, which Chinese care to much. To be honest, studying is this kind of process where students express their ideas freely. For instance, In Clintondale high school, the schoolmaster Greg Green attempted to use a new pattern to teach. After students watched the teaching video clips which was recorded by teachers. Students put forward the questions by themselves and then be solved with the help of teachers. From here we can find a great difference between Chinese education and American education in the quantity and contents of questions, and such difference shows clearly the fact that Americans care much in nurturing the ability of students in thinking.

2.Homework

It goes without saying,all of people in the world know that Chinese students get too much pressure from homework. In 20th century, Jiang Zemin present initiated a program named "Lighten Your Load", which targeting at reducing homework for students, however, the practice of this program ran in the opposite direction against people's wish. Chinese students even carry more burden of work after school. Faced with too much homework, we can't ignore the exist of homework in our study. And American students similarly need to do homework. Is that a same thing? Absolutely not. Their homework consist of some practical skills except Chinese way of reading, writing and reciting all the time. So to speak. So to speak, China's education aims to build the foundation of education with more study and less thought; while US's education aims to build such an education to raise the creativity with less study but more critical thinking.

□.The different relationships at study

1.Interacting with classmates

The word "Mentor" has been existed in Chinese for a long time and it also plays a role in our life, because it obviously tells us how important good classmates and teachers affect people's study. When I was little, my parents always tell me to make a good classmate as a close friend. He or she must have good grades, better behavior and be welcomed by teachers and classmates. I have to admit it is a kind thought from my parents. After all they want that person could have a good effect on me, especially at my study. From here there must be most students having the same experience with me. We sometimes feel that we even can't choose our own friends. It is ridiculously absurd to believe that all of us actually know a true friend should not only be judged by his academic achievements, but also by any other elements in all-around development. And the most essential is the person who we like to get along with. However, it is different in America, from the TV series "Friends" I realize that, it is

fully filled with consumption of good quality, and more importantly, in constant laughter, it lets us to see their ordinary life, all kinds of emotions, principles, interests and status issues come in life at the same time, but the eternal theme is their friendship. Now things have changed and became better. Our concept about learning with a good grade friend is gradually not so apparently.

2. Interacting with teachers

In China, there is a famous saying, “If you are my teacher for even one day, you will be my teacher (mentor) all my life.” So we usually look up to our teachers, and parents. On the one hand, it is a good to have such a modest attitude, on the other hand to some extent, we are afraid of querying in front of the teachers. In our mind it is an impolite behavior to interrupt teacher’s lecture which may influence the result of this course. On the contrary, teachers are a friend or a person who transfers knowledge in American students’ life. Students express their idea as possible as they can. If teachers do not teach well, students complain. If many students do not understand, people think that the teacher does not do a good job. Teachers have big responsibility to make sure students understand. In a sense, students are consumers and teachers are offering service.

□. The same purpose at study

H.D. Thoreau, an American writer in the 19th century. Reading his work “Walden” and knowing his deep thinking. We find that he strongly against money-seeking and calls on the simplification of material life. He stands for chasing spiritual life. Therefore, he went to the small place, Walden, and lived there for two years. Thoreau felt the beauty of the environment and experienced the life lonely. It is spiritual desire that leading him to live significantly. Especially compared with modern times, there are much more people falling into the material society. But we also can’t ignore that there are also some people holding view on material learning. In order to get a decent position at the society, they learn and master the practical skills under too much pressure. As we know, each of them has aims, there is no obvious distinction to judge which one is good or bad. No matter who you are, you are in these two categories.

□. The reason of differences in education philosophy

Parents, teachers and classmates are main factors leading to the differences. Growing up with them. One can never resist the influence from them. Let’s talk about the famous film “The Pacifier” In the film, it may be unconscious, but Shane Wolfe had let the kids master many skills by training them during the time when he took cared of them. Therefore, American parents bring up their children by the method of “letting go” but “not indulging ” to exercise children’s abilities of independent living. American parents pay attention to practical exercise, emphasize the child in practice, not a lecture. However, Chinese parents emphasis on preaching to give priority to, the contempt practice activities the important role.

In the process of learning, Chinese teacher should also change the core position to a

guiding place. We need to know how to respect, but at study the priority is to take good use of the resource of teachers. Just like Americans, each other has its own responsibility and their goal is to make their dream come true.

For classmates, we spend a long time on getting along with them. Friendship is like a pearl. When we are sad, they come to comfort us. When we are happy, they come to share our happiness. Friends always come to us when we need them. Equally, friends and us get together at most time. The good behaviors from them we need to obtain, the bad parts should be abandoned.

□.Conclusion

Both of Chinese and Americans should overcome their own weaknesses by acquiring others' strong points. Chinese should realize the differences of educational philosophy and it helps us to foster promising adults. And to some extent, American can learn rigorous attitude from Chinese students. In this thesis, it is only a comparative study on education in America and China. Of course, there is also distinctiveness on it. In addition, compared with Chinese education, American education also has its obvious shortage. So the aim of this thesis is not totally to repudiate Chinese education or wholly to accept American education. In the end, through the comparative study on education between America and China, the writer wants to promote reform ideas for Chinese parents and teachers in order to improve the development of Chinese education.

THE ANALYSIS OF INDIVIDUALISM IN WESTWARD MOVEMENT

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Abstract: This paper is to explore the significant concepts namely, individualism and collectivism in ideology, which unconsciously affect the way of people's thinking between the West and the East. For identifying them is indispensable to a comparative study of culture and further their relationship. Describe thus, attempting to discuss what was the possible cause preceded based on the American Westward Movement, which is universally acknowledged as a period of individualism.

The paper discusses firstly the origin of individualism and collectivism and then the respective manifestations of the American westward movement as well as the enlightenment for the Chinese Western Development. After that, the author analyzes the formation of the dominant value, which could be a better way to understand a culture and reveal much more about who we are. By making a study of Chinese collectivism and western individualism in a defined timeframe, people of America and China could perceive, understand and tolerate various deep structures of both cultures. Thus, both the Chinese and Americans could read other's mind, interpret their actions and behaviors and know how to respond. Moreover, they can have a clear understanding of customs behind the culture that have shaped their personal mindsets and values. Already-accepted values of culture as a kind of spiritual culture shared by all the people greatly promotes the cross-cultural communication among people around the world.

Keywords: American westward movement; Individualism; Collectivism; Chinese Western Development; Promotion

We live in a time of rapid change, and this change causes us to rethink cultural struggles and identities. It may be difficult for us to envision, but through westward expansion, Americans have occupied a dominant position in the western hemisphere, with vast territories stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. It is an incontestable time that American people tried to achieve their American dream on the newly discovered land. The idea of the American Dream is rooted in the Declaration of Independence, which proclaims that "all men are created equal" and that they are "endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights" including "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." That is to say, as each individual, was inspired to contribute their painstakingly effort to their survival, which was significant not just for them but also for the independence and rise of a new country as a whole.

1. The definition of Individualism and Collectivism

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, individualism conduct and practice guided by such a theory. "the pursuit of individual rights and interests is considered utterly legitimate. Self-actualization and the maximal realization of individual potential are supreme aims in life. So they regard human being as the most important among all valuable things and believe that individual is the primary unit of reality and the ultimate standard of value. Individualists believes that every person is an end in him and that no one should be sacrificed for the sake of another. Whereas, collectivism holds that the group, the nation, the community and the race are the primary unit of reality and the ultimate standard of life. This view does not deny the reality of the individual. It merely deems that the individual should be submitted to the collective.

2. Core Elements of Individualism in American Westward Movement

Individualism emerged unmistakably when the earliest settlers come to North America to escape the fierce religious persecution of the Puritans. In 1602, the famous "Mayflower" ship moored this land. It is a time that individualism was highlighted to its biggest possibilities. And it was strengthened in the extensive explosion of the West. In the campaign, millions of the labor masses endured hardship in pioneer work, they had created enormous material and spiritual wealth. As a result, people in modern times deem the eighteenth century as the heyday of individualism for its normalization. Moreover, in American's society, opportunity, self-reliance, independence and competition have the tightest link with individualism.

2.1 The Spiritual Heritage of the Early Settlers

The United States witnessed a dramatic change of the meaning of individualism due to the development of American history. The westward expansion has often been regarded as the central theme of American history, down to the 19th century and as the main factor in the shaping of American character. The earliest settlers came to the North American continent to establish colonies, which were free from the controls that existed in Europe. In 1776, the British settlers declared their independence from England and established a new nation, the United States of America. By limiting the power of the government and the churches and eliminating a formal aristocracy, the settlers created a climate of freedom where the emphasis settlers were on the individual. The United States come to be associated in their minds with the concept of individualism. In addition, the concept involves freedom, opportunity, self-reliance, self-improvement and self-help.. This is probably the most basic of all American values.

2.2 Opportunity Created by the Pioneer

With the "principle of priority" dominating social environment, people's hierarchy gradually disappeared. Dispensing with the stereotype of being traditionally classified into aristocracy and populace, the motivation was spurred spiritually. Up until then, people were conscious of striving for themselves truly. For most of them, went into

the west then moved towards the future. West is the palace of freedom, for people pay high attention to the individual freedom, emphasizing self-control and self-control without abroad constraint. Opportunity equally shows in front of individuals, including other westerners. In fact, people's purpose going to the west was similar. No matter rich or poor, educated or uneducated, they squeezed in a caravan or a steamboat, without distinction. In a sense, the American government was behind the large-scale migration. In order to drive the movement, the federal government carried out the free migration policy, encouraging foreigners to move to America, besides, an unprecedented trans-regional migration happened in America from 1790 to 1910, the population center moved 557 miles westward. During regional development, the government creates the opportunities by building the transportation profoundly, which conveniently connected the whole country.

In my eyes, it is not so much a way of expansion as a strategy to create job opportunities to the migration in the rugged and primitive area. Transportation facilitated western economy as well as the growth of the north economy. Hence it will have their main effect many years hence. The infrastructure of school, hospital and railway will benefit people in this area in the long run.

2.3 Self-reliance by Making Full Use of the Large Uncultivated Land

Individuals must learn to rely on themselves or risk losing freedom. This strong belief in self-reliance continues today as a traditional basic American value.

(1) Stimulate the Agriculture by Accommodative Policy

In 1784, 1785 and 1787, the federal government made up three land acts, establishing three principles of dealing with western lands for the first time in American history. Lincoln government issued the Homestead Act, arousing people's enthusiasm for the Westward Movement. To strengthen agricultural management as well as the development of agricultural technology. It is not as easy as we imagined exploiting an extended land. Needless to say, the passion for a better life in the land morally supports them to surmount all the difficulties.

(2) Fertile Land by Farmers and Individual Effort

In 1790, the total population of the United States was nearly four million people and farmers made up about 90% of the labor force. A belief in the inherent virtue of rural life and farm labor was a prevalent concept in the new nation. Thomas Jefferson championed the agrarian ideal, stating in his Notes on Virginia in the 1780s that "Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God.

Generally speaking, the naturally arid weather of the west is not proper for the cultivation. Nevertheless, as we always say god helps those who help themselves. The diversity of crops and livestock was raised in the West, including vegetables, wheat, fruits, cattle, and ostriches. For the farmer of the land, they made it by their individual effort.

2.4 The Independent Consciousness

“we hold these truth to be self-evident, that all man are created equal, that all they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” from the Declaration of Independence. Originally, it highly emphasizes one should make judgements dependent on his own will alone. As far as education is concerned, in the early times, in developing a sense of self-hood and independence. For instance, the United States is made up of fifty individual states according to the Constitution for the purpose of interaction and the respect of each state’s initial uniqueness. As a result, the United States is made up of fifty individual states according to the Constitution for the purpose of interaction and the respect of each state’s initial uniqueness.

3. Collectivism in China

The Chinese culture measures very high on the “collectivism” scale along with Japan and Korea compared to most Western cultures. This means that the Chinese, in general, act as a collective society that strives for harmony and group belonging, whether to family, friends, work, or country

3.1 Historical Roots of the Collectivism

In the east, Confucius is considered as the greatest saint. He is the major founder of our profound traditional Chinese culture. Confucianism, established and developed by one of his followers, has had a significant influence on the formation of Chinese national characteristics. For the historical reason, collectivism is inherent in a Confucian society. In order for Chinese society to operate smoothly, it was necessary to subject one’s own desires to the greater good of the group. In other words, people didn’t exist independently of one another. Instead, an individual was defined by his or her relationship to the group.

3.2 Manifestations of Collectivism in Chinese Western Development

The Western Development, launched in 2000 by the Chinese Government, will greatly improve the standard of living of the 355 million people living in the west of China. The project aims at accelerating the development of the western region and narrowing down the gap between the less developed western region and the well-developed eastern coastal region. Based on concept of collectivism, the sense of team spirit was strongly advocated by the Chinese government. Under the background of the western development, a series of actions, policies and measures have been carried out for sustainable support.

3.2.1 Arable Land Being Sacrificed for Collective Interests

As mentioned in the definition of collectivism, in collectivism culture individuals subordinate their personal goals to the goals of some collective. Cases in this point are Natural Forest Conservation Program and the Grain to Green Program, which emphasizes expansion of natural forests and increasing the productivity of forest plantations. This new policy is being implemented with a new combination of policy tools, including technical training and education, land management planning. Such

ecological programs certainly have great impact on the socio-economic livelihoods of peasant; however, considering the efficient development of this area, the group interests take priority over each individual again. Farmers give up their rights of arable land to support the programme, which fully embodies the spirit of sacrifice self-interests for the whole. Farmers make way for the government out of the value of collectivism. It is a good illustration for the “all for one, one for all”.

3.2.2 Preferential Educational Policy for Supporting the Western Area

"Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. the human mind is our fundamental resource." by John F. Kennedy. From this view, we may know that education for all means has been the most important role in all the stages of an ever progressing and developing society, equally for the west or the east. For the progress of a nation, it will not be wise to neglect the importance of education for the development of society as a whole. It has led to the development of many government-aided educational programs and government grants to schools and colleges.

In China, heaps and heaps college graduates are joining in the Volunteer Teachings in the West under the call of the government. For these students themselves, it is a good chance to experience life in the lesser developed areas. For example, in 2011, a group of seventeen postgraduate students from Peking University will spend one year as teaching volunteers in the country's remote and underdeveloped western regions starting in August. This will be the 13th such team that the university, famed for excellency in humanities and social sciences, has sent student volunteers to teach for one year in Tibet, Qinghai, Yunnan, Xinjiang, Ningxia, Shanxi and Henan of central and western China since 1999. The students are the epitome of the traditional value of collectivism. They think a lot of the devoting spirit of individual for the collective benefits.

3.2.3 Preferential Economic Policy for Supporting the West

The preferential policies are largely “deregulation policies” that enabled marketization and internationalization of the western economy and allowed the area to become equally developed. From the time of Reform and Opening Policy, the economic disparity between larger and larger because of east-leaning sectional policy. Now, as for the west, government has attached importance to the economy of the western region.

Taking the Qinghai-Tibet Railway as a case, the line was built during Chian’s Tenth 5-Year Plan and in China, is considered a landmark project. It is the world’s highest railway, extending over 1956 km from Xining to Tibet Autonomous Region. The Chinese government has invested an unprecedented amount of money to boost the economy of this area. The Qinghai-Tibet Railway will also promote local tourism and related economic development. Regional authorities estimate that by 2015, the number of tourists will double from the 2008 total of 3.2 million, and tourist revenues

in the region will rise to 6.8 billion yuan per year. From the accurate data and analyzing situations, the Qinghai-Tibet Railway will ultimately promote the sustainable ecological, social, and economic development of western China.

3.3. The Comparison of Individualism and Collectivism

3.3.1 Similarity

America is the typical representative of individualism and China is that of collectivism. Although, there are many differences between America and China in various ways, people in the two nations hold the same objective. No matter for the America Westward Movement or for the Chinese Western Development, the main objective is to boost and balance the economy in different area of their country. Holding their own values, the people in these two countries spear no effort to the national development and ultimately achieve their goals for their own good.

3.3.2 Difference

A good understanding of such a difference will help us have a proper grasp of the culture of the two countries and do cross-culture communication successfully. The biggest difference between individualism and collectivism lies in their different perspectives viewing things.

An essential attribute of individualism culture is that the individuals are not apt to subordinate their goals to the goals of the collective. Furthermore, the individuals may put more efforts on the achievement of their respective goals.

On the contrary, in collective culture, maximizing the group's interest over the minority is one of the significant concepts. As the case of Chinese Western Development mentioned above, the farmers' giving up the arable land for the environmental program in the long term is the best proof.

Conclusion

In summary, the findings indicate that individualism is associated with attention to individualized activities and that collectivism is associated with attention to shared pursuits. As Douglas C.D. Pecoock argues, "...human identity presupposes the identity of the special period," the place is the important foundation for an individual to form one's identity. To study a period in history, therefore, means to study the people and their values in the period.

With all these reasons being into contemplated, it can be safely concluded that the value of one culture is the coherent, learned, shared view and value of a group of people's concern about their lives. Although research on individualism and collectivism has not yet examined situations on the modern times, but by tracing back to its originally historical moment, revealing the arcane background and the complicated historical reasons, we can analyze the relations objectively. In addition, along with the rapid globalization and the more frequent cultural communication, it is indispensable for people to make full preparation for it. With a good understanding of

culture, especially its value, the cultural communication will be more harmonious and beneficial. People's thinking can adjust accordingly to the situation.

If we know, what people value importantly and why so, in the meanwhile, being aware of your own culture, we may think and act in ways that can bridge the gap between different values positively and harmoniously.

A CROSS-CULTURE STUDY OF AMERICAN AND CHINESE GREETING

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1 Introduction

People who communicate across linguistic and cultural boundaries have more or less experienced communication breakdowns with people from different language background. In China, people always greet each other by asking about one's meals. For example, Chinese people always say "Have you had your meal?" when greeting others, even in toilets. In fact, it is a very common practice in their daily life, but this phenomenon really puzzles foreigners when they were greeted in this way. Probably, they cannot understand what your point is, and they may tend to think that you are going to invite them to dinner or even think that is their own business not yours. Actually, the Chinese people just want to show their kindness and greetings rather than invite others to have dinner. So it is urging for people of the east and west to know more about the distinctions between different cultures, which is of great help for them to communicate freely and flexibly.

2 The Similarities and Differences between American and Chinese Greetings

2.1 Similarities Between American and Chinese Greetings

Although the ways of presentation and usages of languages differ sharply due to different cultures and customs, the common points of greeting still exist. First, both greetings are bidirectional, which means such kind of behavior performs between two people or more, otherwise, it offense against the polite rules. Second, the greetings in fact contain meanings of both the practical as well as non-practical.

2.1.1 Bidirectional Greetings

When part A greets part B, part B must response to part A sooner or later. It is impolite to respond nothing to others' greeting no matter in China or in English speaking countries. And we all know that some greetings have fixed responses. Take people in English-speaking countries for example:

(1) A: How do you do?

B: How do you do.

(2) A: Nice to meet you.

B: Nice to meet you too.

(3) A: Hi!

B: Hi!

In contrast, the response of greetings for Chinese people is more free, for instance: "你吃了吗?" (Have you eaten yet?) "最近好吗?" (How are you?) "最近忙什么呢?" (What are you busy with?) and so on. People respond differently according to different greetings, but on the whole, the way they greet each other is bidirectional, which is a basic requirement for their daily communication.

2.2.2 Greeting Topics

From the perspective of topic, it can be subdivided into two parts: topical greeting and non-topical greeting. For example: the topic of these words "how are you" in English is equal to "你好吗?" in Chinese. And we call it topical greeting, people can always greet each other by talking about such topics as: weather, jobs, life and the like. And it is easy to find this kind of greeting emotive. On the contrary, "Hi" and "嗨" is non-topical greeting, which tends to be classified into neutral words. But it does not mean the topic is totally free to your mind, you can not talk everything you like. Generally speaking, the pattern of the non-topical greeting is fixed. And people can not make out the real meaning from their words without further communication.

2.2 Differences between American and Chinese Greetings

2.2.1 Differences in Contents

As a common communication practice in people's daily life, greetings vary from country to country. And the most obvious difference between Chinese and English is the content. For Chinese, when they meet each other, they often greet others by saying "Have you eaten yet?" It does not mean they care about whether you have eaten or not, they just way to express "Hi, nice to meet you." Furthermore, if the relationship between the two is a closer, they tend to ask about others' privacy such as their age, marriage, family life, income, religion and so on. The two will feel free to ask and answer this kind of questions even if it is a casual encounter. And people greet others by saying these in order to express their friendship and care in a random way. They do not pay much attention to others' answers. This is a normal situation in China. Actually, it is also a kind of greeting. But if a foreigner is asked in this way, they will probably think their privacy is offended.

On the other hand, Americans usually use weather, the state of one's health, transportation, sport or hobby as their topics when they meet each other. One of my foreign teacher who comes from the US once told us people in his country would never ask other people's salaries, because it would be quite impolite, unless a man has the initiative to disclose his salary to others. So all of them take it seriously. They often greet each other in a fixed way like "Hello!", "Hi!", "How are you?" "Good morning/ afternoon/evening/day (to you)" Obviously, most above-mentioned contents talked about among Chinese is regarded as private affairs in Americans' eyes.

2.2.2 Differences in the ways of Expressions

Chinese often say "You must be tired" when they meet the people who have a long trip by plane at the airport, which makes the foreigners consider if they are too weak to have the trip. While, Americans often say "How is your trip?", "You must enjoy you trip!", "How do you find..." or "you(r)trip must be very interesting" when they meet the guests from in the distant western countries.

For another, Chinese are happy to respect the senior. For example, the young will say "You are old, sit down please" when they see an senior standing on the bus. Or the

young worker will say "you are old, you must be tired, please stop to have a rest" when they work with the aged. But , in America, the aged will think you tease them too old to do everything ,it seems terrible to them. They usually don't like being helped by the young. They would like to do everything by themselves, in other words, they want to act young and feel young. So the senior always live alone. Typically, they say that they don't want to be a burden to their kids . According to the US census Bureau, 75 percent seniors relish their freedom, and they want to live on their own as long as they can. In the Sacramento region, US census figures also shows that almost three-fourths of people about or more than 65 live in same-generation households. National figures is even higher, with nearly 80 percent of older adults living in their own households – more than triple the number from the 1940s. A recent survey also shows that 53 percent of people below 65 said they would take in an aging parent who needed their help, only a quarter of people older than 65 said they would accept an invitation to live with their grown children. Those attitudes fly in the face of a stubborn cultural cliché, in which the grandparents, kids and grandkids grow older together under one roof – a holdover from the days when there was no choice but for the generations to live together, like it or not.

2.2.3 Different Gestures in Greeting

In the US, it is normal for men to shake hands when they meet, but it is quite unusual for men to kiss when they greet each other. Greetings are casual, which needs just a handshake, a smile or a word 'hello'. On the contrary, Chinese tend to be more conservative. When meeting someone for the first time, “你好!” (Hello) is the most common greeting. The same greeting phrased as a question is “你好吗?” (How are you?) The response of it is usually “你好.” People can use it on any occasion regardless of the time of the day, and would usually nod their heads and smile, or shake hands if in a formal situation.

3 Causes of the Differences between American and Chinese Greetings

3.1 Cultural Factors

As the saying goes “Each place has its streams in from all over the country”. Different people of different places are immersed in different traditions. So, people will have different ideas towards different things, which is also called value differences. And it's one of the most important reasons that cause the difference between Chinese and English greetings. There are three aspects lying in the differences of cultural factors. The First is moral orientation. As is known to all, modesty has been taken as a virtue by Chinese people since ancient times. People all know the proverb “One loses by pride and gains by modesty”. Taking the most common phenomenon-----a dinner party as an example, in China even if the enthusiastic hostess has prepared a table of sumptuous dinner, she'll say “it's an ordinary meal, please enjoy it and make yourself at home” or something like “please forgive me, if not taste well” Of course, people shouldn't understand it from the literal meaning, it's completely wrong if we understand it like this. The reason that the hostess says it just because of modesty and it doesn't mean that she really thinks she is bad at cooking. On the contrary, people in

America might have a negative attitude towards “modesty”. They affirm that their ability is the representation of “confidence” and being too modest is taking as “no ambition”. There is an example which is on the contrary to the Chinese people. An American hostess holding a dinner party, they’ll say “this table of food is made by me, it’s delicious and I am sure that all of you will love it, please enjoy it.” In addition, as for the compliment from other side, when the Chinese hostess hear the compliment from others, she will reply “您太过奖了, 一点点了” (You overpraise my cook, and it is normal.) to express their modesty, while the foreign hostess will reply “thanks” and think she deserves that.

The second is interpersonal relationship orientation. Chinese culture is gourmet culture, which emphasizes the strength of unite. In China, when personal interests collide with the collective interests, people should put collective interests first, and put the personal interest last. Collectivism, as one of the most important values, is the core content of Chinese culture. It means to put the interests of gourmet, country, society, proletariat and nation at first. Collective interest is superior to personal interest, which is the same as the Chinese phatic communion, putting the concern and worry at first. However, the values of American are totally different from that in China. People put individual rights first and put the collective interest last. Country and government must take individual rights seriously and the decisions must take individual rights as premise. In America, individualism emphasizes aseity, self-expression, self-actualization, self-actualization, self-awareness and self-independence. It emphasizes the advantages of self-reliance and self-independence. Individualism can satisfy the maximum benefit of a normal person, and this value takes a great impact on the whole generations from the aspects of economy, political and society. In the meantime, English culture emphasizes the privacy; therefore, they think people should respect their emotion, desire, intimacy and objective. So, when people are greeting others, they usually use weather and leisure activities as topics. For example “What about the football match yesterday?” “Do you like swimming?” While in China, people take age, marriage, health as the topic of a conversation, for example, “How old are you?” “Do you have a kid?”

The third is money orientation. The topics about the money are salary, living expenses, and rent and so on, which American don’t want to mention. For example, “how much is your salary?” “How much do you spend on your traveling?” It’s easy for Chinese people to answer the questions while it usually make people in America or other English countries feel unhappy or even put both sides in a awkward situation. For them, income and expenditure are privacy. So, topics like this will make them feel shameful and awkward.

3.2 Social Factors

The development of society is the basic conditions of the development of language. There’s no language out of society, living environment has decided that China belongs to agricultural society since ancient times, and agriculture has become the main economic form of Chinese people to survival and development. China is a

country with a large population; therefore, people believe “Food is vital for people” .Especially before the liberation, food problem has become the cardinal task under a society of low level of production and shortage of materials. Consequently, people talk about food as soon as they meet others. But, nowadays, with the development of the society, people don’t need to worry about the problem of food and clothes. So when people ask “Have you eaten meal?” it doesn’t mean they want to get a real answer from the opposite side, it’s just one of the most common greetings in China.

While most western countries are industrial society since hundreds of years ago, they have realized agricultural automation. In their country, tertiary industry has become the main industry of three industries, and they don’t have the tradition to talk about the food thing. So, they never talk about “food”. Therefore, agricultural society and industrial society have decided that Chinese people and American people have different preference in their daily greetings; people in each country should respect the respective customs when greeting each other.

Conclusion

From the above mentioned factors, it is obvious that although differences do exist between the two countries, US and China, people can still communicate well with each other by understanding the respective culture.

The author, based on her own limited knowledge and experience, mainly presents the similarities and differences between Chinese and American greetings in this paper, aiming to find the cultural differences between the two countries and to facilitate the communication between the people in China and US.

DIFFERENCE OF FAMILY VALUES HELD BY CHINESE AND AMERICANS

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Abstract: This paper tries to make a comparison of different family values held by Chinese and Americans. The differences of family values are embodied in family patterns, attitudes towards marriage, parents' conceptions of education to children, family relationships in China and America, and American family members advocate equality in daily life but Chinese family members advocate obedience. The American emphasis the individualism, Self- Awareness but Chinese focus on the collectivism, Filial Piety. Reasons for these differences are complex, including different customs, cultures and social backgrounds and so on.

Introduction

Family is the most basic unit of all human society. It reflects the ethical values of a society, its cultural characteristics and the unique features of a nation. People begin to learn anything about the world and their culture through the family they are brought up in. What you think, how you act, even your language, are all transmitted through the family from the wider cultural context.

Family values are the core in the research of cultural values, and it has a huge influence on people's thoughts and behaviors. So if we want to get a glimpse of the cultures of two different countries, it is necessary to know their different family values. Different family values are to be explored from the following aspects: family patterns, attitudes towards marriage, parents' conceptions of education to children, and family relationships in China and America.

1. Family Patterns: Nuclear Family VS Extended Family

In the US, a nuclear family which includes two parents and their children is regarded as traditional American family structure. Most old people do not live with their children or relatives. If they have enough money they will buy house or apartments in places where other old people live. If they were not healthy and strong enough to live alone, they would rather live in nursing houses for old people than be taken by their children. Therefore they want to stay young because youth stands for hope and energy. They do not like to grow old because they will not gain honor, respect or attention as old people. Taking care of aged parents is often viewed as a tremendous burden in America, where aging and family support are not honored highly. United States are still extremely family-oriented. They are dedicated to helping their children and will sacrifice greatly for their children to get an education. In turn, the children are devoted to their parents, who often live nearby. Some children who go away and leave the country for the economic reasons send large parts of their salary to their parents and the rest of the family.

In China, old people hope they can live together with their children and relatives. They dislike living alone. China's family structure is more complex. The traditional

happy family is living together with four generations. In such a family, the old man help look after the children. Children after growing up raise the elders. Family members depend on each other, and help each other. Close relationship in the family is praised highly. Traditional Chinese respect their elders and feel a deep sense of duty toward them. Children repay their parents sacrifices by being successful and supporting them in old age. This is accepted as a natural part of life in China. Or in some Asia, any decisions or actions are done from family consideration, not individual desires. People's behavior is judged on whether it brings shame or pride to the family. The children are trained to rely on their families, to honor elderly people, and to fear foreigners. And many of them think that their actions in this life will influence their status in the next life.

2. Attitudes towards Marriage: Love-Based Marriage VS Obligation-Oriented Marriage

In America, marriage is the love's home to return to. The aim of marriage is to make the woman and the man live together all the life. It is the personal affair. They have no duty to increase family, offspring and protect and enhance family's reputation and position. The marriage just make them live together. Thus those westerners stress feeling not the family's interest or reputation when they are choosing lover.

Chinese people regard marriage as a way to extend families, offspring and protect and enhance family's reputation and position. Marriage would add a girl of a clan other than one's own, so marriage is considered as the important event of family but not one's own event. The love between the man and the woman is not the first condition of marriage. Today the marriage concepts have not changed much especially in some backward places. The aim of getting marriage for them is till to increase families, offspring and protect and enhance family's reputation and position.

3. Parents' Conceptions of Education to Children: Encouragement VS Overmuch Care

Most families attach importance to bringing up their children. However, American and Chinese parents will apply their different methods when a baby is born. The parents in the two countries take different attitudes to show their love. Americans ask their children to do their own things by themselves. If the children want some money or buy something, the parents will not give them directly; they must earn it by doing housework or other things, Such as cleaning the garden, washing the dishes and so on. Though it is very easy, the children know how difficult to make money. And the most important is it can develop a strong sense of independence. If you do nothing, no one can help you. Parents' aims are to train their children to have the ability of adapting to environmental variety and the ability of living independently. Based on this concept, most American parents emphasize more to train their children's ability of independence once they are born. They generally believe that children's growth must rely on their own experiences, because they think that children should form a self-supporting will and the capacity to live independently since their childhood. And the capacity comes from the training in the early age. The so-called training contains

many aspects, such as work, temper will, patience, the spirit of hard work, etc. However, the most fundamental training is the ability of adapting to hard conditions. Through the process of work, children will form the labor sense, learn some work skills and form a habit of labor. Besides, children can learn how to overcome difficulties, temper their willpower, develop their talents and skills, rich their knowledge, and form a habit of hard work and thrifty by working in hard conditions. It is just in the unconsciously process that children will obtain the independent survivability and take the responsibilities for the society.

Chinese parents have a very different concept of children's education. Some parents in China only care about whether the children have a promising future, a good job, a good life or not. Based on these expectations, the majority of parents feel that their responsibility for their children is to create well conditions as possible they can so that the children will not worry about anything in the future. Objectively speaking, Chinese parents will focus their entire love on their only child. Chinese babies certainly live beside parents on the process of the children growing. They will give their children anything they want and do everything for the children. No matter how tired they are, how difficultly they make money, they will have the children enjoyed a comfortable life. Therefore, in the process of children's growth, the most important thing the parents concerning is to developing their children's intellect, except for caring children's daily life. In order to make their children have a good performance in study, become outstanding, or even become a famous person in the future, they would not let children do anything except studying. As for the children's independence, civic awareness and their ability adapting to the society in the future, they consider little or not at all. By doing so, children rely a lot on parents, and it also hinds the own abilities' development of the children. There has been a Chinese and American camp, the organizers found Chinese student like to help others and they could conquer the difficulties together. The American students had no obvious action. Chinese way is not conducive to cultivate the independent ability of young people and make young people more rely on family or parents. At the same time it also contributed to the lazy nature of young generation.

4. Family Relationships in China and America

4.1. Equality VS Obedience

In United States, families advocate equality in daily life. The husband and the wife usually have an equal voice in decision-making, and on certain matters, the children have a vote too. In an American family, the democratic idea of equality is prevalent. American consciousness of equality are strong, whatever rich or poor, everyone will respect yourself and don't allow deprive of their rights. At the same time, everyone can fully respect others. In the United States, few people are proud of their own family background and seldom are shamed of his poor background, because they all know, as long as their work hard, cowboy can be President. Enjoying a civilized society must be independent and self-reliant to solve their things. Therefore such a

spirit of independence from the early colonial period continues to this day and became one of the features of the Americans belief.

Chinese advocate personal interest obeying collective interests and share the joys and sorrows, unity and cooperation. Chinese people have a big family with variety of relatives, which may be easy to cause competition and suspicion. So in order to maintain order and family harmony, they particularly advocate showing respect to their seniority in the light of the theory of law and discipline rite of Confucius. And 'Act you role well' is the key to a harmonious family relationship. All the family members should be ranked strictly and according to their position in the family hierarchy they would be treated separately and be required to do what they should do. So in traditional Chinese family, the elder is highly respected. Parents bring up their children, then after parents are getting old, it is their children's responsibility and duty to care for them and give them both material and spiritual support. In the traditional Chinese family, father was always the centre. It is not because the feudal concept that man is superior to woman, but also for what man has earned is the main source of family's incoming and usually man earns more money than woman. And woman is responsible for the family house working. Though most household affairs are solved and decided by mother, the most important thing related to the whole family are determined by father. Between parents and children, parents are given more privilege and right to control their children. To most Chinese parents, a good child means to be obedient and docile. It is normal for parents to arrange everything for their children.

4.2 Self- Awareness VS Filial Piety

To Americans, it is normal that parents and children are separate; reunion is abnormal. Parents bring up children and the children continue to raise the offspring, so the aged is expelled to the society. For the attitude to bring up the children, American parents consider that they have the legal liability, but in a sense, the children should take responsibility for their behaviors. Americans sniff at the concept of filial piety and think it restrains their self-awareness and ego-development. Parents and their children don't need dependency relationship. In contrast, they should establish a kind of allowance system so as to instill the basic concept of self-dignity and self-love into their children. As a result, although children would be grateful for their parents' favors, they do not think they have the obligation to pay back. In America, if the parents still live together with their adult children, they should pay board wages and accommodation fee to children. And the same to their adult children who still live with their parents.

Traditional Chinese, among many other Asians, respect their elders and feel a deep sense of duty toward them. Children repay their parents sacrifices by being successful and supporting them in old age. This is accepted as a natural part of life in China. In some Asia, any decisions or actions are done from family consideration, not individual desires. People's behavior is judged on whether it brings shame or pride to the family. The children are trained to rely on their families, to honor elderly people, and to fear foreigners.

4.3 Individualism VS Collectivism

4.3.1 Individualism and Collectivism in family

Americans praise self-centered and deal with the family members and family affairs rationally. The primary purpose of an American family is to advance the happiness, the equality and the freedom of every family member. For the sake of themselves, they deem that family should make sacrifice. Family's honor and unity are less important than that in Chinese society. American believe that the personal independence, While Chinese emphasize on the whole family, not any individual member. Children in America have more freedom than that in China .Their parents rarely interfere with their private affairs, and usually try to enhance children's all-around abilities when they are young. They handle their own affairs themselves and try to get support from their colleagues or experts who work in the relevant field, and their family members only give suggestions to them. The key point of its society is freedom.

Obviously, we Chinese pay more attention to the interest of whole family than that of any individual's. In China, children usually live with their parents even after they are grown-up, since Chinese people want a more united family and closer relationship between family members. The living style in China is different compared with that in America. Chinese people like to live with their parents and they think this kind of living style may help them have more opportunity to understand other family members. This kind of living style can narrow the gap between family members and when anybody faces with a problem, the others can help him effectively and efficiently. The living style also reflects that Chinese people mainly emphasize the whole family but not the individuals, which is quite different from Americans. And in America, family members are financially independent. Americans appreciate the individuality which requires them at first to get an independent financial freedom. That means they do not rely on their parents or family members when they grow up. Sometimes American thinks it is a kind of shame to be supported by their kind red members. That is the reason why in the case the father and the son felt at ease when they bought tickets for each other.

And in China, family members are financially dependent. That is to say all of the family members should help each other, especially when he or she meets the financial problems, which seems that people have the responsibility for helping their family members to overcome the difficulties. During the daily life, children should take care of their old parents financially, even parents have the possibility to rely on themselves.

4.3.2 Individualism and Collectivism in life style

In China, a stable life style is much appreciated by people. As it has already been discussed above, the strong family tie in China has been taken its shape for thousand years long. Family members and relatives prefer to live together in terms of

convenience which could reflect the Chinese “guanxi” vividly. Even after the implementation of Open Policy from 1980s, though the traditional lifestyle is influenced a lot, people still want to live as close as possible to their family members, relatives and friends.

However, in America, there is no such a strong family tie as same as that in China, therefore, their life style are very mobile. Meanwhile, this life style is also influenced by their personal values, such as self-reliance, hard work, and a tie between achieving success in life, personal achievement etc, which encourage Americans to work all of the world for achieving their career goals and success.

4.3.4 Individualism and Collectivism in festivals

There are several festivals which come of family unity in Chinese official holidays, such as Spring Festival, Tomb-sweeping Day, Qixi Jie and Mid-autumn Festival. The most important festival is the Spring Festival existing in the history for almost over 2000 years long. During this festival, all family and relatives must get together, which is the very precious chance for people to enlarge and strengthen family ties.

In America, Christmas Day, Saint Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving Day are the most important holidays coming of Christianity. The most significant festival is the Christmas Day. Before the festival, all Americans also come back from their works for this big day; Whatever if they are not together with their family members, the happiness is the most important thing thy pursuit. However, this festival is much more religious for the family members even though they do have the activities of family reunion.

5. Conclusion

The cultural differences between China and America are reflected in almost all aspects of family life. The present study focuses on various major aspects, such as family patterns, attitudes towards marriage, parents' conceptions of education to children, Family Relationships in China and America. It is not just simply listing some phenomena and analyzing the cultural difference. The intention of the study is to promote a better understanding between Chinese and American people by comparing the family values. We would like to say if we want to live peacefully and harmoniously under the same roof, the best thing we must do is to make an understanding between Chinese people and American people. Meanwhile, a good understanding of the differences will surely facilitate the cross-cultural communication of two peoples.

THE DIFFERENCE OF FOOD CULTURE BETWEEN CHINA AND AMERICA

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Abstract: There is no doubt that food is absolutely necessary in the life of mankind, even in the whole natural world. Because of the differences of food culture between China and America are always making people misunderstood, so we need to have a better understanding of these two countries' culture, which differs in such aspects as the concept, the habits, the traditions and the attributions. Nowadays, the communication among the world is being promoted gradually, the study of another culture, even if the food culture, is worthy, useful, and somewhat, essential. By learning those differences, can eliminate the misunderstanding so that we can communicate with each other well.

The structure of this paper consists of five parts, In the first part, it explores the traditional characteristics of Chinese food culture; and the second part, investigates into the characteristics of American food culture; the third part concentrates on the comparison between Chinese and American food culture; and the following part is my reflection on food culture of China and America. The last part is the conclusion of this paper.

Keywords: Food culture; differences; eliminate; misunderstanding

Introduction

It is obvious that food culture plays a very important role in the history of human civilization development. Different geographical distribution and different history contribute to forming the multicultural world. With the exchange and integration of the countries, China has more opportunities to acquaint other countries' cultures. This paper aims to explore the differences of food culture between China and America with its significance lying in the fact that it not only can contribute to a profound understanding of Chinese and American culture differences, cross cultural communication barriers, but also can cultivate people with better cross-cultural communication ability, and finally plays a role in strengthening the relationship of these two countries.

The characteristics of Chinese food cultures

China enjoys a long history and its civilization is both extensive and profound. Food culture is a significant part in the great culture fostered over more than 5000 years. The prominent form of habitation is a big area inhabited by several nationalities from the primitive society; in ancient times, the form is an unit with tribes, and later, it keeps evolving until the modern society, and it is still an unit with family. According

to the process of historical development, it is not difficult for us to know that reunion is always the biggest wish to Chinese people. What's more, the round table is used widely among Chinese people, just because it is the symbol of reunion.

1.1 The brief introduction of Chinese food culture

With the rapid development of economy in recent years, the standard of Chinese people's living condition has improved a lot. Chinese food culture, also called China cuisine culture, is an important part of Chinese culture in the aspect of cooking and leisure. Chinese cuisine culture goes as sophisticated as the history of China. In view of the aspect of diet, people pay more attention to nutrition, taste and visual enjoyment. Besides that, food can be pleasing to people's senses and many of dishes have very beautiful and fancy names, such as Man Han Quan Xi, Yu Xiang Rou Si, Bei Jing Roast Duck and other dishes. Chinese food also has a worldwide reputation due to its long-term spread from China to the other regions of the world. Currently, Chinese food is easily found in every corner of the world, and it has become an impressive and influential symbol of Chinese culture.

1.2 The eight food categories in China and characteristic of Beijing food

Chinese food, in general, is healthy and nutritious. Chinese people often have soy-bean milk, deep-fried dough sticks, steamed buns or congee as breakfast. Food varies within China. Traditionally there are eight main streams of Chinese cuisines, which are known as Anhui Cuisine, Canton Cuisine, Fujian Cuisine, Hunan Cuisine, Jiangsu Cuisine, Shandong Cuisine, Sichuan Cuisine and Zhejiang Cuisine. Beijing has been the nation's capital in many dynasties and the center of politics, economy and culture, so Beijing Cuisine traditionally represents the flavor of the ancient imperial court. Muslim cuisine is quite popular in many regions in mainland China which takes beef and mutton as basic ingredients. The famous "Lamb Feast" uses almost all parts on a lamb that can make about a hundred kinds of recipes. Roast and stew mutton are the delicious Muslim dishes in Beijing as well. Imperial recipes of the Ming and Qing Dynasties are having great importance in Beijing cuisine; the notable dishes are fried fish pieces and yellow fish with dried meat pieces. Peking roast duck is loved by gourmets at home and abroad. The dish is prepared by crispy fat duck and chufa and served with steamed buns. Local family style noodle dishes are excellent also, because noodles are more popular than rice in Beijing.

1.3 The detailed introduction of eight main cooking styles of China and other special food

Jiangsu Cuisine, called Su Cuisine for short, originates from the native cooking styles of South China's Jiangsu Province. It has a fresh taste, with moderate saltiness and sweetness, which is thick without being greasy and light without being thin. Meanwhile it places an emphasis on the making of soup and retaining the original taste of the ingredients. Once it was the second largest cuisine among ancient China's royal cuisines, and it remains a major part of the state banquet in China.

Su Cuisine is composed of six styles: Nanjing Style, Yangzhou Style, Suzhou Style, Huai'an Cuisine, Xuzhou Cuisine and Haizhou Cuisine. Among them Nanjing Style, Suzhou Style and Yangzhou Style are the most notable.

Sichuan cuisine has a long history and it is very famous throughout the world. The cuisine was originated in ancient Ba and Shu states, and then widely developed during the Tang and Song Dynasties. Sichuan style includes the tastes of Chengdu, Chongqing and some other places in the province. The typical characteristics of the style are hot, spicy and sour, thus the tastes of dishes are very strong. The strong chili taste is to stimulate the taste buds and appetite in hot and humid weather during summer, as well as to make people feel warmer during miserable winter in Sichuan Province. Well known Sichuan recipes are Sichuan beef and re-cooked pork, which is a dish of pork, cooked in boiled water, and then stir-fried in a very hot pan with cooking oil and put sauces on it finally. Cold noodles mixed with peanut sauce is a favorite snack in Chengdu and Chongqing, which can be served either spicy or not. Ma-Po bean curd is very mouth-watering that is commonly eaten with rice. It is mainly made of fine bean curd cut to small pieces and cooked with slices of pork and peppers and chilies. The taste of the dishes, of course, is very hot.

Cantonese food is the most popular style outside China. Cantonese cuisine originates from the region around Canton (Guangzhou) in southern China's Guangdong province. One Cantonese saying goes that anything that walks, swims, crawls, or flies is edible. Another says that the only four-legged things that Cantonese people won't eat are tables and chairs. Cantonese cuisine includes almost all edible food in addition to the staples of pork, beef and chicken, such as snakes, snails, insects, worms, chicken feet, duck tongues, and entrails. As a trading post, Canton (Guangzhou) had access to a large range of imported food, which resulted in the huge variety of Cantonese dish we can enjoy today. Canton (Guangzhou) is the provincial capital of Guangdong in southern China, bordering Hong Kong and Macao, the Cantonese cuisine is actually a great combination of north and south. Originated from northern China, wonton noodle is a dish of small dumplings that shrimp and pork with vegetable wrapped in thin flour skin, and then cooked in soup with noodles.

Apart from these four categories, there are some specialties in the northwest, e.g. the kebab and beef noodles in Gansu Province, dumpling banquet and rou jia mo (a kind of Chinese style sandwich that looks like a hamburger) in Xi'an and Xinjiang's lamb grill.

2. The characteristics of American food culture

The cuisine of the United States refers to food preparation originating from the United States of America. European colonization of the Americas yielded the introduction of a number of ingredients and cooking styles to the latter. The various styles continued expanding well into the 19th and 20th centuries, proportional to the influx of

immigrants from many foreign nations; such influx developed a rich diversity in food preparation throughout the country.

2.1 The early cooking methods in American Cuisine

Early Native Americans utilized a number of cooking methods in early American Cuisine that have been blended with early European cooking methods to form the basis of American Cuisine. Grilling meats was common. Spit roasting over a pit fire was common as well. Vegetables, especially root vegetables were often cooked directly in the ashes of the fire. As early Native Americans lacked pottery that could be used directly over a fire, they developed a technique which has caused many anthropologists to call them "Stone Boilers". They would heat rocks directly in a fire and then add the bricks to a pot filled with water until it came to a boil so that it would cook the meat or vegetables in the boiling water. In what is now the Southwestern United States, they also created adobe ovens to bake items such as cornmeal breads, and in other parts of America, made ovens of dug pits. These pits were also used to steam foods by adding heated rocks or embers and then seaweed or corn husks placed on top to steam fish and shellfish as well as vegetables; potatoes would be added while still in-skin and corn while in-husk, this would later be referred to as a clambake by the colonists.

2.2 The diversity of American food culture

The United States is a country by the immigrants of Europe, Asia, South America, Africa and other regions. They value the individual efforts, freedoms and interests, which makes the Americans formed a core values of individualism. Compared with China, American history seems not too long, and from its development of history, we know that America is a nation of immigrants, so it combines different national cultures. The ethnic diversity and cultural tolerance endow America with diverse food cultures. For example, the list of Wisconsin sausage, inherits the tradition of German sausage, including other flavors such as Mexican strong meat volume, as well as the meters, macaroni salad and all kinds of fish, meat of Hawaii fast food,. As for Mexico cornflakes, a food with corn snacks made pie, a very typical food of the U.S right now. In addition, sweet such as maple syrup and banana boat added much cream, chocolate sauce and cherry are quiet representative.

2.3 The attitude towards American diet

On the attitude of diet, Americans are more rational than many of Chinese. As far as food is concerned, what Americans care most is the nutritious value, such as protein, the fat, the minerals and the vitamin. And this attitude on food is connected with the whole western philosophy. Metaphysics is the main feature of western philosophy. The object of study of western philosophy is the reasons of things. And this kind of philosophy has bought vitality to western culture, which leads to the rapid development on sciences, psychology and methodology. But in other aspects, this philosophy advocates play a hinder role, such as food culture. In the banquet, they also pay attention to tableware, to materials and to service.

3. Comparison between Chinese and American food culture

Habits on eating food between China and America are totally different styles. Chinese people like to joke that among 5000 years in history. They probably spend half of the time on food. Chinese people choose food very carefully. They only use fresh material to make food. For example they only eat fresh fish. Chinese have a lot of ideas and techniques for cooking. They can cook a chicken in over ten ways. That's why Chinese food is so popular in the world. American people would prefer fast food like burgers and chips. They are unhealthy to human body. American people do not have many skills for cooking, mostly they only boil, steam and bake the food. By the way, western people are very good at making desert and chocolate. They can make very good cake and chocolate. They are very sweet but it's sort of food which make you become fat quickly.

3.1 The difference of eating habits between China and America

In china if one invites people for meal, he should pay for the meal but it's not the way in America. In western country people will think you only invited me but it's not your responsibility to pay for me. I can afford it. They won't be happy if you pay for them. People in China would always put dishes into customer's plate to show their hospitality, but they will think it's not healthy because your chopsticks have been used by you. In America, people will always give tips to waiter after they finished meal in a restaurant. If you don't, they will not be happy because tips are one of their major incomes. In china this only happen in some top restaurants and hotels in large international cities like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. American people will also think you are rude if you make sound during the meal. American people do not hold their bowl up even when they have a bowl of soup.

3.2 The difference of eating habits between China and America

There is also a huge difference between Chinese and American people. Chinese people use chopsticks and American people use fork and knife. Usually people who use fork and knife will use fork to hold the meat and cut it by knife and use fork to help to get that piece of meat into mouse. Chinese just use chopstick to pick things and pass it into your mouse. Chopsticks convey the concept of harmony, knife and fork to promote the independence, freedom and violence. It has impact of the concept of people's lives. Knife and fork will necessarily bring about eating apart and chopsticks share dinner with the family members gather around a table. Chinese people only have three meals during a day. But American people will have more, they have afternoon tea. Usually they would have fruits, homemade cake, black tea or biscuit with cheese. If you are a housewife and have a lot of time, you may have morning tea as well. Generally I think Chinese food is much better than American food not because I am Chinese, and I believe that most people will agree with me as well. You can see Chinese food in anywhere all over the world. That shows the success of Chinese food. American food also has its characteristics.

3.3 The difference about order of serving in China and America

Here are some comparisons about order of serving in China and America. In China, the first dishes are cold dishes, beverage and wine; then the hot dishes; next staple food; at last the sweets and fruit. When the banquet has many tables, each table should be on every dish at the same time. Besides, hot dishes should be served from the left side opposite the seat of the guest of honor, single copies of vegetables or side dishes and snacks should be given to the guest first then the host. Plastic dishes like whole chicken, whole duck, and whole fish can't put their heads and tails toward the host seat. In general, the big dish is putted side, self-served by the people. In the wedding banquet or other banquet for celebration, the plates on the table can be overlapped, meaning that a good thing comes again and again. While, in other Banquet like funeral the plates cannot be overlapped. And in the America, its serving steps are usually as follows: bread and butter, cold dishes, soup, seafood, main course, dessert, coffee and fruit. The cold dishes, soup and bread are eaten at the same time. Cold dishes, also known as appetizer dish, served as the first course, usually with an aperitif. And soup includes stains soup and cream soup. The main course has fish, pork, beef, and chicken and so on. Dissert usually has ice-cream, pudding etc.

3.4 The difference of table manners in China and America

The table manners when enjoying the meal are also different. In China: people like chatting over eating, but talking and laughing loudly is not polite. While eating, the older is first, when a dish served the young can't eat until the older eat. When a person has a cough, he or she should turn his or her back. While in the America, men should move the seat for women. People always talk with their neighbors when eating, they don't talk loudly. They do not use their own utensils for others to take their food; do not cut food on a plate after a good use of all right hand fork to eat; do not put the bones and food that don't eat on the floor or on the tablecloth, while put them on the on the plate of iceberg. Besides, the polite way is eating out the food on your plate.

4. My reflection on food culture of China and America

Everyone in the world is unique; there is no exception of the food culture of China and America. Different food culture suggests different meanings in concept and value. Chinese and American food culture differences reflect the two different food concept and values and different dietary structure.

4.1 The different concept and values

Chinese eight cuisines reflect the cultural richness of the Chinese food culture. Chinese food focuses on the dishes, color, smell, taste and shape, focusing on the inherent quality, but the lack of attention to nutrition. While the Americans to consider the food from the nutrition, pay attention to nutrition mix and absorption. Americans believe that food is only one mean, dishes mainly pay attention to authentic, not excessive pursuit of taste. Without doubt, the food culture differences reflect the differences in table ware. Chinese people use chopsticks to take food, Americans are cutting food with knife and fork. Chopsticks convey the concept of

harmony, knife and fork to promote the independence, freedom and violence. It has impact of the concept of people's lives. Knife and fork will necessarily bring about eating apart and chopsticks share dinner with the family members gather around a table

4.2 The different dietary structure

The food culture differences also reflect the dietary structure. Chinese cuisines are plentiful involve rice, flour, beans, vegetables and so on. American cuisines are relatively simple, mainly meat, bread and vegetables. After the meal, the Chinese people like to eat the fruit, tea, and Americans like to eat dessert.

5. Conclusions

The tendency of the world integration is inevitable. Chinese food culture and American food culture are important parts of the world culture and are linked to each other closely day by day. Food culture is of great fun and it's worth studying. In fact, the differences of food culture between China and America are more, such as daily food, the tools for eating. However, no matter what opinion we have, both Chinese and American food cultures are valuable assets for human civilization. Though we can choose the food we like, we should respect all of this. In order to improve the relationship between these two countries, it is vital for us to have a better understanding of these two countries' cultures. Even though the history of China and the U.S. are widely apart from each other, the study between them will be very helpful for us to understand these two countries well. Moreover, when the communication among the world is being promoted gradually, in my personal opinion, the study of another culture, even if the food culture, is worthy, useful, and somewhat, essential.

TO CELEBRATE SPRING FESTIVAL TOGETHER

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Abstract: The Spring Festival falls around both the end of winter and the beginning of spring which is the most important festival in china. It is not only an important carrier of Chinese culture; also it contains Chinese wisdom, pursuit of life and Chinese people's social ethics. For that period of festival, people back home to celebrate it with family members which reflects that harmony is valued high in each family. With the advent of globalization, the tie between different countries becomes closer and closer, people are apt to learn from each other and share with each other. With passage of time, more and more attention was paid to Chinese history, culture and festivals. It is no wonder that spring festival is the most popular one. Nowadays, more and more countries celebrate Chinese spring festival, they enjoy the time of being together, appreciate the happy union time. Most important of all, for the whole world, people can learn more about china through enjoying the festival.

Key Words: Spring festival, Share, Harmony, New start, Together

I More and more countries celebrate the spring festival

Nowadays in the United State, with the increasing number of immigrated Chinese people, more and more Americans became interested in Chinese traditional culture. In recent years, when it is time to the Chinese lunar New Year, either the President or local officials will extend their New Year wishes to Chinese who made important contributions to American society on different occasions. They become deeper and deeper in love of Chinese characteristics, such as Chinese knot, red lantern, Spring Festival couplets; many parents give children or themselves new clothes in the Chinese style. They also pay more attention to the New Year celebration held in the Chinese community. And During the Spring Festival, the streets of America will provide many Chinese New Year things. The Chinese restaurants will add a few "Special Meal Deal for Chinese New Year". And newspapers launched "China week" to teach people learn Chinese. At that time it seems that one festival brings one world.

II. Why is spring festival popular?

In the westerners' opinion, what is the special old china like? This kind of curiosity attracts more and more foreigners to go to China to enjoy the Chinese Spring Festival or to experience a new way of life.

2.1 People will know the story of spring festival

The story of Chinese lunar New Year may be possible to trace to several millenniums before; the most famous one is about "the year beast". It is believed that "The year beast" was a terrible cruel wild animal in ancient times so that people believed "year beast" would come out and eats the person on lunar New Year's Eve. But the fable extremely fears red stuffs, the flame and quarreling noise so people paste the red

paper on the gate, lights the torch all night, and set off the artillery candle to drive off “the year beast”. Afterwards to celebrate the great victory, people of every family would paste red paper couplets on the door panels, light red lanterns, beat gongs and drums, let off fireworks and firecrackers all through the night. In Chinese people say it “Guo Nian” .

2.2 They can join the Activities people do in Spring Festival

God Worship is a grand folk activity during spring festival; it shows ones’ gratitude and missing to their ancestors. Meanwhile, it is also a wish that the ancestors will bless the younger generation health, wealth and success. Also it is reflected an obligatory duty of respecting and taking care of the aged elders. In spite of this, people also show their respect to “God of kitchen” , “God of the door” , “God of wealth” and so on. People take it serious because “God of the door” will protect the family from ghosts. And “God of kitchen” will give a report about what the family have done during the past year (people put candy in front of his picture in order to let him speak something nice), and “Gd of wealth ” will bring fortune to the family. Staying up on New Year’ s Eve is another important activity during spring festival. There is a saying that people sit together to gain courage to fight against the monster of “Nian”, and another saying goes that people especially young one stay late to wish long life for their parents.

People extend new year’s greetings to each other, to relatives, to friends or workmates, to someone you want to thanks, and to your neighbors. In current times, people prefer to visiting relatives or paying a call to them. There are five ways people use to give wishes, one is “Koubai”(one will stand on his or her key when give their wishes, and it is the most meaningful way to show respect to elders), one is “Baoquan Zuoyi” (one’ s right hand hold left hand and put them in front of your chest , this kind of way fit for people in the same generation), one is “Baoquan Gongshou”(one’ s right hand hold left hand, men use this way to some common friends or acquaintances.), one is “Wan fu” (this is mainly for women, they put their right on the left one and put both hands on the right side of their body and bend a little, it’ s a tradition from ancient times, women use this ways to give the emperor.), and a most common one “Jugong” (people bent when meet with each other). When children or youngsters give their best wishes to the elder, they will get some red pack, it is a symbol of best wishes from their relatives or the elder.

Family Reunion Dinner is also important for spring festival. All family members sit together. No matter how busy you are, you should come back home to enjoy the dinner. No matter what happened in the past year, it has all gone. What’ s more, it is a perfect chance for people show their feelings such as the love between parents and children, husband and wife, etc.. Life is not easy, difficulties and quarrels may happen in life among people, but after the dinner, everything is going to be ok. Love has strong powers. One on hand, it is a great time when you say goodbye to old days and say hello to a brand new year. On the other hand, it just proves that harmony plays a

very important role in family life.

After the big dinner, all the family members will sit together and enjoy the spring festival gala. During this period of time, people share the experiences of the past year; express some about hope and wishes in the coming year. Spring festival gala has lots of forms, like singing and dancing, magic and “Xiangsheng”.

Playing fireworks is popular too all over the country, people set off fireworks to frighten the monster “Nian” which can date back to almost 4000 years ago according to the story of “Nian”. The continuous sound of firecrackers can be heard everywhere it plays up the happy atmosphere of spring festival and people hope their future or career can go up and shining like them.

The temple fair is a kind of social activity in china during spring festival. It is usually on the open ground in or near a temple. Farmers and merchants sell their farm produce local specialties, and antiques, jade articles, flowers birds and fish. Craftsmen set up their stalls to show and their handicrafts and specialty snacks; folk artists establish a stage for singing, dancing, and quyi(Chinese folk art forms including ballad singing, story telling, comic dialogues, clapper talk, cross talk)performance. Ordinary people come to the temple fair to buy and sell goods, watch performance and sample snacks, giving the temple fair a bustling atmosphere.

These customs have changed a lot over the years, but for the Chinese all over the world, the spring festival still is the most important days.

3.1 They will enjoy the food in Spring Festival

As is in historical records, “Chi Jiaozi” appeared no later than the Ming dynasty. Particularly in Qing dynasty, this practice has been very extensive and fixed later. Such customs are related with the timing method in ancient China, the ancient Chinese records each day's time with the 12 earthly branches. It is divided into 12 hours each day, the very beginning of the day is midnight, it equals to 23 o' clock till 1 o' clock nowadays , so at the end of each year, it is not only the old and the new two-day turn over, but a new change of old age, Chinese people call it "Jiaozi". So Chinese people got some ceremony to pray for the good luck of next year. Dumplings and this "Jiaozi" just are homophonic. What' s more, the shape of “Jiao zi” just like a gold ingot and it is said eating dumpling brings a great fortune in the coming year. There are also different kinds of flavors such as sweet, acid, bitter and spice, each flavor stands for a taste of life. And these people enjoy the different tastes of “Jiaozi” and reflect on their lives at the same time.

The New Year' s cake (“Niangao”) is popular for its meaning of being higher and higher in the following years because “Niangao” pronounce alike in china as its meaning of being higher in English. Other instances are like: Chicken can not be ignored during spring festival, it stands for auspiciousness, and fish stands for

abundance of wealth, bean curd stands for luck. All the foods in spring festival have their special meanings. They metaphorize a better and better life and hope people in the coming year.

So the Spring Festival as a representative of the unique folk culture of the Chinese nation for hundreds of years are more and more popular in the west world. The westerners love the atmosphere of the Spring Festival reunion, sweet style.

III Symbols of spring festival

The first one is the spring festival couplets pasted on the door panels. This custom begins in Song dynasty and became flourishing in Ming dynasty. In Qing dynasty, it has greatly improved in ideological and artistic content. The species of spring festival couplets are various, and be divided into several parts “Menxin”, “Kang dui”, “Heng pi”, “Chuntiao”, “Doufang” and so on. “Menxin” is pasted on the center of the door, “Kuangdui” is sticked to on both sides of the door, “Chuntiao” is pasted upon the door, as for “Chuntiao”, it will be placed in different places for its different meanings. Why the spring festival couples is important to Chinese people? Because the words written on them. Some of them are wishes for harvest, health and wealth.

On the other hand as the saying goes, “Spring affects the whole year”, for such a sake, Chinese people hold a positive attitude towards life, they believe that good luck will come in the future. No matter what kind of unhappy things happened in the past year, everything will be fine in the future. So pasting spring festival couplets happens to be the best choice for this purpose. With Spring Festival couplets they express for joy and happiness mood in the paste year and express anticipation with high hopes for the New Year. In traditional ideas, a good beginning in a new year is the most pleasant and auspicious thing, so couplets means good hope for the future. At the same time, Chinese people prefer to celebrating Spring Festival happily, geely, lively, by eating something good, drinking something good, set off firecrackers, visiting relatives and friends.

Paper-cut, it not only adds the atmosphere of the festival, but also integrates adornment with appreciation and practicability. Paper-cut in China is a very popular folk art which is loved by people for almost one thousand years. Because most of it is posted on the window, so is also called “flowers of the window”. Paper-cut express people’s good wishes and some luck things in its particular way, in this way, it decorates the festival more lively. Lanterns also are for the same purpose. Another traditional New Year’s paintings in house are Golden Boy and Jade Maiden. They were believed to bringing good luck to people.

The character “Fu” refers to good luck, happiness and fortune. It also reflects people’s pursuit of happy life and better future. People also paste the character painting upside down, which means “Fu” has already came home.

IV、 The combined of culture

American culture, as a melting pot, it accepted diversity of culture while it still has their obvious characteristics. One can hardly go further only on his own without learning from others and sharing special things with others. In this way, both can make great progress. It is the same for different nations and different countries, people learn and communicate with each other, take Christmas and the Chinese Spring festival for example, The Chinese Spring Festival and Christmas have much in common. Both are prepared beforehand to create a joyous atmosphere; both offer a family reunion with a square feast: and both satisfy the children with new clothes, lovely presents and delicious food.

So to Chinese spring festival is to share the meaning of common culture with each other. The America is an united-states and China is a combined country. We together celebrate New Year festival to memory the past and give wishes to the future, we value harmony in each small family or big family. No matter what happened in the past, everything has a new start after that. No matter the union opinion in America or the combined thinking in china, peace and development are main themes of the world, so in one word we can say now, one festival, one world.

THE DIACOURSE OF CULTURE HERITAGE OF SHE ETHNIC MINORITY IN CHINA

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Abstract: She (畲族) ethnic minority is an enchanting number of China's multi-ethnic family, enriching the multiple connotation of Chinese national culture. Although suffering from a kind of class and nation oppression before Liberation, they still employ their own distinctive discourses to survive and scatter their culture along with the growing assimilation by Han. This paper mainly gives an account of their different and unique discourses to find how the Shes inherit their culture. In addition, it is hoped that China as well as America, even the world, will treasure the lesser-known civilization and the minority in case that these precious culture disappear out of love in the world.

Keywords: She minority, Discourse of culture heritage, China

1. Introduction

She ethnic minority is one of the ethnic minorities in China with typical diasporas nation. There are altogether 709,592 populations in China, who live and multiply primarily in the mountainous areas in Fujian, Guangdong, Zhejiang and Jiangxi provinces. They call themselves *Shan Ha* where *Shan* means mountain and *Ha* means guests, 'guest of the mountain'.

Nowadays, the *She* people live in groups, most together with the Han people. They are mostly engaged in agriculture, and rice, sweet potatoes, wheat, rape, beans and tobacco are main products. They also grow tea, sugar cane, and ramie, and what important commercial commodities for the *She* are timber and bamboo.

She ethnic minority has four only surnames, including Pan, Lei, Lan, Zhong. The genealogical and relevant records and mythology go like this: the ancestor of *She* ethnic, Longquan, who is also called Panhu, helped the emperor of Gaoxin kill the king of another state that invaded into his nation, so the emperor betrothed his third prince to Longquan, afterwards the couple had three boys and one girl, then the children were granted the surname respectively, Lan, Lei, Pan, Zhong.

She ethnic culture, as one vital part of china culture, is gradually assimilated by Han culture with passage of time. However, what it comes to *She*, no one can deny its distinct way in cultural panorama in the long river of history. Before new China, the *Shes* demonstrated their life styles with a veil and migrated to the mountainous areas, isolating themselves away from the Han people.

By their language, in generally the culture of many nations on the earth are passed on by letters or characters. They record their histories, cultures and some important scripts in ink. However, the *She* ethnic group does not have their written languages and most of them speak a dialect. Hence a kind of doubt comes out that how the *shes* give full play of their wisdom in carrying forward their culture because mouth to mouth heritage is a big limitation and that will result in inaccurate and vague

memories and deviations occur. So, how the discourse of culture heritage of She group are going forward as a carrier?

This paper mainly present an introductory word about the discourse of *She* ethnic minority cultural heritage that is mainly composed of oral language and visible discourse. The oral language is hard to fathom down, and the visible discourses including their specific symbols of drawing are catching the eyes of the outsiders. So this research demonstrates its different carriers of its' cultural heritage. At the same time, not only does it hope to enable Chinese people to preserve the unique culture, but also American, even the world people, pay cautious attention to this sort of preciousness on the verge of a forgotten culture.

2. She Languages

The Shes have their own language, but do not have its written form, and the culture tends to hand down mouth to mouth. They spread their stories and history through the word of mouth. They also speak, talk and sing their stories. Therefore, the culture is mainly succeeded by word of mouth from generation to generation.

3. Visible Discourses in Culture Transmition

The visible discourses are the most important and conspicuous ways to carry forward the Shes' culture. It covers colorful symbols and different kinds of drawings. The visible discourses make Shes' culture more specific, limited in sound, but extensive in other visual senses.

3.1. Symbols

Symbols are one of the carriers of the Shes' cultural heritage. They mirror the She ethnic minority's belief, life and outlooks. Moreover, most symbols are embroidered in clothes and ribbons. The patterns in clothes show the belief, while the special signs in ribbon are often connected with the daily life.

3.1.1. Patterns in Clothes

As for the She's clothes, the colorful patterns always hit many people's hearts. Especially the women's apparel have strong ethnic flavor, though the men's are almost assimilated into Hans'. And the patterns reflect three sorts of worship, i.e., totem worship, worship for reproduction and feminine worship.

Their totem, the phoenix patterns are often embroidered in the collar, lapel and bib horns, distributed in a single pattern or corner patterns. Here is a legend about the totem phoenix that when Panhu and the third princess got married, the Queen awarded the princess a piece of jeweler, Phoenix clothing and Phoenix coronet. Since then Phoenix dress was regarded as a marriage dowry or Death Mourning, and that occupies an important position in the female heart from then on. As shown in Figure 1 and 2, *Shes* use some abstract or concrete Phoenix stripe to manifest Phoenix conjugal bliss or forceful Danfeng image.

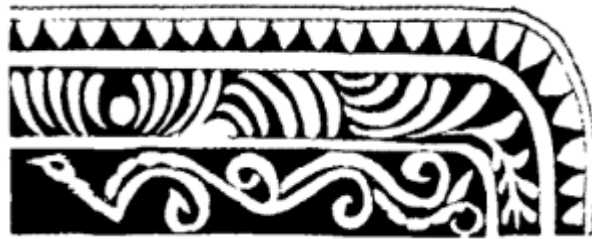


Fig.1 pattern on Shes apron in Ningde Fig.2 Phoenix and Quanya pattern collar in Xiapu Phoenix patterns on apparel in Ningde and Xiapu in Fujian Province work beautiful, descriptive and ideographic functions, and here not only they beautify the women's apparel, but also record the history and legends of their own and reverence for ancestors. To somewhat extent, the story of She and their profound cultural connotation are carried forward through the clothes design.

The patterns of reproduction worship are mainly fish-like pattern or butterfly pattern which carry deep conveyance for many offsprings and family fertility and prosperity, in Xiao Cang and Ri Xi area of Lianjiang County, Fuzhou city, Fujian Province, and in Yantian, Sand River Township and village, where shes live, near the water source or the beach, their living environment are closely connected with fishing, so clothing designs like using colorful fish pattern, as shown in figure 3. the reasons are further down as recorded in *Dao De Jing*: "The door of the mystic female is called the root of heaven and earth." It means that the black reproductive organ of female is the fundamental origin of human and society. Another manifestation of implication pattern of reproductive worship is the butterfly pattern, combined together with lotus flower and butterfly corner patterns form, as shown in figure 4.



Fig.3 pattern Shes apron in Ningde costumes in Ningde

Fig.4 lotus pattern of Shes female

All of these patterns are popular among Shes. They use some designs to educate their offspring to be like a fish prolific, hoping to have reproductive capacity like fish to metaphorize the female reproductive capacity for many children.

Costume designs of She have a close relationship with women worship. The patterns of women worship is a sign that shows the high status of female. They demonstrate

the history of female matriarchal society of Shes. The female matriarchal society covers a long time in She ethnic group and even now that still remains in some She tribes. The historical and cultural relics collections confirmed that shes' women never bound their feet and participated in the productive labor and they also can do all kind of work as males do.

The patterns of women worship are different from the corner apron patterns, which based on a fixed shape and designed in different manifestations, shown in Figure 5. It was said that they are the seal of Shes' earliest ancestor, and only exists on female clothes. And Shes' ancestor, the third prince, had a very high social status among Shes, so there is a custom on the wedding ceremony that bridegroom needs to kneel while the bride did not need to kneel in order to show their respect to the prince.






Fig.5 Diamond pattern of Shes female costumes in Ningde

The patterns of women worship are always showing the higher role of women, and teaching the young generations of Shes to follow this custom and could not disobey in Shes groups; otherwise they also remind the descendants of history of the female matriarchal society and the characters of women.

3.1.2. Peculiar Ribbon Signs

Ribbon, as a kind of daily necessities, is another carrier of the culture heritage. It has a practical function as various belts in the routine life of everyday. Another is to be a keepsake for gift. Thanks to the close connection with everyday life, the symbols on ribbons are very important for the *Shes* to inherit their culture. It is said that by the change of text on the ribbon weaving, people can find the changes of the spiritual pursuit of Shes in different times.

In the border areas of Fujian and Zhejiang province, ribbons are presented in two forms: one is composed of a variety of abstract symbolic form, which is called symbol ribbon; another consists of scripts, which is called scrip ribbon. Both forms show the residence locations, hunting way of life, worship models and other living content. For example,  stands for the people with high prestige;  is the headwater;  means forever. As shown in following table.(more details are shown as table2~3 in Appendix.)(4)

Number	Pattern	Positive	Meaning	Number	Pattern	Positive	Meaning
1	±	ㄨ	Earth	6	ㄣ	ㄣ	Ethnic immigration
2	ㄚ	ㄚ	Begin	7	ㄣ	ㄣ	The people with high prestig
3	ㄚ	ㄚ	Working in field	8	ㄣ	ㄣ	Continue (farming)
4	ㄚ	ㄚ	Burly man	9	ㄣ	ㄣ	Wane
5	ㄚ	ㄚ	Tortuous	10	ㄣ	ㄣ	Headwater

Table 1

Ribbon symbols, are a media of transmitting information, which is not easily affected by foreign cultures, can retain stable information and has a certain historical value, cultural value, spiritual value, scientific value, aesthetic value and the value of harmony. The folk culture on the ribbon patterns embodied and echoed precious cultural essences, hence the ribbon is worth an in-depth research and protection.

3.2. Drawings

The drawings of Shes', another culture carrier, tell totem stories that are passed down in an oral way and served as a visualized version of *The Song of Gaohuang Emperor*. Drawing is different from the written form language. It is easy to be accepted by the masses, especially in the illiterate generals of She society with a strong influence and appeal, which can not be replaced for other forms of art. The ancestral painting series (As shown about the hyperlink in Appendix) plays an important role among She people and maximize the performance of Panhu life story, the She nationality ancestor. It demonstrates the origin of She ethnic minority vividly and tells how the surnames come from. Furthermore, this series of painting reminds shes who are their ancestors. The painting is like a golden thread throughout the whole society of She.

Wall paintings are also another portray of their history profiles. As shown in painting No.1, the man teaches man how to weave the shoes with straw. The paintings also give the way to grow crops and fruits. They almost cover all aspects of life.



Painting 1

These kinds of drawings have closely relationship with the survival of She culture. They record most aspects of life and the origin of She ethnic minority. They also living fossil of the long history of Shes.

4. Conclusion

She ethnic group is a strong minority for their specific discourses to inherit their

spirits worships and culture, although it is only a small group in the world.

Moreover, the intangible culture is valuable and makes them even more colorful in the world. Unfortunately, sometimes, the ethnic tends to adapt vigorously to the known civilization, but in the same time some hidden culture are fading off in the rural areas. Most intangible cultural features are on the verge of disappearance. To be honest, the She ethnic group, as one of the Chinese minorities, is the beautiful while distinctive ethnic culture as some others in every corner of the world. They are holding their unique way to struggle for existence and also wait for people outland to prevent them from vanishing.

In a word, some nonmaterial culture contains deepest roots of national culture, remaining its original and unique thinking way as a source of national creativity and a key of inspiration. Nevertheless, for its own authentic characteristics, compared with material culture, there is much more vulnerability in intangible culture, so its disappearance and destruction are apt to happen and more likely to be overlooked especially in today's economic globalization and rapid modernization when the world has made many remarkable achievements along with innovative and high technology. Many traditional and national cultures, especially the intangible cultural heritage, are also quietly disappearing at an alarming rate. It is kind of loss and sorrow of the world because of unwitting carelessness and indifference. Therefore, the protection and inheritance of the world intangible cultural heritage is to some degree imperative.

THE CHINESE AND AMERICAN FAMILY VALUES FROM THE COMPARISON OF INDIVIDUALISM AND COLLECTIVISM

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Abstract: People in different countries have different values. These values decided by their background and culture. America and China have great differences between each other. Therefore, individualism is the dominant idea in America, and Chinese idea is collectivism. And family value is one of the examples to show these two different ideas. These two different ideas have their own formed background. From cultural perspective, focus on Chinese and American Family values from the comparison of Individualism and Collectivism can help people fully understand the relationship between culture and family values, and promote the cross-culture communication in people's daily life.

Keywords: Individualism, Collectivism, Family Value, Independence

Introduction

"Where are you from?" is a very simple and ordinary question, but as far as the author is concerned, the answers reflect the culture differences between America and China. Thus, the author chose this topic for further research.

The answers of the question are different. One of the primary American cultures is individualism. Americans do what they want and pursue liberty and rights. While Chinese culture stresses collectivism, Chinese people pay attention to harmony and emphasize the maintenance of friendship with others. So the paper is going to analyze the comparison of Individualism and Collectivism on Chinese and America family values. Through the different point on Chinese and America family values, people can find out the different culture between China and America. For one thing, this paper will briefly talk about the definition of collectivism and individualism. Second, the paper will explain the different aspects of American and Chinese family values. Last but not least, it will analyze the differences and the reasons between China and America.

2. The Definition of Individualism and Collectivism

2.1 Definition of Individualism

Individualism, people focus on their own affairs and their interest into the circle of family and friend. But doesn't means selfish. It means independence, deciding or doing something by oneself. Western culture takes the object as the dominant factor, based on nature, so they ignore people. Most of the Americans are busy with life, with work, and they have fast-changing every day. So they don't know each other very well and they lack of opportunity to meet each other. So, it formed their individual character.

2.2 Definition of Collectivism

Collectivism is to put others' benefit first, think of yourself at last. China is an agricultural culture, nation, the farmer lives near their lands, and most land link together. So the people always inhabit a region and take care of each other, talking about anything. They take human being as center. Chinese culture is still deeply rooted in our souls, our minds and our bloods. This is why Chinese regard collectivism most important.

3. Individualism on American family and Collectivism on Chinese family

3.1 The Role of Parents in American Family

The American family is a nuclear family consisting usually of Parents and their unmarried children, but each family member has his own position, and equal rights are often advocated between husband and wife. They have their own financial support. Different from the past, more and more American women go out to work, they no longer stay at home to do housework or take care of the baby, they can realize themselves in career, showing the same ability with the men and they can also increase the family income. From this point, we can see the independence of American women. That's individualism.

What about the father in American family? Of course, they go to work to support the family, but they typically spend a significant amount of his leisure time with their children. When the children sit together with their father, they are equal and they just look like friends to talk about something or debate each other.

So no matter adults or children, they have their independent idea. The other reason is most American people dare do exactly what they want to and say what's on their minds whenever they want to, especially in public. It caused Americans' outward—going character

A public opinion poll of USA Today shows that in America 71% men who think it is important that the role of father, 64% women who think that it's significant that can be a mother, and 80% Americans think that it's vital for children's grow with parents. Moreover, in American family, everyone is in the pursuit of individual freedom. Husband and wife both have duty to do housework and bring up the baby. They have different circle of friends, and they have equal rights to make decision in family affairs.

Therefore, it shows that the Americans focus on a person's independence and self-reliance and advocate that interests of the individual, and the freedom. No matter who you are, everyone should do their own business by themselves.

3.2 The Role of Parents in Chinese Family

But most Chinese women put more energy to the family, like doing washing clothes, cooking, taking care of baby and so on. Although they give up their interests, their jobs, they love their family, the things do they for love. And Chinese pay more

attention to the personal interest of the whole than that of any individual's. That's one of the key point of collectivism——family harmony.

However, the relationship between father and children in China is different. Father's status in family is as ruler and master. They are very strict, and the conversation between father and children is very formal and serious. A lot of children must follow their fathers' instructions. It is not encouraged to argue with father, which thus becomes the reason for the Chinese inward—going character.

Nevertheless, in China, men are respected as master of the most families, despite the fact women also have job, the final decision is mostly made by men and the housework is shouldered by women.

No other philosopher in the world has had more enduring influence than Confucius. Confucianism influences every part of the people's daily life from the veneration of ancestors to the architecture. Confucius believed that respect and obedience are owed by children to their parents, by wives to their husbands, and by subjects to their rulers.

4. The Way to Raise and Educate Children and Marriage in America Family and Chinese Family

All families, America or China, it is important to bringing up their children. However American and Chinese have their different methods. For example, when a baby is born, American parents will prepare a single room for the baby, in order to cultivate the children's independence from very little. However, Chinese parents will do this on the contrary, without doubt, the baby sleeps beside the parents. On the process of children's growing-up, the parents in the two countries use different ways to show their love.

4.1 The Way to Raise the Children in American and Chinese Family

Americans ask their children to do their own things by themselves, if the children want some money or buy some something, the parents will not give them directly, they must earn it by doing housework or other things. Such as cleaning garden, washing the dishes and so on. Though it is very easy, the children know how difficult to make money. And most important is it can develop a strong sense of independence. If you do nothing, no one can help you. Generally speaking, Chinese parents will focus their entire love on their only child. They will give their children anything they want and do everything for their children. No matter how tired they are, how difficult they make money, they will have the children enjoyed a comfortable life. By doing so, children rely a lot on parents, and it also hinder the own abilities' development of the children.

Take me for instance, my roommate, she has a high fever and felt terrible, it's necessary to see the doctor, so my friends and I sent her to the hospital, and I helped her to pay for hospital bills because it's so hurry that left her money, some of my

friends took care of her and company with her for all day. At night, we took turns to take care of her, such as, buy some food, drink and so on. Until she feels better and the doctor discharged her from hospital. We help each other to overcome the difficulty. And it makes us closer.

In America, this cannot happen, if they get hurt or get some troubles, they will solve it by themselves. Everyone is expected to look after himself or herself and his or her immediate family.

From the comparison, the American students expressed their living ability which was beyond the Chinese students. Through this phenomenon, it not only shows the different way of education, but also reflects the difference between Chinese collectivism and American's individualism.

4.2 The Education and Marriage Between American Family and Chinese Family

In American family, when children are old enough, they can have a right to speak in family affairs and participate in making decisions. The old rule "children should be seen and not heard" is generally broken and they are allowed to do things independently. Parents don't interfere in what they wish to do. And children are encouraged to be independent at an early age. There are a lot of proverbs that describe the children's independence. Such as, "not to be tied to mother's apron string", "leave the nest." Parents in America have little control, and generally not much influence over their children's marriages. This depends on their individual character. The best example is Sadie Hawkins' Day --- a day for young people, which is very common in America on November 14th. This day is celebrated almost exclusively by high school and college students, the boys always invite the girls they admire to take part in some activities. Young people in America enjoy a great deal of freedom. They can make a date without their parents' agreement. In the aspect of marriage, they are frequently not told of marriage plans until the couple has decided to marry. Because marriage in America is an individual responsibility and decision for young people, they pursue romantic love, then make an "immediate family" and leave their parents.

However, in China, generally speaking, the right of decision always belongs to the parents, children may follow the suggestions and instructions of their parents. And about the marriage, it has a different situation, young people can choose their boyfriend or girlfriend by themselves, but when marriage is mentioned, it must be agreed by parents of each family. The parents will consider a lot of factors in every aspect. Sometimes young people will be separated by their parents. It is influenced by a little feudal idea. Even if they have decided to get married, the parents will arrange everything ahead of time.

5. The Interpersonal Relationship in American Family and Chinese Family

American family is a "mobile family", they enjoy moving from place to place very often. So they live in different places and lack of communication with even the relatives, not to mention with their neighbors. American's individualism character

makes them stress on their privacy, they don't like others know more about them. People avoid asking some questions, such as, income, age and so on. While the Chinese always have fixed living place, as an old saying says: "a relative far off is less help than a neighbor close by." They always keep close touch with their neighbors and they know each other very well, and they will try their best to help him or her when they have troubles. This is collectivism.

The American family values and Chinese family values give us the American's individualism and Chinese's collectivism. American emphasis on individualism, the independence and equality are shown from every family. Chinese's collectivism embodies the helpfulness and unites between each family member.

6 Conclusion

Only by knowing the differences and values of each other's values, can we develop the relations of the people in the two countries. And it's a good communication platform to let people, Chinese and Americans know more about the culture of each other, thereby establish a bridge connecting the two countries' culture, boosting mutual understanding.

THE CONVENTION OF INNER MONGOLIA RECEPTION

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Abstract: The paper represent the development of the Mongolia nation treat guest rites, from the ethic group ruled the all tribes by Genghis Khan to nowadays, at the beginning Mongolian are used to living in the grassland, they earned money by the hunting and grazing, having a leisure life in the steppe. In Yuan Dynasty, their social position had improved, some of outstanding soldiers or officers settled down in the cities. As the booming of economy directly influenced the nomad living standard, they had more chance to approach and knew the other culture. Therefore, they took in the essence of new elements. After 1949, minority made the self-government regions, they're in peace and their life is more comfortable than before war period. They keep on the traditional culture and policies are paid more focus on the conserve Mongolian Chinese custom. Tourism is an intuitively way to lead the foreigners to understand the Mongolia unique culture. Nadamu Fair is a success example to attracted sight of people from the world. To some degree, reception culture shows the native characteristic to others, knowing etiquette of reception is also benefit for us to get close to the other nations.

Keywords- nomadic nation, Mongolian reception, convention.

I. Introduction

Human beings who are shaped by the land around them are proud of their nation whatever it is poor or rich. Mongolian, one of the important races in Northeast Asia, which is called the nomads on horseback, originates from Argun. The etiquette of ethic groups is like other non-material heritage culture that is conserved for thousand years. Because of some traditional culture lost in nowadays, many experts and scholars have put more efforts to research how to preserve the non-material heritage in new times. This paper attempt at showing the development of Inner Mongolia and the development of reception, through this way, we can see the change of the Mongolia. Among Mongolian herdsmen, the social customs and etiquettes are colorful but unique, it also mirrors the spirit of Mongolian nation and they are the carrier of the grassland culture. What it comes to the Mongolian, people fail to forget the person who named Genghis Khan, he and his army conquered the Song Dynasty, Jin Kingdom and other central plains ethnics in his life, and then established the Grand Mongolian Kingdom. Mongolian respected him as the hero and there are many related legends in Mongolian epic and tale stories. Even in today people do researches that why he can conquer the semi-world in thousands years ago.

II. Greeting ways in past

There has been a long history of the reception rites, etiquette also not built in one day. Originally the southern part of Mongolia, as Inner Mongolia settled by the powerful Mongolia tribes centuries ago. The convention they developed gradually is influenced

by other nations, during this times Mongolian social position alter several times. Owing to the authority changes their tradition culture also took in the essence of other culture .However, coexist custom formed the Mongolia unique style. Before eleventh centuries, they live in steppe scattered, the neighbor is far from others. They made a living by grazing, thinking that nature harmony is factors to grassland grow. Nomad regarded livestock as their friends. When they met the stranger in the riding house, they would smile and nod. When they come across the stranger they would greet each other. Among Mongolian peers they use the Mongolia dialect “сайн” (SaiYinBaiNu) ,it means “Hello” ,and then they will greet the livestock because they thought animals are friends of people. And then they will greet parents of friends, at last they asked them “Сонин сайхан юу байна?” (SuoNingYouBaiNa), it same as “what’s news recently?” If guests want to talk more words with host, he will invite guest to the yurt. If guest has whip or rope in his hand, he must be put it outside the house, otherwise it’s an insult to host family. And then host will put his right hand on his chest and bow slightly, gesturing for the guests to enter. Within the yurt, the visitor makes sure to enter from the left side, and then sits to the right of the host. Moreover the host would like to offer warm tea and dairy food like milk tea, cheese, naipizi and so on. While the guest finished his fills, they say goodbye (Баяртай!) to each other. During Genghis Khan dominating time, it had rules that whoever has meals at home while stranger comes, so the host needs to share the food with guest. When the Spring Festival is coming, the younger still kowtow to the senior, and say “шинэжилийнмэндхургэе!”(saiyinxinalebu)it means happy new year. At the same times ,the elder said some good works, like be happiness ,be healthy, everything is okay, pray to bring good luck in the following years. If children work for along time and spent few times in school, they can bow to greet to the senior, and then kiss the seniors’ left cheek .It means that the younger are very happy to came back home safety in the Spring Festival, on the other hand ,the senior happy to receive the children’s greeting and respect.

In Yuan Dynasty, for the aristocrat, they live in the economic or political center and settled down, and most of them work for emperor or do business in cities. On the contrary, the ordinary people live a nomadic life in the steppe, grazing is the main living style. With five livestock are cattle, sheep, goat, camel and horse. That’s why Mongolia people offer guest the delicious dairy food and meat. In reality, milk and ewe’s are main materials to cook dairy food. Beef and mutton are staples of their diet. While they treat the honored guest, the meals including roast whole lamp, whole cow. In Ming Dynasty after Yuan Dynasty, frequently trade business caused more and more other culture land in .The Adventures of Marco Polo wrote, it was adopted by the Mongolia and other countries as cultural, with the Buddhism came in, hada is the routes of nomadic Mongolian in daily life, it has widely used aspects of the etiquette customs, Mongolian hada are usually blue, symbolizing the sky. Mongolian worship of nature - the belief in immortality for blue sky vast, pure and beautiful, pure and fresh and eternity, to caress the revere power of all living beings of the grasslands. Therefore, Mongolian admired the blue of sky. The blue hada also present to the peer

friends. They present the yellow hada to show their respect to the distinguished Lama, the white often to the senior or honored guests. Hada need to pile into three floors, the flexible is turn to the guest. In the Spring Festival, the younger should knee to ground and present the hada to the senior. It has many usages, such as for birth, wedding, funeral, and other ceremonies, and symbolizing purity and compassion. For hundreds of years, the presentation of hada has been a major custom observed by Mongolia and Tibetan people. The word “hada” itself is origin to the Tibetan language meaning ceremonial kerchief, which is made of a piece of silk measuring approximately one meter in length with fringes on both sides. The color is either white which conveys the idea of happiness and free life just as the cloudless clear sky. Thus, hada became the etiquette when Mongolian receive guest, they are also often tied to ovoos, stupas, or special trees and rocks.

When guests arrive, the host as a rule either comes out of his yurt from inside or points to the door of the yurt from outside. “Yurt” is a Turkic word meaning felt tent used by Inner Asian nomad peoples. The host will put his right hand on his chest and bows slightly, gesturing for the guests to enter. Within the yurt, the visitor makes sure to enter from the left side, and then sits to the right of the host. In Mongolia traditional manners they think the right side is lucky so the guest sits on the right. In other words, if you receive the food which the host offered you by left hand, the host would regard that you are unsatisfied at their reception. The family members all sit in a circle with the guest to make him feel more at home.

In Qing Dynasty snuff is popular in the countries, presenting snuff to friends or guest to show their respect or friendship. Exchange the snuff bottle is a traditional greeting way, the bottles are made of agate embroidered amber, and metal like gold, silver and copper. The picture are alive print in the bottle, it has landscape of scenic or the icon image. When you visit friends the host will extract an exquisite snuff bottle from an embroidered pouch at his waist, and offer his guest the snuff. This is to show his reverence and greetings. The passing of the snuff bottle is an ancient custom among Mongolian people. Snuff bottles can considerate as a symbol of hospitality, means of communication, the way to greeting and bond of solidarity. Today the procedures of presentation are much simplified and it is usually an empty snuff bottle serving only as a way of greeting, most regions use cigarettes instead of the snuff bottles. Passing snuff bottle rules are older-rank: the senior pass the snuff bottle to younger by right hand and only bow his back, however, the younger accept it must use hands with chest bow slightly and than pass back to the senior. After the passing of the snuff bottles the hostess will treat the guests to whatever dairy food they have at hand, such as delicious milk tea with fried millet, milk dough sticks with white butter and yellow butter, milk curd and cream. When milk tea is served the guests should bow and accept the bowl with both hands. When food is offered you don't have to be too modest, for the host will be happiest if his guests eat and drink to their hearts' content. In Mongolian eyes, white is the pure and like the lights from eastern, caganide is the scared food to the guest or sacrifice. The etiquette of paying respect in Mongolia is

different between men and women, the gesture of men is that right foot forward about five inches, the right knee is bow and the chest bend slightly, the right hand lay on the right knee, on the right hand is left hand. Women gesture is reverse to men. In one book named HeiTaDa wrote centuries, hug is appeared in the late of twentieth century. In the thirteenth century, best friends between ladies or gentlemen begin to huge with hello when they met.

III. New period of Inner Mongolia

After People's Republic of China established the Inner Mongolia is an autonomous region of China, in 1954, Hohhot(also called Qingchen)became the regional capital. Nomad people settled down in the cities. They live together group instead of the scattered life, as the advent of agriculture the nomadic way of life among the Mongolians declined, their diet changed to include some vegetables and Chinese is official language in public, but they can read the bilingual languages in the public. They take in the Han cultural and coexist with other nations. Their nomadic lifestyle now exists for only a few scattered groups in China and Russia and is fast vanishing in Outer Mongolia well. Fortunately, the government recognizes the need to support and cherish all minority cultures. In today people have found contemporary life in Inner Mongolian to exemplify the successful blending of Han and Mongolian custom. In Inner Mongolia, almost places we saw bilingual signs, displaying the vertical curly Mongolian script side by side with Chinese characters. Few people wear the rope in the street, most of them live in the buildings or apartment in city, their life styles are similar with the Han Chinese. When you pay a visit the Mongolian friends who are new generation in cities, you could know that the way he treat guest is same as your way. Your friends would treat you in a traditional yurt hostel but the rites are simplified. When honored or foreigners guest arrive, the host with families welcoming guest before they stepped in the courtyard, host will wear guest hada, some Mongolian males prefer to shake hand with the male guest. Secondly they offer milk tea to release you tired in journey and ask some questions about your journey, caganide is necessity, guest can choose it by self, actually the dairy food they can buy in shops instead of do by own, to roast whole lamb is to be regarded as the most ceremonious plot in the party. They also share other kinds meat for guests, with the Han culture mixed together, vegetables are in meals. While host toast the wine to guest with songs, guests should take it and drink with ring finger dipped in liquor heaven, earth and fire stove, in a show of worship for heaven, earth, vulcan. If you are non-drinker, you can touch lips and beckon to host, it implies you accept master pure friendships. Remembering one point, don't hesitate to drink or don't be reluctantly it, is considered to be looked down upon host. When guests leave, the host will ask guest to stay in the home.

IV. Thinking of convention

Custom is the shadow of one national. Through the development of Mongolia convention, we learned the Mongol absorbed in Han culture or Han Chinese integrated into other custom all represent the nations be coexist in modern society.

During 12-14 centuries, Mongolian is the ruler of nation, people are in peace their life style is more easier than being in war, the police also tend to their to developing, after Yuan Dynasty ruler is Han nation, the authority policy is tend to the native than others. Another reason is that the ruler worried about their dominant position overturn by alien races someday. Combined with government publicity and protection policies on the non-material cultural heritage, people still experience the traditional custom in the world.

With the times change, person's ability to study has great improved, family education also promote the next generations. Because they have chance to acquire knowledge at school and expand their horizon. Inner Mongolia has develop many industries today, which increased in the export processing zone include manufacturing, heavy industry, catering industries and milk producer and so on. The former manual dairy food is provide the foundation way to factory to access the milk or eve's milk.

As for education situation, children in Inner Mongolia choose the school by themselves because they have independent Mongolian schools and comprehensive school. The main different in schools are Mongolian schools students are all Mongol minority. Mongolian students can go abroad after they graduated from college because they are outstanding as any others. Quality of education promote generations improved.

V. Conclusion

Culture is an eyes of nation, the etiquette also express the people in the country. Change of the custom or behavior show the development of the nation, improve of convention. The same way would embody in country to country on the earth village. Modern economic market and the peace of country have impact on the cultural change. If a nation is in peace its people have a stable life, they have the time to develop their prospect. If not, they are not able to preserve their culture even nation. Mongolian custom has turned to be a carrier center to promote the culture of prairie. And their offspring hold it until today, culture change is inevitable but conserve it not to die still vital.

THE ANALYSIS ON DIFFERENCES OF TABLE MANNERS BETWEEN CHINA AND AMERICA

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Abstract: As we all know, dinner is playing an important role in human's life, whatever for survival and development can never do without eating, it has penetrated into every aspect of social life, and also reflected cultural background. Different country has different history and culture; different cultures observe different rules for table manners. Due to the differences of Chinese and American culture, there are significant differences in many aspects upon their table manners. Since there have global economic integration between different countries, especially the exchanges between China and American become more and more frequent, more and more people pay their attention on table manners.

This paper focuses on the different table manners between China and America, firstly the author gives a brief introduction to table manners, and then there is a further analysis of the differences and the main causes in their deeper cultural background. Finally this paper describes the significance and the direction of continued research on the field. The author thinks it would not only help us to call to mind our traditional culture and traditional festivals, but also demonstrate the significance of exchanging the traditional cultures between Chinese and Americans.

Introduction

With economic globalization, people pay more and more attention to politeness and etiquette in modern social life. Economic globalization promotes exchanges between countries, thus more chances of sharing meals with international friends. It is a symbol of a nation's civilization to be polite. it is also a symbol of an individual's ethics and education. How could we be polite and get an "A" when dining at the various international opportunities? Obviously, table manners have become an indispensable focus for the success in modern communication. Only by understanding the dining etiquette we could reach a consensus with the different friends and partners from different countries and reach their own interests and get a better understanding of their cultures.

What are table manners? Table manners are the rules of etiquette used while having dinner, which may also include the appropriate use of utensil. Different cultures observe different rules for table manners. Each family or group sets own standards for how strictly these rules are to be enforced. Table manners are part of table culture to some extent. Different table manners give expression to different cultures. Manners are part of the character of a person, while culture is the soul of a nation. Table manners exist all over the world as a custom, and it is determined by national culture, which raises many differences between countries.

It is very important for us to have a better understanding about table manners for . they not only help us to behave properly before others, but also open a window to a foreign culture. If a person knows how to act in every circumstance, he tends to feel comfortable in unfamiliar surroundings. Proper table manners prevent diners from being sloppy, offensive and boorish. They contribute to communicate respect to hosts and guests alike. Table manners are not hard and intensive rules; rather they are helpful guidelines in our social relationship. Generally, people consider that having meal is very simple, but there are lots of culture and rules in it. For example, different cultures are reflected in table manners between China and America. Table manners are a mirror that reflects the people's quality and family education, even the culture background of a country.

The Origin of Chinese and American Table Manners

2.1 The Origin of Chinese table manners

China is very famous for its courtesy. It is also known as “the land of courtesy and propriety”. Etiquette occupies a very important position in traditional Chinese culture. It has a far-reaching influence in national politics and people's lives. Chinese people have advocated that “food is the first necessities of the people” since ancient times. It is recorded that China had formed a series of perfect system of table manners since the Zhou Dynasty. These manners had great influence in ancient society. After a long-term spread, they are accepted by a large public and they still influence people's lives in present-day society.

Manners were political criteria and ethics that defended registration system of ruling class in ancient society. Then they became a caste system that distinguished status. Manners stress difference. The central concern they have is distinguishing status. So in Chinese society, especially at the table, status is the first thing to consider. This is the basic manner as well as a phenomenon that old times left.

2.2 The Origin of American Table Manners

Different ethnic groups have different eating habits. The Gauls are sitting when they are eating while Romans are lying. Frenchmen put their hands on the table when they are not eating while Englishmen put their hands on their thighs. English table manners were transformed from chivalry.

Western table manners originated in the French Merovingian. It was enlightened by Byzantine culture, so a series of table manners were set up. The manners became more complex in the Roman Empire. According to Roman etiquette, The emperor must sit in the highest chair, while the nobilities must send to the dishes to the emperor as soon as music was sounded. Before the 17th century, the traditional habit was wearing a hat when people were at table. In imperial times, table manners seemed tedious and harsh.

As time goes on, table manners become more and more elegant. Even now table manners continue to come down in America. If one is invited by his friends, he should put on decent clothes, send proper gift, give appropriate speeches and maintain proper manners.

3. The Main Differences of Table Manners Between China and America

3.1 Seat arrangement

The seating arrangement is probably the most important part of Chinese dining etiquette. As Chinese generally use round table and the regular arrangement which is the seats which affronts to the door are the most important. Generally speaking, where a guest is seated mainly depends on his age and social status. "Taking the left for upper", it is the traditional custom in China. It means the left seat is higher than the right one. The guest of honor should be arranged on the left of the host. In the past, Chinese encourage the south and east direction and the left are held for higher esteem. With the time going, the view of position has changed. It dose not only inherit old tradition, but also absorbs values from western countries. The guest should be arranged on the right of the host. At present, when people hold meeting or take a group photo, they are affected by this rule. If round tables are used, the seat facing the entrance is the seat of honor. The seats on the left hand side of the seat of honor are second, fourth, sixth, etc in importance, while those on the right are third, fifth, seventh and so on in importance, until they join together.

In ancient times there was a piece of furniture known as an Eight Immortals table, a big square table with benches for two people on each side. If there was a seat facing the entrance, then the right hand seat when facing the entrance was for the guest of honor. If there was no seat facing the entrance door (presumably if the meal was outside or there were two or more doors of equal importance), then the right hand seat when facing east was the seat of honor. The seats on the left hand side of the seat of honor were, in order of importance, second, fourth, sixth and eighth and those on the right were third, fifth and seventh.

In a grand banquet of many tables, the table of honor is the one furthest from the entrance (or facing east in the event of no clear main entrance). The tables on the left hand side of the tables of honor are, in order of importance, second, fourth, sixth and so on, and those on the right are third, fifth and seventh. Guests are seated according to their status and degree of relationship to the master of the banquet.

In America, the seating arrangement is quite different from China. They usually use the long table. In the past, the most distinguished guest was seated in the left side of the host. The reason is that in ancient times there were many assassinations for political and social reasons, and assassins held daggers in their right hands to attack. It was convenient and easier for the host to protect the guest who was on his left hand when the assassin attacked. However, with the development of civilization, this old style of assassination has been extinct for a long time and the seating arrangement

also changed. Nowadays, what Westerners are most concerned about is the perspective of psychological need instead of physical security when they arrange seats in a banquet. The result is that the seat at the right side is the host is more honorable than the one on the left side in the widely recognized rule. After all, in most American homes, the host and hostess sit at the both sides, and near the host and the hostess more important, the farther is less important.

3.2 Tableware

Compared with Americans, Chinese don't use much tableware when they have meal. Usually, Chinese at table needs chopsticks, plate, bowl, scoop, and dishes. When wine is served, the wine bottle is put in front of plate, while the glass is put on the right. The number of glass is the same with the amount of wine. Napkins may be folded into some beautiful shape or form the rectangle flattening the center of the plate. Of course, there must be ashtray and toothpick on the table. There is only one rule for a formal table and that is everything must be geometrically spaced; the centerpiece the actual center, the placed at equal distances and all utensils balanced. In a word, what must match is the quality of everything put on the table.

On one hand, Chinese use bowl to eat. The bowl is used to ladle rice, soup and other food. Chinese people began to use the bowl to eat since the New Stone Age. Most bowl in China is made of china. The traditional style is in blue and white. Chinese don't use the bowl with broken edge. In the past, before a convict was sentenced to death, he would have drunk wine. Then, he broke the bowl and shouted: "I will be a brave man in eighteen years," people always associate the imperfect bowl with a convict sentenced to death. So people never use bowl with a little crack.

On the other hand, Chinese also use spoon to eat. Spoon is normal tableware. There are arts to using it. People usually use their right hand to hold the top of the spoon. Forefinger is put above the handle, while the use of thumb and middle finger are propping under the handle. Sometimes use thumb to press the handle, while the forefinger and the middle finger prop up it. This method is wrong. Spoon is mainly used to ladle out soup. Sometimes, it is also used to fill the slippery food, such as nut, bean jelly, pea, steamed egg, etc.

Chopsticks are a pair of sticks, usually make of wood, used for eating food. In Chinese, the old word for "chopsticks", and also in some varieties of modern Chinese such as Hokkien, was zhu(箸), however, using the word "zhu" became a taboo on ships because it sounded the same as another word meaning "to stop"(zhu). Consequently, it was replaced by a word of opposite meaning, kuai(fast, quick), which evolved into the current term, "kuaizi." This gradually spread until it became the word for "chopsticks" in most varieties of modern Chinese. The character for this new meaning of "chopsticks"(kuai) for kuai has the radical for bamboo added to the character meaning "fast" (kuai). The English term, "chopsticks," is supposedly derived from the Pidgin English spoken in British Chinese colonies.

As Chinese history culture, people with the deep concept of peace and harmony, so the dining way of Chinese people is just seat around with the table and sharing all kinds of dinners together no matter what kind of banquet they take participant. The delicious food is not only the object of which they would shared, also is kind of medium of communication between eaters. At the dinner table, the Chinese people are like toasts to each other and clip dishes to each other, it was full of harmonious. This is also the traditional customs and culture of Chinese. While American people having dinner, in generally they do not have this kind of strong purpose, usually they just for physical need and fill the stomach.

In American families, all the glassware, cups and the like are placed the table, so it's often difficult to know which fork to use or which water glass is ours. For instance, the fork and knife used for the salad are placed in the outermost of the setting, farthest from the plate, of course with the exception of the spoon. Dessert silverware is usually placed at the top of entree plate. Glass and cups are placed to right side. While the napkin, bread plate and butter spreader to left side. Americans use knives and forks. A knife should be held in the right hand, and a fork should be held in left hand. In America, everyone has their own plate of food. And that is one of the biggest different from Chinese table manners.

3.3 Dining etiquette

When having a meal in China, people are expected to (according to Chinese customs) behave in a civilized manner, pay attention to table manners and practice good dining habits. In order to avoid offense, diners should pay attention to the following points: If the guest of honor is not seated, other people are not allowed to be seated. If he hasn't stated to eat, others should not begin. When making toasts, the first toast is made from the seat of honor and continuing down the order of prominence. Let older people eat first, or if hear an elder say "let's eat", all diners can start to eat. It's polite that people should not steal a march on the elders.

Also, diners should hold the bowl with thumb on the mouth of the bowl, first finger, middle finger, the third finger supporting the bottom of the bowl and palm empty. If one doesn't pick up his bowl, but bend over the table and eat facing bowl, it will be regarded as very bad table manners. Moreover, it will have the consequence of compressing the stomach and restricting digestion.

When helping one to the dishes, Chinese usually take food first from the plates in front of them rather than those in the middle of the table or in front of others. It is bad manners to use chopsticks to burrow through the food and "dig for treasure" and keep our eyes glued to the plates. It is not good manners to pick up too much food at a time. When taking food, it's inappropriate to nudge or push against one's neighbor at table. Don't let the food splash or let soup or sauce drip onto the table. When finding one's favorite dish, he should not gobble it up as quickly as possible or put the plate in front of him and proceed to eat like a horse. Instead, he should consider others at the table.

If there is not much left on a plate and he wants to finish it, it would be polite for him to consult others. When eating, it's a good manner if one closes his mouth to chew food well before he swallows it, which is not only a requirement of etiquette, but also better for digestion. One should never open his mouth widely, fill it with large pieces of food and eat up greedily. Don't put too much food into one's mouth at a time to avoid leaving a gluttonous impression. Neither should one stretch his neck, open his mouth wide and extend tongue to catch food he is lifting to his mouth. If there is food around one's mouth, use a tissue or a napkin to wipe it, instead of licking it with tongue. When chewing food, don't make noises. It is best not to talk with others with mouth full. Be temperate in laughing lest one spews food or the food goes down windpipe and causes choking. If one needs to talk, he should speak little and quietly.

When spitting out bones or other inedible parts of the meal, use chopsticks or a hand to take them and put them on the table in front of us instead of spitting them directly onto the table or the ground. If one wants to cough or sneeze, use the hand or a handkerchief to cover the mouth and turn away. If one finds something unpleasant in mouth when chewing or phlegm in the throat, he should leave the dinner table to spit it out.

One should try to refill his bowl with rice by himself and take the initiative to fill the bowls of elders with rice and food from the dishes. If elders fill his bowl or add food to his bowl, he should express thanks.

In Chinese culture, to use chopsticks' appropriately is very important; here are some methods to use chopsticks:

- a. Pick up the first chopsticks with middle finger and thumb. Stiffen hand for a firm grip. Have the broad end of the chopsticks lay on the part where thumb and index finger connects. Rest the narrow end on the tip of ring finger, and hold it in place with the tip of middle finger.
- b. Grip the second chopstick with index finger. Place thumb over the second chopstick. Adjust grip whatever position is most comfortable. Make sure the narrow tips of the chopsticks are even with each other to help prevent them from crossing or being unable to "pinch" the food.
- c. Hold it steady, this chopstick should not move when one attempt to pick up food. Alternatively, hold the first chopstick steady and move the second chopstick by moving the tip of index finger up and down while the thumb remains relatively steady, acting like a pivot point. The top chopstick should remain pressed to the index finger from the tip through the first joint. The movement should come from flexing the joint closest to the knuckle. Straightening index finger opens the chopsticks and bending it closes them, with perhaps a slight flexing of the thumb to photos in how the top

chopstick is held. The movement comes from the top chopstick, not the bottom one, so the top chopstick is held so that it can be moved easily.

d. Pick up food at a good angle (try roughly 45 degrees from the plate), and gently lift it up. If it feels unstable, we would put it down and try again.

Etiquette in using chopsticks is very important in China; chopsticks are used in many different parts of the world and also in many different cultures. But the principle of chopstick etiquette is similar in many of these places, the finger points may differ from region to region, and there is no single standard for the use of chopsticks. Generally, chopstick etiquette is similar to the general western etiquette regarding eating.

There are many taboos with regard to the use of chopsticks. They are not used to make noise, to draw attention, or to gesticulate. Playing with chopsticks is bad mannered and vulgar. They are also not used to move bowls or plates, not to toy with one's food or with dishes for sharing. Chopsticks are not used to pierce food, save in rare instances, exceptions include tearing larger items apart such as vegetables and kamahi. In informal use, small, difficult to pick up items such as cherry tomatoes or fish balls may be stabbed. Chopsticks should not be left standing vertically in a bowl of rice or other food. In Chinese culture, it is acceptable to transfer food to closely related people (e.g. grandparents, parents, spouses, children, or significant others) if they are having difficulty pick up the food. Also, it is a sign of respect to pass food to the elderly first before the meals starts. It is poor etiquette to tap chopsticks in the edge of one's bowls, as beggars are believed to make this noise to attract attention. It is impolite to spear food with a chopstick, unless a food is difficult to handle, such as fish balls. It is considered poor etiquette to point rested chopsticks towards others seated at the table. Holding chopsticks incorrectly will reflect badly on parents, who are responsible for teaching their children how to use them.

It is said that using chopsticks improves one's memory, increases finger dexterity and can be useful in learning and improving skills such as Chinese calligraphy and brush painting. Many Asian superstitions revolve around chopsticks as well. For example, if one finds an uneven pair of chopsticks at your table setting. You will miss the next train, boat or plane you are trying to catch. Also, dropping your chopsticks is an omen if bad luck.

Manners in every country are different. What is polite in China may not be polite in the United States. These basic rules will help us enjoy western food with our American friends.

Always put the napkin on our lap first. Before one leaves the table, fold the napkin and put it beside plate.

As the meal is served, use the silverware farthest from the plate first. When eating something in a bowl, do not leave the spoon in the bowl. Put it on the plate beneath the bowl. Soup, as well as all American food is eaten quietly. Do not slurp the soup. The soup spoon is used by moving the spoon away from us. Do not over fill the spoon. The bowl may be tipped slightly away from us to allow the last bit of soup to be collected on the spoon. Do not pick the bowl up to hold it closer to our mouth. When we have finished the meal, place our knife and fork side by side on the plate. This signals that you have finished eating.

Wait until everyone has been served to begin eating. Everyone begins to eat at the same time. The host or hostess may invite to start eating before everyone is served. Some foods may be cold if we are required to wait until everyone is served. If invited to begin before others are served, wait until three or four people have been served before starting to eat.

While eating, remember not to talk with mouth full of food.

During the meal, the host or hostess will offer a second helping of food. Sometimes they will ask to help ourselves. When they offer us food, give a direct answer. If we refuse the first time, they might not ask again.

At the table, ask others to pass us dishes that are out of reach. Good phrases to know are: "Please pass the ____" or "Could you hand me the ____, please?" If asked to pass the salt to someone, one should pass both the salt and pepper which are placed on the table together. Hand the salt and pepper to the person seated next to us. Do not reach over the person next to us to pass anything to others.

Sit up straight at the table. Bring the food up to our mouth. Do not lean down to plate. Cut large pieces of meat, potatoes and vegetables into bite size pieces. Eat the pieces one at a time.

When eating spaghetti, wind the noodles up on your fork. One may use spoon to assist in winding the noodle on fork. The spaghetti on fork should be eaten in one bite. It is very impolite to eat half noodles and allow the other half to fall back on plate. Some food may be eaten with fingers. If one is not sure if it is proper to eat something by picking it up with fingers, watch what others do before doing so ourselves. Examples of foods which can be eaten with fingers include: bacon which has been cooked until it is very crisp; bread should be broken rather than cut with a knife; cookies; sandwiches; and small fruits and berries on the stem. Most fast foods are intended to be eaten with fingers.

Do not lean on our arm or elbow while eating. We may rest hand and wrist on the edge of the table.

In America, people do not use toothpicks at the table. Some of the rules mentioned here may be somewhat relaxed in informal settings.

The best way to learn good manners is to watch others. Observe the way of western friends eat. This is the best way to avoid making mistakes when we are unsure of what to do.

4 Conclusion

There are abundant and extensive table manners in China, so as in America. Generally speaking, table manners, as a significant part of table culture, give expression to the different cultures. Manner is the character of people, while culture is the soul of a nation. Different table manners exist all over the world, and it was determined by culture. The Chinese old saying “worry about what others worry, and think about what others think” is a lively reflection of Chinese people’s attitude towards life. For Chinese, what they should do is to comprehend and respect different habits and cultures when they are communicating with other people. With the development of cross-culture communication, people get to know each other more deeply and better understand mutually, just as “when in Rome, do as the Romans do.” is a good way to avoid misunderstanding. With fewer misunderstandings, the communications between China and America will be easier. On the other hand, with the development of global culture, the two different cultures are influencing each other. So we should adapt to the trend of cultural globalization, and deal with problems in intercultural communication maturely.

AMERICAN POPULAR MUSIC IN CHINESE UNDERGRADUATES' LIVES

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Abstract: With the rapid development of globalization and cross-cultural communication, American popular music has been widely spread in China, greatly impacting the Chinese undergraduates. American popular music has an abundant culture values. Analyzing the dominant culture values reflected in the American popular music and its influence on Chinese undergraduates can enable us to find some suggestions for treating American popular music in a right way.

Keywords: American Popular Music; Culture Values; Chinese Undergraduates; Influence

1. Introduction

The United States is the predominant place of origin of popular music. Popular music generally refers to relatively short works with a prominent melody and simple chordal accompaniment. American popular music, emerging early in the ninetieth century, has a profound effect on music across the world, especially in musical styles and band models. From the ninetieth to twentieth century, the country had seen a distinctive rise of popular music stemming from the basic formations of American mass music like Tin Pan Alley, blues, jazz, country music, rock, R&B, gospel, soul, funk, heavy metal, punk, and disco, etc. American popular music, rich in musical styles and forms, now can be a general reference of any kind of music mentioned above along with some new musical styles rising in the middle and late 1900s like reggae, rap, hip-hop and New Age. Over the years, because of its diversity and popularity, American popular music has taken its blows and soon became epidemic worldwide. Till now, American popular music is also one of the most significant musical genres in the world.

In China, with the rapid dissemination of American popular music, thousands of undergraduates who are young and well-educated with a fast and convenient access to the frontline of cultural exchange among different countries have shown a great interest in this intriguing music. Meanwhile, they are the main disseminators of Chinese culture and acceptors of foreign cultures.

A recent survey made on the campuses of Xi'an International University shows: 8% of the undergraduates interviewed are interested in national music; 10% are into classical music; however, 82% of them are fond of popular music. When the 82% students were asked about their preference to Chinese and American popular music, 93% of them preferred American popular music to Chinese popular music. And 75% of the interviewees said to have established their habits of listening to American popular music since they were in middle school. What's more, 95% of the undergraduates interviewed usually spend more than 5 hours per week on listening to music.

Nowadays, American popular music is played and propagandized everywhere in Chinese undergraduates' daily lives—on the train or bus, in the subway or taxi, in cafeteria or canteen, shopping mall or cyber-bar, or even on the airplane. And it's easy for us to see no matter young or old will always wear their earplugs in those places. Meanwhile, elegant posters, different musical festivals, MTV, albums, CDs, and even movies have effectively contributed to the spread of American popular music. Obviously, American popular music has been part of Chinese undergraduates' lives.

To sum up all the profound affects and culture values of American popular music and analyze the Chinese undergraduates' acceptance of it will make a meaningful contribution to cultural exchange between China and the United States.

2. The Dominant Culture Values Reflected in American Popular Music

2.1 Freedom

Freedom, the most influential value in American culture, has rooted in the vast American soils as soon as the first group of Pilgrims seeking religious freedom settled down in New England. The United States, a great nation with a long history of liberty and democracy, is advocating its different kinds of freedom to the world everyday. What's more, America cherishes and experiences freedom more than any other country on earth. Freedom of politics, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of academics, the four predominant representations of American freedom value, has formed the contemporary American freedom system.

In America, freedom is extensively publicized by mass media everywhere including popular music, which is a super-ideal way of emotional communication. There is a homonymous popular song *Freedom* by Akon, who is a renowned Senegalese American R&B and hip-hop recording artist, song-writer, singer, and record producer. A scene of freedom-chasing emerged in the lyrics—from Senegal West Africa to St. Louis, Missouri, the ancestors of black people strived and endured so much all along the way to be shipped to the States as a result of the Black Slaves Trade. There is no doubt that freedom of human life is the priority to everything.

Nightclub music, usually combined with hip-hop, rap, and reggae which are another several forms of popular music, also lays much stress on freedom. The modern society is rapidly developing, along with the urbanization and appearance of kaleidoscopic recreational places like entertainment theme parks, cinemas, theaters, karaoke rooms, bars, and nightclubs, which are enticing its consumers day and night. Nightclubs always weight out the other spots for nocturnal leisure, for they are places where people can dance, sing and yell, cheer up, and make friends. It's not exaggerated that nightclubs are where metropolitan citizens and undergraduates mostly would like to go. Pitbull, a worldwide prestigious Spanish American song-writer, hip-hop recording artist, and rapper, has created much awesome and popular nightclub music, being the genuine promoter of hip-hap culture. One of his

best known singles *Give Me Everything (feat. Ne-Yo, Afrojack & Nayer)* is so epidemic and prevailing that almost every nightclub on earth will often play it. In *Give Me Everything*, Pitbull with Ne-Yo and Nayer show the public their understanding to freedom by singing out their most truly emotional feelings, inciting people just to immerse themselves into dance and party all night, which is an accurate expression of freedom release.

Singers always tend to add many freedom elements to their musical works, propagandizing the good aspects of life and rousing the resonance among people. Here comes a single by Owl City and Carly Rae Jepsen *Good Time*, a recent big hit with a cheerful and light-hearted rhythm and positive and easy-to-remember lyrics, which can be easily captured by our ears just at a certain moment or place. Maybe partying and camping at night with a group of intimates in the wild is a new way to enjoy freedom of life according to the MV of *Good Time*, leading so many people to have a try. Anyway, there is a small wonder that pop music does have a magic to express freedom.

2.2 Individualism

Individualism, dating back to the period of Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation, is the very core of American culture and the main value in American society and has been leading the United States for a long time since the publish of the *Declaration of Independence*, which was one of the first published works outlining what the nation stands for in history. Individualism underscores self-reliance, individual freedom, and equal competition, which are the main aspects of American Spirit as well. So quickly did individualism spread that it almost has impacted on all the fields of politics, economics, and society, even the character of the nation. In popular music, individualism is here and there, living and vivid. Taking a close view and making analyses on the lyrics, we can find that letter “I” is tyrannizing the whole part of many songs, which is a totally opposite condition in most Chinese songs. Besides, many people often make jokes without corroboration, saying that letter “I” is the abbreviation of “individualism”, which seems to be plausible.

Take Katy Perry’s *Who Am I Living For?* and *Part of Me* for example, individualism is just expressed so naturally and genuinely. In the early time before genius Katy signed Capitol Records, she was just puzzled and deflated. Once in a TV interview, Katy said “I had no money, my car was impounded twice, nothing was going my way, people saw me as damaged goods. I was feeling lost”. Indeed, it was probably her most desperate moment. So she later added many of her feelings to the two big hits, encouraging and inspiring thousands of people to swallow down their fears and get ready for the road less traveled, because Katy knows it well that only you can defeat the fears inside yourself. And the power to struggle against fears is part of you that no one can ever take away from you. Katy Perry, a modern idol of individualism and independence, having millions of fans cross the world, now is always glittering on the stage.

2.3 Independence

Independence, usually belongs to part of individualism and freedom, can sometimes be a really pivotal component in popular music. According to the *Declaration of Independence*, it can be defined as self-independence or national independence, which has enlightened many gifted singers' and bands' creating songs correlated with these two themes.

On the 55th Annual Grammy Awards, 2013, an excellent band named Fun. gave the global audiences a spectacular performance, singing in the rain of theatrics at climax of its single *Carry On*, and cheering up the audiences and performers. The element of independence just so vividly unfolded in *Carry On*—if you're lost and alone, or you're sinking like a stone, carry on! Anyone who hears the powerful and motivating song will gain a strong determination to get over their weakness and loneliness and be more independent.

To Search for the value of national independence in American popular music, an extraordinary punk band Green Day formed late in the twentieth century won't let us down. Many of Green Day's works with a dense political complexion are antiwar in some degrees. They always advocate an independent, united, and peaceful nation state. *American Idiot*, *Wake Me Up When September Ends*, and *21 Guns*, all bearing a same antiwar theme, once till now are still influencing and appealing the whole world to lay down the arms, throw them into the sky, and give up fight, which is the desire to survive, the condemnation to war, the outcry for independence, above all, is the respect to life and humanity. Independence is going to be an immortal motif in both popular music and the whole world.

2.4 Inclusiveness

Having analyzed the styles and genres of American popular music, we can find out that one of the biggest features of it is inclusiveness, which can be seen as the most exterior characteristic. Only if you browse the names of songs on your computer or browse the charts of Billboard or iTunes, you'll just say that they are so diverse. America itself is a big cultural smelter, which brings a broad development prospect to American popular culture. From the past to contemporary, immigrants from all over the world have been injecting this nation an uninterrupted flow of vigor under the torchlight of the Statue of Liberty, standing upon the entrance of New York harbor, which is the symbol of freedom and inclusiveness.

Because of the musical inclusiveness and the diversity of popular music appraisal mechanisms in the United States, we usually see American popular music as a general concept of western popular music, which in fact is a wider and boarder cultural field. However wide or board it is, America can always attract many foreign artists to show their talents on its stages. The Beatles, Backstreet Boys, Adele, and Lily Allen from the U.K., Rihanna from Barbados, Avril Lavigne and Justin Bieber from Canada, Daft

Punk from France, and many other famous singers and bands all have made a big hit in both the U.S. and the world.

Apart from the styles, genres, and singers' nationalities, the inclusiveness in popular music is also reflected in its musical themes. There are antiwar songs like *American Idiot*, songs for world peace like Michael Jackson's *Heal The World* and *We Are The World*, love ballads, memorial songs, songs for supporting LGBT, songs for propagating exotic or extraterrestrial charms, inspiring songs, theme songs of films, and songs just for personal emotion release and entertainment, etc. Taylor Swift, the nowadays most popular country music song-writer and singer, is gifted for creating love ballads and memorial songs. *Love Story*, *You Belong With Me*, *All Too Well*, *Ours*, *Back To December* are all her best known ballads. Taylor's memorial song *Ronan*, dedicated to a boy named Ronan who died at four years old because of brain cancer, is a sad music to express the reminiscence and memory of a heartbroken mother. *Born This Way* by Lady Gaga is a song for supporting the homosexual. *Dark Horse* (feat. Juicy J) and *E.T.* by Katy Perry are songs for exotic charisma. Katy's *Firework* is just inspiring people. All in all, the value of inclusiveness in American popular music is everywhere, echoing in different groups of people and bringing them the happiness and joy of life.

2.5 Rebellion

Rebellion, a controversial but very unique culture value in popular music, is prevailing in many works. It can be the singers' emotional outbreak, the dissatisfaction toward the society or his present life condition. Many people tend to believe that rebellion is the main reason why so many youngsters and undergraduates go after some certain music, for it reaches a consensus with their adolescent psychological needs.

Rebellion is not always a pessimistic word. It also has a positive effect to push people to go on. As a matter of fact, the rebellious elements reflected in popular music often are complaints about the unfairness of destiny, which, on the contrary, usually dramatically leads the cynics to success. Rap and hip-hop are where the rebellion is always functioning as a main propellant. So pervasive has rebellion been penetrated in rap music that many rapper are considered as the symbol of rebellion, which in many young people's eyes is a cool thing worthwhile learning and imitating. Eminem, the most renowned and preeminent white rapper in the world, is a symbol of fashion and rebellion. In many of his songs, he narrated his endeavors and the great efforts he had made before his success, when he was a little rebellious and out of control. So in his later work, *Lose Yourself*, Eminem was confidently singing "to seize everything you ever wanted", showing us an image of an uninhibited and indulgent young man. Being rebellious can also be a good cure for an unhappy experience and can make you regain the energy to move on. *Better Than Revenge* and *Mean* are Taylor Swift's most quintessential rebellion songs, in which she just candidly sang and screamed out the enjoyment and pleasure of being rebellious after breaking up with her ex-boyfriends.

In a word, listening to American popular music, we can find that rebellion is a new fashion to express our feelings.

3 The Influence of American Popular Music on Chinese Undergraduates' Values and Attitudes toward Life

3.1 Actively Accepting Values Reflected in American Popular Music

The values of Chinese undergraduates have changed a lot since the era of Chinese reform and opening-up. Contemporary Chinese undergraduates are no longer the same as those who are conservative, conventional, self-abased, and laggard in the feudal society and time of planned economy. The biggest feature of contemporary Chinese undergraduates is open-minded, which can make them easily and fast accept some popular foreign values.

When coping with American popular music, Chinese undergraduates are always initiative and active to accept the values reflected in it, which has greatly impacted on their lives. On campus, it is not hard to see many students wearing their earplugs, there must be someone listening to American popular music. In some collegiate singing competitions, undergraduates are more and more likely to perform English songs, especially American popular music. Meanwhile some students' lifestyles have been influenced by American hip hop culture. There are many students going for rapping now, imitating the famous rappers to dress themselves up with a baseball hat with a logo of LA or NYC, a cross necklace, an ear stud or even some tattoos.

The values of freedom, individualism, independence, inclusiveness and even rebellion in American popular music just cater to the undergraduates' psychological needs and satisfactions, making them be the active acceptors of American culture.

3.2 Selectively Borrowing American Culture Elements

Analyzing the top ten music on the latest Billboard chart updated on May 2, 2014, we can notice that two animation theme songs, *Happy* (From "*Despicable Me*") and *Let It Go* (From "*Frozen*"), are respectively ranked the first and sixth. To a great extent, their popularity was due to the distribution of movies. *Happy* and *Let It Go*, both conveyed the audiences the value of individualism and freedom. In China, so many collegiate and intercollegiate radio stations just repeatedly play the two songs to the undergraduates on campus everyday.

According to a recent survey "Your Favorite English Songs" made in the library of Xi'an International University, *My Heart Will Go On* by Celine Dion is the most popular one among the undergraduates. They are just too familiar with it, which will always recall the tear-shading plots in *Titanic*. When undergraduates go for the blockbusters, they will also pay attention to the theme songs. Indeed, *My Heart Will Go On* is a love song with a dense color of freedom and individualism. The other 5 second most popular songs wrote down by the undergraduates were *Yesterday Once More* (Carpenters), *Hey Jude* (The Beatles), *Heal The World* (Michael Jackson), *My*

Love (Westlife), *Don't Cry* (Guns N' Roses), which are all very much classic, containing freedom, love, individualism, independence, and some rebellion. In conclusion, freedom and individualism along with independence are the three main culture elements in the popular music that Chinese undergraduates like most. When borrowing the American popular culture elements, Chinese undergraduates did it very well by selectively borrowing and learning the positive traits in American culture instead of being blind followers to passively accept.

4 Suggestions for Treating American Popular Music

How to rightly lead undergraduates to treat American popular music is a hot issue involving many aspects, which is worth discussing. First of all, mass media should pay attention to its procedure of culture dissemination, introduce more healthier musical styles, ban the import of vulgar elements, try to improving undergraduates' musical connoisseurship levels, and be more responsible for the development of undergraduates. Secondly, colleges and universities should enhance the Chinese traditional culture education on students, making them realize the essence of Chinese culture while they are learning American popular culture. They should also educate students to rightly distinguish the good and bad culture elements, moreover, encourage students to disseminating Chinese culture. Thirdly, as undergraduates, they should raise their self-judgment abilities, make full use of the good culture values in American popular music to contribute to their study and lives, and be smart and wise disseminators of both Chinese traditional culture and American popular culture.