

## Abstract

Fatherhood has been a relatively neglected topic in the parenting literature citations. The present study is a continuing attempt to investigate in depth the cultural differences of fathering within Chinese cultures, namely Hong Kong and Mainland China. There were 123 students aged from 8-12 years old from Hong Kong and 139 from Beijing and their fathers invited to participate in this study. Fatherhood image, fathers' role and goals, and their impacts on children's self-competence between Hong Kong and Mainland Chinese children were investigated. The major differences between Hong Kong and Mainland China were that Hong Kong children reported to have a more negative rating towards the perception of their fathers and a larger discrepancy of real-ideal fathers' rating than the Mainland children, suggesting that a cultural difference of fatherhood practice may exist between Hong Kong and Mainland China. No differences were found in terms of fathers' goals and disciplinary roles in between the two cultures and the self-competency of the children in the two places were relatively the same.