

## Abstract

Gender role attributes predict various psychological constructs in the West, such as thematic motivations, and should be salient in shaping our everyday life. This study investigated how gender role attributes affect subjective experience in different social contexts and in one-on-one interactions. I hypothesized that Emotional Sensitivity predicts higher negative emotion in small group interactions, and friend's gender should predict higher positive emotion in one-on-one situations. A sample of 193 Hong Kong college students completed the newly developed Chinese Personal Attributes Questionnaire (CPAQ), that provided scores of Communion, Cognitive/Behavioral, and Emotional Sensitivity, and the Experience-Sampling Method (ESM) that provided time-contingent measures of experience in-context. Most of the hypotheses were rejected. For example, in the small group context, Emotional Sensitivity predicted feeling absorbed and cooperative rather than lower positive affect and higher negative affect. And when subjects engaged in Play activities, gender role attributes could only predict a few experiential variables, another contradictory result from the hypothesis. Thus, gender role attributes are not good predictors of daily interaction experience. Findings are interpreted in terms of the collectivist nature of the Chinese society that makes social roles more relevant than traits during social interactions.