

Abstract

By studying the South Asian, mainland Chinese and Hong Kong adolescents, the present study investigates the psychological implication of ethnic identity and citizen identity based on the orthogonal model of cultural identification. Model of preceding factors affecting the extent of ethnic identity and citizen identity was also studied. A total of 771 participants (243 SA, 310 HK and 214 MC) ranged from Form 1 to Form 5 were recruited from two secondary schools. Findings showed that both identities were important to one's life satisfaction. While identifying with both cultures resulted in higher life satisfaction concerning oneself, living environment and family, identifying with one culture was sufficient for positive outcome in life satisfaction regarding the school life and friendship. Peer interaction, language proficiency, and socialization practices were found to contribute to level of ethnic and citizen identity. Indirect effects of peer interaction and language proficiency on both identities were also found.