PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS: A TAIWAN AND AMERICAN COMPARISON

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INTRODUCTION

- Parent-child relationships in Taiwan
  - Success through the children
  - Closely follow and “guide” children

- Interviews of Taiwan and American Families
  - Different stages of family age—
    - Young, Middle, and Old
METHODS

A. We used interviews of Taiwan and American families at different stages of child development to gather data.

Interviews (parents with children)

i. 3 Taiwan → young, middle, old families
   i. Chinese script matched to the English script

ii. 3 America → young, middle, old families
   i. English script: Authoritarian vs. Authoritative
DIFFICULTIES AND POTENTIAL OBSTACLES

- Taiwanese Families
  - Traditional
  - Reserved about family matters
- American Families
  - We do not live in America
  - Do not have firsthand cultural experience
  - We had to prepare to interview in English
CONCLUSIONS

- With regard to responding to bad grades
  - Taiwanese: Authoritative
  - American: Authoritative

- With regard to punishment
  - Both authoritative, with a Taiwan exception

- Regarding incentives
  - Both authoritative
MORE CONCLUSIONS

- The Taiwanese Families
  - As a group—Authoritarian-seeming in some responses, but...
  - When asked what they actually did, they were more Authoritative

- The American Families
  - All clearly claimed Authoritative parenting
  - They all clearly shied away from anything that made them look authoritarian
OTHER CONCLUSIONS

- The Taiwanese Families & Dependence
  - Leaving home is more discouraged
  - Sending home money is expected/required
  - “Children should stay close.”

- The American Families & Independence
  - Leaving home is more encouraged
  - Sending home money is not expected/wanted
  - “Children should get out on their own.”
REFERENCES

- (Leung, Lau & Lam, 1998).


http://www.wretch.cc//blog/robowmac8/44&page=0#comment278683914