

VALUE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THAIS AND THE  
SECOND-GENERATION CHINESE IN THAILAND



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## ABSTRACT



The present study was designed to compare values held by the second-generation Chinese in Thailand with those held by the Thai. It was hypothesized that the second-generation Chinese who identify themselves with the Chinese rather than with the Thai will be more different from the Thai in values than those who identify themselves with the Thai rather than with the Chinese. It was also delimited that the values to be investigated were those concerning wealth, prestige, education, and benevolence. Two forms of the behavioral differential scale were constructed to measure the two variables involved, i.e., identification and values. The subjects were 70 Thai and 97 second-generation Chinese adolescents. The latter was divided into three groups: the high Chinese, the medium Chinese, and the low Chinese, according to their identification. Variance of the subjects' responses was analysed. It was found that when the second-generation Chinese were treated as three separate groups and then compared with one another as well as with the Thai, the high Chinese were more likely to value prestige than were the middle and the low Chinese. The middle and the low Chinese were more likely to value prestige than were the Thai. For the other values, there were no significant differences. Thus, the hypothesis was partially supported. Nevertheless, when the second-generation were treated as a group and then compared with the Thai, the Thai were more likely to value wealth than were the second-generation Chinese. Despite these differences, the two groups were found to have no difference in the great emphasis they placed upon education and benevolence.

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