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A brief bio:

I worked as a professor of socio-cultural psychology in the Chonnam National University in Korea for 30 years. My research covers broadly socio-cultural psychology of Korean people. More specifically, I am working on a theory of moral development based on the Korean worldview, social hierarchy, relational stress, and indigenous construction of mind. My previous publication covers social values, indigenous psychology, history of psychology in Korea, and theoretical issues in psychology. My activity covers multiculturalism, environmental issue, and animal rights. I obtained Ph.D. in social psychology in Ohio University, USA in 1986. I served as an editorial board member in the Journal of Integrative Psychological and Behavioral Sciences, Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology, and the Korean journal of Psychology: Korean Journal of Social and Personality Psychology.

In 2016, I organized a symposium titled “Lessons from Asian Indigenous Psychology: Local understanding and universal applicability Korea, Philippine, and Japan” to participate in the 31st. International Conference of Psychology at Yokohama. The abstract for the sympo is following: Indigenous system of world view works as background psychology in daily living. Working of this system is often implicit as well as explicit. Some part of this system is well known as is the case of values on individualism-collectivism. However, some other part is not readily recognized as such well as part of the system. Analysis of vernaculars and indigenous terms in each cultural context is critical in shedding a light on the system. The current symposium presents five research conducted in three different countries in Asia (Korea, Philippine, and Japan) to reveal culture specific system of world view. Although the research takes indigenous approach, the findings are not limited to the understanding of local culture of study but also applicable toward understanding of global mind. Discussion will be centered around the value, the lessons, and the applicability of indigenous approach in constructing psychological system of knowledge.

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