Culture and ethnicity's role in Sino-U.S. Foreign Policy Relations

Richard D. Giles II
Seton Hall University

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Culture and Ethnicity's Role
in Sino - U.S. Foreign Policy Relations

By

Richard D. Giles II

This thesis is submitted as partial fulfillment of graduate level degree requirements
Masters of Arts: Corporate and Public Communication

Approved by Donald N. Lombardi Ph.D.
Director of MPAC & Chairman of supervisory Committee
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Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

In the 1970's and 1980's, it became fashionable to speak of interdependence as one of the major determinants of foreign relations decisions. As a result, of the manifestation of various global issues as well as the emergence of a global trading regime, decision-makers discovered that there was more than the Cold War to global affairs. This notions-and several assumptions and ideas at their base—were applied by international theorists and statesmen to a number of countries including China and the United States Harding (1992). Notably, during this period, Beijing's post-Mao government turned toward rapid economic development; the associated foreign policy of peace and greater opening toward the outer world was coterminous with this emphasis. An in-depth analysis of Chinese foreign policy illustrates that the incorporation of the assumption via Deng Xiaoping and his associates directly influenced policy decisions.

Furthermore, Chinese leaders were equally susceptible to these global currents and equally eager to modify the People's Republic of China's (PRC's) foreign policy in the benign directions pointed out by the interdependence thesis (HUNT). Overall foreign policy moderation appeared to supply the proof to the outside world that China's re-entry into the global community's 'family of nations' would be gentle and that China would end up with a more western domestic structure (market democracy) as well as a norm-based foreign policy (peace and internationalism) (XUE & NING).

Deng Xiaoping, at a speech at the UN General Assembly, in April 1974 declared, *China is a country, and a developing country as well. China belongs to the Third*
World...China is not a superpower, nor will she ever become nor seek to become one. If one day China should change her color and turn into a superpower, if she too should play the tyrant in the world, and everywhere subject others to her bullying, aggression and exploitation, the people of the world should identify her as a social-imperialism, expose it, oppose it and work with the Chinese people to overthrow it (Van Ness p. 151).

Deng’s speech targeted an audience that had pre-conditioned thoughts on Chinese interest (negative and positive); based on the analogy that China was culturally similar to the other Third World countries. This speech was also targeted to the masses of China, appealing to various markers (history and ethnic struggles) via the “The Middle Country Theory”, to support China’s elites. China’s declaratory policy had given high priority to its international audience on the ideology of domestic structure and foreign policy. However Beijing’s actions have demonstrated a sharp contrast to predicated policy. It is widely recognized that the strategic considerations of China were primary in stimulating the Sino-US rapprochement of the 1970’s. (HUNT). This strategy’s ideology (tripolarity) was to position and protect itself against the Russian government, perceive economic desires and to further provide for a means to stimulate its economic growth while maintaining its ‘non-alliance’ status.

Unofficially, the PRC’s GDP growth rate increased from an average of 6.1% (pre-reform period) to a staggering 9.7 % (during the reform period) (Swaine). This enormous growth, combined with the end of Cold War, vastly strengthened China’s regional and international socio-political and economic position. Furthermore, this newfound status coupled with the maintenance of a non-alliance party increased the PRC’s political-military position as a true power and potential threat to the United States of America.
Social Scientist have argued that the current phenomenon that exist between the United States and China today has potential dangerous implications. China, a recognized ascending world power, is perceived as attaining a threatening position to the interest of the United States, the world's only superpower. In Realist terms this threat could potentially have great ramifications to the world's predicated political, economic and military super structure. Historically, the phenomenon of new powers challenging established powers has created polar conflict, and thus produced major wars. However, full-blown conflict should not be considered inevitable.

Robert A. Pastor argues that there are more reasons for the United States and China to collaborate than to fight with each other; for neither country has overlapping territorial ambitions (Pastor). Furthermore, both states have long devoted most of their political energies to developing their own huge domestic infrastructures. In addition, American ideas and leaders have served as global models and have conversely inspired Chinese leaders to do the same. Granted, both sides have disappointed each other at critical moments in history, but such disappointment may have been due more to high expectations than to intentional nefarious acts (Pastor p. 6).

There are reasons why the two countries should be able to negotiate their differences without conflict; however, the probability of collision is higher than that of collaboration according to some experts interviewed and essay's researched. (Various Scholars). It can be argued that only mutual consciousness, astute diplomacy, tenacity, and effective leadership from both entities can set the path for constructive future endeavors and a peaceful international relationship.

Empirically, cultural and ethnic differences have led to difficulties in the foreign relations of the United States of America and the Peoples Republic of China.
Disappointments at critical moments in history, directly linked to misconceptions of culture and ethnicity, have played major roles in the foreign policy decision-making process and the diplomatic relations of these nation-states (Ross). This research project will analyze the dynamics between the United States and China by focusing on the diplomacy and international dialogue between the two nation-states and the direct and indirect impacts of ethnicity and culture. If the phrase, "To know the history of a people is to know the aspirations of that people" (Phillips) holds any truth and, if there is a direct correlation between history, future endeavors and culture and ethnicity than it is only logical to justify the need to study this proposed correlation. This research project will study the degree that a lack of mutual comprehension of cultural and ethnic traits affects the holistic approach to diplomacy and foreign relations.

Research Question

How does a lack of mutual comprehension of cultural and ethnic differences play a role in the Peoples Republic of China and the United States of America’s foreign policy relationship? This examination will investigate through a detailed analysis the degree that culture and ethnicity affects two nation-states with reflecting foreign relations policy. Obviously, as noted in the introduction, the case study this research paper will examine is that of the growing regional power of the Peoples Republic of China and the mono-polar hegemon, the United States of America.

Dependent Variable: United States of America and The Peoples Republic of China's Inter state relations?

Independent Variable: Degree of mutual comprehension of cultural and ethnic differences.
Subsidiary Questions

In an effort to comprehend the impact the lack of a mutual comprehension of culture and ethnic differences between the two nation-states analyzed, this study will also devote time to addressing the following questions:

1. What is the correlation between the historical backgrounds of the nation State and the perceptions of its masses?
2. What role have elites played in the mutual cultural and ethnic comprehension phenomenon that exists in Sino-US relations?
3. What constitutes constructive peaceful foreign relations between two nation-states?
4. What are the cultural and ethnic similarities and differences between China and the US?
5. What is the difference between the cultural and pragmatic approach to this phenomenon?
6. What role does the historical background of the two nation-states play on the perception of each nation-state by the other?
7. What roles do regional communities play in cultural and ethnic comprehension and identity?
8. What are the possible ramifications of a lack of Sino-US mutual cultural and ethnic comprehension?
9. Why is it important to study culture and ethnicity in foreign relations?
10. What led to this phenomenon’s position of global importance?
11. What role does the media play in a nation-state’s cultural and ethnic identity?
Purpose of the Study

The end of the Cold War represented more than an end to the rivalry between two superpowers (the Soviet Union and the United States of America); it demonstrated a fundamental transformation of the aggregate make-up of international systems. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the world was no longer divided between hostile alliances whereas international organizations had grown in importance since the Second World War, their effectiveness had been impeded by ideological divisions of the Cold War era (Shambaugh).

Suddenly, that division was erased and the many nations that had been left out of the key international financial institutions- the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade- wanted to join. Democracy broadened its umbrella to cover more than 60% of the countries in the world (Harding). Long-standing disputes were settled. Barriers to trade and investments were reduced. The world looked to some as if conflict among major powers had ended and the global system was becoming more multilateral in scope.

One glaring exception to this new world was the growing rivalry between the United States and China. The contest hugely favors the United States when comparing economic stability and military strength, but if both countries fail to grasp the implications of mutual misperceptions then an incipient US-China rivalry could result in the two countries becoming full-fledged enemies. This lack of comprehension has the potential to initiate the transformation of international communities back into divided opposing alliances.

China is a fast growing nation with realistic future Super Power status. The potential of this phenomenon is world changing (Shaw, B.). The United States is
currently the lone hegemonic nation in a mono-polar world. Sino-US relations in the future will change the entire international community (Bubblie). The complexities of this phenomenon must be carefully studied and followed in many facets to increase the potential for a positive outcome correlating directly to sustaining world peace.

An analysis of cultural and ethnic differences and the role they play in Sino-US relations by both factions present disproportionate advantages in communications and conversely diplomacy and in long-term positive relations.

Objectives

The intention of this study is to explore the role ethnicity and cultural differences play in the relationship between the United States of America and the Peoples Republic of China. The author will focus on two objectives during the course of this examination. The first objective will analyze the dynamics of the phenomenon. To what degree does a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity influence foreign relations implementation and the decision-making process? What degree of importance is the understanding the historical roots of the two nation-states and the ramifications of the findings? What role does ethnicity play on the overall political process of the two nation-states? Is there a direct correlation between culture and the political decision-making process in both very distinct forms of government? Secondly the author will also explore the misconceptions and lack of awareness that make it difficult to bridge gaps in the relationship.
Definition of Terms

1. **Cold War**: Conflict between two nations or groups of nations by means of power politics, economic pressures, spy activities, or hostile propaganda and often sabotage and exclusion of opposing nationals but without engagement by arms.

2. **Constructivism**: Ideology is built on the imagined ethnicity, cultures and sub-cultures. This school of thought argues that elites create the constant flux in ethnic groups and sub-cultures to motivate the masses to support their political agendas.

3. **Culture**: The act of developing by education, discipline, experience; the training or refining of moral and intellectual faculties.

4. **Elites**: A small group of powerful people who make the actual decisions that lead to war or peace, the breaking or making of treaties and all major events in international relations.

5. **Ethnic**: Relating to community having or originating from racial, linguistic and cultural ties with a specific group. Also the mental traits possessed by members of a group as influenced by common heredity and cultural traditions.

6. **Globalization**: Economic "globalization" is a historical process, the result of human innovation and technological progress. It refers to the increasing integration of economies around the world, particularly through trade and financial flows. The term sometimes also refers to the movement of people (labor) and knowledge (technology) across international borders. (IMF, 2002 paragraph 3).
7. **History**: A systematic written account comprised of a chronological record of events (as affecting city, state, nation, institution, science, or art) including a philosophical explanation of cause and origin of such events distinguished from annals and chronicles.

8. **Instrumentalism**: Ideology is built on economics and power. This school of thought argues that elites of a nation are rational thinking maximizers. They use ethnicity and culture to gain political interest and control of available resources.

9. **Masses**: Ordinary people who are deeply affected by the decisions of elites but take little or no direct part in the decision-making process.

10. **Middle Country Theory**: Mind-set that China has been ruled by many nation-states and had to endure a legacy of humiliation following the end of the dynasty era. This theory promotes the ideology that China's future endeavors are preceded with this understanding in mind.

11. **Nationalism**: Loyalty and devotion to a nation; emotion, attitude, feeling or belief characterized by a sense of national consciousness, an exaltation of one nation above all others and an emphasis on loyalty to and the promotion of the culture and interests of one nation.

12. **Primordialism**: Ideology built on genetic kinship. This school of thought argues that elites motivate the masses to support their political agendas by appealing to the "utilitarian Value". This school argues that genetic kinship is based on specific symbols/markers for identity to include: homeland, region, language, history, and religion.

13. **Utilitarian Value**: Value system, based on the preservation of culture and the gene pool.
Limitations

To an extent this research is inhibited by its exclusive focus on culture and ethnicity’s correlation to Sino-US foreign relations. The study of culture and ethnicity and their effects on foreign policy procedures and the decision-making processes are universal and applicable to research between any two nation-states. Due to this phenomenon’s potential global threat to world peace and the limited amount of research on the subject matter, the author believes that the cultural and ethnic effects approach selected presents the best scenario to study Sino-US foreign relations.

Another factor that renders limitations to this study is the insufficient amount of literature directly related to Sino-US foreign policy’s correlation to cultural and ethnic perception. The author had limited exposure or access to organic Chinese research material directly relating to the subject matter. The author also had limited exposure to Mainland China’s official theory of procedures in foreign policy relating to Sino-US relations.

The author’s data collection was also slightly limited because of the period of time in Mainland China, PRC government policy and information lost in translation. In considering these factors the author lacks an in-depth basis comparison for Chinese literature relating to the subject matter that is globally targeted and assessable and literature targeted for nationalist and organic elites. The author also lacks an in-depth of comparison of official Chinese governmental literature not targeted for a global audience and United States governmental literature not targeted for a global audience.

Lastly, the author implemented voluntary and involuntary control variables to ensure the integrity of the survey was not compromised. These control variables included but were not limited to the following:

- Set times that the surveys were given.
• Production of identical conditions during collection of data

• Research limited to surveying intellectual citizens of two nation-states with undergraduate university level educations or above.

• Only data collected under standardized control measures was used in data analysis.

This use of controlled groups helped to counteract the effects of intrusion factors. These voluntary and involuntary controlled limitations provided usable uncorrupted quantitative and qualitative data by assuring that the control groups had the same properties and experienced identical conditions during the collection process.
Chapter III

ANALYSIS OF CULTURAL AND ETHNIC IMPACT
ON THE SINO-US FOREIGN RELATIONS POLITICAL PROCESS

There are growing signs that Chinese commentators are contemplating various approaches deviant from non-confrontational policy toward the United States (Jun). Many scholars argue that, "The United States is increasingly leaning toward containing China's rise after the Cold War, particularly after Kosovo" (various). Within China's policy and scholarly circles, the credibility of the non-confrontational approach is increasingly being questioned as it has apparently failed to improve China's overall security and reduce tensions in Sino-US relations (Hill).

The global systems level of analysis encompasses the interaction of individual and collectivities of nation-states in both the international arena and regional subsystems. Most importantly, it includes the structural properties of international system *qua system*, especially groupings of state actors into military alliances, coordinated strategic alignments, trading blocs, etc. of importance to the degree of polarity in the international system. Polarity and balance of power are the principal defining characteristics of the global system's level of analysis (Yong).

The key questions for the international relations specialist, though, are how systemic structural change - change in polarity - affects dyadic and multilateral relationships? Does systemic change exacerbate or decrease tensions between countries? To what extent have changes in international and regional balances of power affected the bilateral relationship? When considering Sino-American relations at the global level of analysis we are therefore interested in ascertaining to what degree of
impact culture and ethnicity influence in the foreign policy decision-making process correlating to the change in this bilateral relationship.

Due primarily to differences in their worldviews, cultural backgrounds, philosophical approaches, historical experiences and capabilities, China and the US have diverging conceptions of security, which in turn has led to their different security practices (Van Ness). Chinese and US security interests in Asia both converge and diverge, and as the US begins to contemplate China as a latent adversary, such divergence will become even more conspicuous (Harding). While both sides will continue to pursue their own security interest in Asia, each country also has to adapt itself to the changing political economic and security landscape in this region (McCloud). To facilitate durable, peaceful coexistence, both sides will have to make certain shifts in ideological approach to current foreign relations policies. This research will analyze the impact of culture and ethnicity on those foreign relations policies and the current political process on two levels: the psychological theoretical analysis of national viewpoints followed by cases studies that support those analyses.

Culture and ethnic difference play a major role in the Sino-US foreign policy relations. Specific characteristics and the individual ideological approaches of each nation-state toward its self-image illustrate that the belief in national sovereignty, territorial rights and national strength are directly correlated to the manifestation of culture and history. Although, each nation believes in its right to pursue vital interests, culture and ethnicity directly impact the various ideological paths.

The degree of fear in which one nation’s masses holds for another depends upon its perception of an adversary’s potential and or ability and intent to harm its national interest. This perception of one nation toward another depends primarily on the nature of the relationship and exposure between the two nations. Distinct historic backgrounds
and limited exposure provide little information for masses to draw perceptions of the
other nation’s populace. According to Jerome Frank, when national interest clashes and
nations are in conflict, enemy images take shape (Frank 1968).

Psychologists argue that, “A psychologically crucial part of the world view of
any group of people is its ideology, and ideological differences (cultural and ethnical
markers) contribute to the dehumanization of an enemy (adversarial nation-state)
(Frank p.448). Humans differ from other creatures primarily in the power to symbolize
and record history, so that we respond not only to physical violence we also respond to
psychological threats to our ideology or self-esteem (Jervis). We also have the
propensity to perceive potential threats based on historical events.

Supporting Huntington’s ideology that elites are rational thinking value
maximizers, Jerome Frank argues, “When the people of one nation perceive those of
another as enemies depends primarily upon the nature of relations between the two
countries. Thus it is when national interests clash and nations are in conflict that the
enemy image begins to take its menacing shape. Because of the universal and innate
distrust of strangers, a foreign power easily can arouse a sense of threat. Once the
opinion-makers have singled out the threatening nation, this innate distrust is focused”
(Frank).

Many scientists argue that people filter and interpret incoming information to fit
preconceptions (Deutsch). Value systems based on culture and ethnicity are usually
abstract enough so as to interpret events to fit over beliefs, and also reinterpret
behaviors to ensure consistency with those beliefs. The strain toward consistency tends
to reinforce the other nation-states image. This process can be used to build or destroy
an adversarial image based on the relationship and interest of the elites. The degree of
interpretation is directly related to the use of filtered information’s impact on the
masses (culturally and ethnically based) value systems (Fraunks). Major national views tend to support the mind-set of a direct correlation between elite's interest, elite-mass relations, the three ideological approaches, and culture and ethnicity.

Major US Views That Emerged in Response to China’s Growth

America is a relatively young and prosperous country and has a lot to lose or gain from close ties with a nation that combines a new confidence and strength with an older insecurity and inferiority complex (Pastor, 1999). Pastor argues that American caution is warranted because China has a prosperous unstable government with allegiances with nations that threaten American interest. This ideology is compounded by American intelligence’s inability to gather enough information to effectively predict the Chinese government’s agenda (p.15).

From this ideology and political environment, three major US perspectives have emerged in response to China’s growth. The first is the “China Threat” perspective, which argues that China will in due time challenge the world status quo and destabilize Asia as well as the whole world (Bernstein,). This theory is supported by

1. China’s position during the Cold War, during and post, USSR alliance.
2. The economic progression and projected potential in which has resulted has in a quadrupling of GDP since 1978. In 2000, with its 1.26 billion people but a GDP of just $3,600 per capita, China stood as the second largest economy in the world after the US (measured on a purchasing power parity basis)(Fact Book, 2002).

The second theory is the “Pro-Incorporation” perspective, that argues that China is not likely to challenge the international system and cause regional or world
instability even if it becomes much stronger, provided that it is not excluded and rejected by international systems (Yew p.22) This theory is supported by:

1. China’s unique non-expansionist culture and tradition.
2. China’s growing regional and global interdependence will encourage cooperative behavior from China (Yew p.3)
3. China’s doesn’t participate in the arms race
4. China’s military is designed to primarily a defensive unit with a primary mission of national security.

The third theory is the “Pro-Conditioning” perception that argues that despite China’s tremendous growth in the past two decades, its power projection capabilities will remain limited (Yew, p 20). This theory is supported by:

1. The leadership has often experienced in its hybrid system the worst results of socialism (bureaucracy and lassitude) and of capitalism (windfall gains and stepped-up inflation).
2. The government has struggled to (a) collect revenues due from provinces, businesses, and individuals; (b) reduce corruption and other economic crimes; and (c) keep afloat the large state-owned enterprises many of which had been shielded from competition by subsides and had been losing the ability to pay full wages and pensions.
3. Specialized banking systems incapability to support growth and international commerce.
Chinese Sentiment about China’s International Growth

China is an older nation with relatively newfound prosperity and international positioning because of the fall of the Soviet Union from world power status. Like America, it stands to lose or gain a great deal from US-China relations. Some Chinese leaders are critical of close US ties because they believe the US government is conspiring to weaken the Chinese government’s leadership. However, they recognize the socio-economic importance of good bilateral relations and the ramifications of negative relations.

Major Chinese Views That Have Emerged Regarding Close US Ties

Many in Beijing see the United States as the key link to the international balance of power affecting Chinese interest. From the Chinese perspective the United States is China’s biggest foreign policy concern, as it has been for the last fifty years. That is because the United States’ position as the lone-superpower can do more to facilitate or hinder the attainment of vital Chinese foreign policy objectives than any other foreign country (Levine).

These objectives range from enhancing national security and achieving territorial reunification (with Taiwan) to expanding prosperity and securing international recognition of China’s great-power status (NING). This argument is supported by China’s National Defense University, which published an authoritative text stating that their analysts believe that China’s policy follows and social scientist U.S. global strategy. Thus interpretation of U.S. global strategy provide the framework through which Chinese analyst interpret Sino-American relations.

Another perspective argues that the US government conspires to weaken and undermine the Chinese leadership and hold The PRC back from a more prominent
position in world Affairs (Nathan). Beijing is convinced that the United States has adopted a systematic containment strategy against China by explicitly supporting Taiwanese independence, completely neutralizing China's minimum nuclear deterrent and unambiguously rearming Japan (Harding). PRC analysts show great concern that the United States is increasing leaning toward containing China. Some argue that even if China continues to behave responsibly, the U.S. sense of cultural superiority and "potential racial exclusionism" may predispose the United States to view China, "a non-Western power," as a threat (JUN).

Some officials argue that the world is a state-centered competitive environment where interdependence counts for little more than achieving objectives (Kim). From the Chinese perspective, concentrated power without counterbalancing is both dangerous and unnatural. A balance of power underpinned by the five principles of peaceful coexistence (mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual noninterference in internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence) should represent the basis for a new world order (Nathan). While American international relations literature posits that traditional sovereignty is responsible for competitive power politics, Chinese views hold that a more rigid adherence to sovereignty actually constitutes the key ingredient for a truly new world order of peace, and justice (Ross). The PRC contends that unlike the Western concept of balance of power that presupposes mono-polarity among great powers, the Chinese notion of multi-polarity entails an equally deterrent role of the Third World countries. It also means that China constitutes a pole with much freedom to act internationally (Ning). This freedom allows for a larger control scarce of resources, a broader level for
the protection of a gene pool, and it allows elites to re-define its masses cultural grouping (e.g. Third World Countries).

The last Chinese view analyzed in this research is the argument that the social and cultural impact of America can potentially have negative influences on the Chinese masses' cultural value system adversely affecting the Chinese government (Swaine-Henry). Although Chinese Vice-President Hu Jintao, has expressed the hope that young people in the two countries will increase exchanges, enhance friendship, learn from each other and work to promote peace, progress and development of the world (Jintao), some scholars caution against the cultural effect such contact may have on the Chinese masses (White).

In a speech given by President Bush at Tsinghua University in Beijing, the president spoke of American values, the American dream, and the American image of a beautiful life (Credant Add IT). The mindset behind this approach was to send a message to China that his visit was to improve bilateral relations and to show that the United States was moving away from the China-threat theory and welcomed a strong, peaceful, and prosperous China (Yan-Qihua). This speech was meet with mixed reviews: some scholars expressed the sentiment that since the United States says it believes in freedom it should accept other people's freedom to choose their own values (Yan-Quihua). Other argued that it is the innate nature of Americans to impose their cultural and ethnic value systems during international interaction on any level. This phenomenon if correct can potentially have major negative implications for Chinese elites if massive exposure occurs.
Analysis of Present State of Sino-US relations

The present state of Sino-US relations is the product of fundamental changes in the international environment as well as specific aspects of the domestic politics of both countries. The end of the Cold War, which had structured their relations since 1949, spurred policy makers in both Beijing and Washington to re-examine their international relationships as they struggled to come to terms with a fluid global environment (Jun). The leadership of both nations impeded the search for new paradigm.

In the early 1970’s, parallel concerns about the rise of Soviet power led Chairman Mao and President Nixon to end more than twenty years of Sino-American confrontation (Wasserstrom). A common interest in combating the “Soviet threat” – served as the creation myth of modern Sino-American relations, sanctioning the development of an elaborate network of economic, political, military, cultural, academic, and scientific and technological exchanges (Pastor). As the relationship expanded beyond its original strategic objective, the mutual suspicion that had originally permeated this marriage of conveyances between two culturally and ideologically oddly matched partners gradually dissipated (XUE & NING).

Post Mao’s China’s acceleration on the fast track of economic reform coincided with the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States in 1979. Normalization facilitated a decade of dynamic growth in every area of Sino-US interaction (Lee). By the late 1980’s the Cold War had eliminated the anti-Soviet strategic basis for Sino-American alignment and created a question of need for a durable Sino-US relationship between these oddities (Pastor).

Levine stated, in practical terms, Sino-US political, military, economic, cultural and other links had expanded so rapidly during the 1980’s that there should
have been no question about either the durability or the resilience of the overall relationship. A dense network of interwoven common interests bound the two countries together, and the plurality of interests operated like independently suspended shock absorbers cushioning the relationship from the bumps and potholes in the road. By mid-1980’s, U.S. interest in promoting China’s modernization had replaced strategic cooperation as a mutually acceptable basis for Sino-American relations (Levine). This change in international position, national interest and cultural and ethnic difference set the stage for the present state of Sino-U.S. relations.

Analysis of the political sentiment of two factions

A comparison of the political sentiments of two factions supports the argument that culture has greatly impacted both nation-state’s ideologies on foreign relations with respect to each other (Kallas). The alignment of each faction’s view of the other as a potential threat/ non-threat, illustrates the fluidity of the opposing faction’s image. This fluidity supports the argument that a direct relation exists between elites’ interest and political sentiment (Huntington). It can also be argued that a nation-state’s identity is directly linked to its value system and international ideological position.

Perceptions are part of our culture-and-ethnic personality. They are the result of our beliefs and experiences and manifest into our actions. The consistency of and contrast between the two political sentiments of the two entities in relation to the masses’ sentiment toward each faction illustrates that people from the same culture or nation, share historical experiences and have common ways of perceiving the world (Frank). This provides direct link between culture and ethnicity and political relations (Ross). These statements support the argument that misconceptions by nation-states
toward culture and ethnicity directly impact perception and in turn directly impact foreign policy.

Case Studies that Support the Analysis

The issues that follow are the most prominent among the two factions' inability to change ideological, political procedures, and comprehensions of the others. These issues provide some insight to the importance of fully comprehending the cultural and ethnic impacts of the two factions. These case studies analyze how culture and ethnicity impacts each faction's respective position. They also provide variables that can be exploited by both factions for effective dialogue, compromise, and cooperation. Unfortunately, they also provide models for potential negative outcomes if culture and ethnicity are not taken into account.

Taiwan Issue

Taiwan remains the most contentious issue in Sino-US relations. It also presents the most volatile outcome of all the case studies. Each nation-state's position directly relates to a culturally formed ideology with the holistic security and ethnic gene pools as the motivating factors. China considers the island a renegade province subject to inevitable reunification with the mainland. This is the premise for, 'The One China Policy' (Cohen). Although Taiwan recognizes its historical origin, its major concern is the mainland's efforts and the threat of force for unification and against its culturally created democratic government. This concern predicates its bilateral relationship with the United States (1979 Taiwan Relations Act). The United States' position is fostered by its international commitment to the protection and promotion of democracy. It is also
strongly supported by the US conviction that the capitalist Taiwan a sovereign, democratic nation is worthy of its protection (reuter).

The concept of Taiwan being a separate nation-state is impossible for the PRC to accept. The cultural significance behind the ideology of Taiwan's reunification with Mainland China directly relates to the cultural history and ethnic composition on which hinges the very national identity of the Peoples Republic of China (Bernstein).

Historically, Taiwan’s history illustrates that it has belonged to China since ancient times. It was known as Yizhou. Reference documentation exist that support this statement to including, the Seaboard Geographic Gazetteer compiled more than 1,700 years ago by Shen Ying of the State of Wu during the period of the Three Kingdoms (Acharya). This is the world's earliest written account of Taiwan. Several expeditions, each numbering over ten thousand men, had been sent to Taiwan by the State of Wu (third century A.D.) and the Sui Dynasty (seventh century A.D.) respectively to begin the development of Taiwan (McCLOUD). Their numbers topped one hundred thousand at the end of the century. By 1893 (19th year of the reign of Qing Emperor Guangzu) their population exceeded 2.54 million people who settled the length and breadth of Taiwan (Cohen).

In the dynasty eras Taiwan, Tibet and Hong Kong were all territories of Mainland China. During the exploration of the Spanish, Muslim, and European nations, China lost control of these regions. The platform that substantiates a united China directly correlates to its historical identity. The PRC strives to regain its wholeness and save face by completely overcoming its historic suffrage (Boulding).

According to Cohen, The reality of a free and stable Taiwan poses two challenges to China. First, it makes highly unlikely a reunification agreement cut by governments
over the heads of their people (as occurred in Hong Kong and Macau, where Beijing negotiated with colonial authorities and locals had authorities and the locals had no voice in their destiny). Second, it makes clear to the Chinese people that there are alternatives to the corrupt pseudocommunistic system on the mainland, whose legitimacy rests on continuous economic growth and increasingly, on nationalisiser (Cohen).

Many scholars argue that China is right to fear the evolution of Taiwan and the US would be wrong to yield to that fear.

China's military development and economic and political turbulence has significantly increased the possibility of aggression toward Taiwan. Taiwan's military, still emerging from an obsolescent command and training structured during the Kuomintang party dictatorship, lacks the ability to effectively turn a direct assault (Shaw & Wong). America is obligated to defend Taiwan against direct military aggression via bilateral agreements. This dynamic phenomenon outlines an extremely volatile situation that highlights the degree of impact that a mutual lack of cultural and ethnic comprehension can have on Sino-US relations.

**Human Rights Issues**

China's human rights abuses have been the most visible and constant point of contention in Sino-US relations since the 1989 Tiananmen Square cracks down. Before that time, China's human rights issues were largely overlooked or downplayed by the United States government. Since that time China's human rights record has taken precedence and has presented setbacks and improvements by providing plenty of ammunition for US policy debates.

Peter Rhee wrote, "Promising signs for reform became evident when President Jiang Zemin staged a live television debate with President Bill Clinton on Human
Rights Issues. It was a major factor in the UN decision to drop an annual motion to criticize China’s subsequent signing of the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights” (Mailinowski, 2001 p.2). This signing of the covenant was promising; however it made it harder for China to reject international human rights criticism.

The Sino-US relationships have directly continued to be hindered by this issue. What makes this topic important to this research is the use of cultural and ethnic differences as factors in the interpretation of this issue.

Jeffery N. Wassertrom wrote, “that American criticism typically makes the headlines after a political crackdown in China. It usually takes the form of accusation by American officials that the regime in Beijing has no respect for freedom and Democracy” (Wassertrom, 2001). The response by Chinese spokespersons is that foreigners should not judge China’s human rights actions by their own standards, rather, they should respect China’s distinctive traditions and revolutionary values (p.4).

This statement illustrates the need for a new consciousness about the effects of culture and ethnicity on Sino-US policy and about the evolution of policy and changes in the political approach toward Sino-US relations. Wasserton suggests that the best way for the United States to approach this situation is to stop using the Western models exclusively to define standards and make comparisons (Wasserton, 2001 p.6). He argues that Far Eastern models will be of a greater impact in supporting of Human Rights positions in the Far East (p. 9). This is a logical approach because the next level of community that would hold culture accountable to ethics and standards would be of the Far East, more specifically South/ North East Asian, communities. Taking into account the tenets that define culture and ethnicity forming them to the basic human rights of all citizens of the world, and then using those concepts for diplomatic
communication purposes, and holding said nation accountable for their own ideological approach can be the basis for effective international relations.

US Spy Plane Collision Over Chinese Territories

On April 1, 2001 a collision between a U.S. EP-3 signals intelligence aircraft and a Chinese fighter initially heightened tensions between the United States of America and the Peoples Republic of China (Papadopoulus). The EP-3, a 24 crew operated surveillance plane, was operating missions in the vicinity of China’s international airspace when a mid-air collision occurred that killed Wang Wei, a Chinese fighter pilot and resulted in the detention of the American crew in Mainland China (Fries). The PRC’s detaining of the crew and the aircraft initiated major contention between the elites of both nation-states. It also provided a solid, detailed case study that directly supports the arguments concluded from this research paper’s analysis.

First, the coverage of the incident by the media of the two nation-states supports the argument that there exists a strong relationship between elites and masses. It also supports the ideology that elites are rational thinking value maximizers who use ethnicity and culture to mobilize masses (Huntington). The differences in the coverage included the international legality of the operation, the legitimacy of the zoning of the area of operation, which pilot should take responsibility for the incident, and which nation should take responsibility for the incident. The United States media covered the incident as a routine surveillance mission with an unfortunate ending (BBC news). The Peoples Republic of China covered it as a security threat with a designed ending (Fries). This illustrates the potential for print media to mobilize masses by filtering
information limiting the masses ability to process uninhibited in formation needed to draw rational conclusions based on fact.

The second phase of this problem illustrated the direct impact that a lack of comprehension can have on foreign policy. The United States attempted to show a sense of empathy toward the Chinese masses for their fallen soldier by publicly apologizing to the wife and family of Wang Wei (Knickerbocker). The Chinese government regarded this action as a sign of disrespect. They took this apology by the United States to suggest that individuals rank higher than the government (Friess). This misconception of genuine empathy for political strategy by China and the United States neglect to consider all cultural consequences could have produced a negative outcome.

This case study supports many theories about the impact that an understanding of culture and ethnicity, in a holistic approach to diplomatic dialogue can have. The outcome of this story was positive because of an unlinked mutual threat (September 11 attack); however, it had an equal the ability to result in a negative fashion.
Conclusion

These case studies present a duel reality one that they support the theory that ethnicity and culture play a major role in the diplomatic world that exist between that United States and the PRC. It also supports the reality of a struggle between the elites and financial ambitions; the securities of these ambitions and the role they play in diplomacy and dialogue. These case studies may provide support to the realist ideology that ethnicity and culture were created to control masses and that they are used by value maximizers to effectively motivate masses to protect their best interest. These cases studies conversely can also support the argument of the idealist who argue that culture and ethnicity are organic to all human beings and that they may act as a system of checks and balances against the elite / mass co-existence.

It can be argued that conflict is directly related to the scarcity of resources, control of resources and the protection of the gene pool. It can also be argued that each nation’s image of another is motivated by self-preservation. The collective grouping of this self-preservation (The Masses) is organized by culture and ethnicity. The degree of fear and the image of the nation-state depend on the perception of the intent and ability to do harm. This chapter analyzes the decision-making process that exist between China and the US and the degree that culture and ethnicity plays in that process. It focused specifically on culture and ethnicity’s impact on international relations dialogue and diplomacy.

The degree that a comprehension of culture and ethnicity plays in foreign relations directly correlates to the holistic diplomatic ideological approach. I would argue that a holistic ideological approach that encompasses the study of culture and ethnic traits
provides measured benefits that nation-state in the context of diplomatic relations and public policy.
Chapter V

A SEEKING PUBLIC OPINION ON THE
ISSUE OF CULTURAL & ETHNIC COMPREHENSION
RELATING TO SINO-US RELATIONS

Description of the Survey

The survey (see Appendix A) included ten statements that were measured on the basis of the Likert Scale: a survey utilizing a five-point scale. The rating scale ranged from five to one: five meaning that the individual strongly agrees with the statement, four implies the individual agrees with the statement, three signifies that the individual took a neutral stand on the statement, two signified the individual disagrees with the statement, one means that the individual strongly disagrees with the statement. In viewing the statements that were designed for this survey, each had a general stance pertaining to cultures and ethnicity and the correlation to Sino-US relations. The author's intent was to elicit positive or negative reaction on the role that culture and ethnicity has and will play the decision-making and implementation process in Sino-US foreign relations policy and procedure.

Sample

The goal was to survey and interview at least 400 individuals in order to receive a quantitative response that would be relevant to this study. The 400 individuals were also equally divided to include: a) Chinese from Mainland China, b) Chinese descendants living in America, c) American descendants living in Mainland China and d) Americans
living in America in order to receive qualitative data that would be relative to this study. The sample population consisted of undergraduate collegiate level educated personnel and above that has been exposed to the issue of culture and ethnicity as they relate to Sino-US foreign relations. The rational for the educational and exposure level qualification was to attain a qualified collection of individuals who: a) Had prior knowledge of the Case studies studied; b) had a formal collegiate level education exposure that included International Relations, International Communications, or International Psychology and c) had a comprehension of the correlation between culture & ethnicity and the relationship between elites and masses. The author’s argues that the educational and exposure level control variables were needed to supply data from a sample population that can best represent both the elite and mass population with informed and supported rational answers.

**Purpose of the Survey**

The intent in developing this survey was to assess how a collective sample population of college educated individuals from the nation-states being analyzed perceived the dynamics of Sino-US relations and the role that a lack of comprehension of culture & ethnicity between the two would play? In reviewing the literature on is able to conclude that culture and ethnicity will play / has played a role in Sino-US relations however the degree of impact remains a crucial question. As the author of his research, the survey was intended to either support or refute the argument presented by the literature. The experience of developing and implementing the survey afforded the author the opportunity to expand on the research of others political scientist, international relation psychologist, and international diplomacy & communication scholars as well as provide a unique insight into the theme of this study.
Analyzing the Results of the Survey

In four months the author gathered 400 individuals who were able to respond to the survey. The data was collected in two controlled environments a) individuals were administered the survey in a classroom with a time limited of 20 minutes or b) individuals provided a personnel interviewed also limited to 20 minutes. Each respondent answered all ten statements that were included in the survey. After collecting each of the surveys the author tallied the responses for each of the statements on the bases of the 5-point scale. The author measured the results calculating percentages of responses to determine the relationship of sample population to opinion using, the 5-point scale (see Appendix B).

Statement 1: There is a direct relationship between foreign policy and ethnicity and culture.

For this statement 78 responded or 41 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that a direct relationship exists between foreign policy and ethnicity and culture. 77 or 40 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 23 or 12 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 7 or 5 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 5 or 2 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured supported this finding with a measurement of 4.11this equates to a profound agreement rating.

For this statement 84 responded or 48 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that a direct relationship exists between foreign policy and ethnicity and culture. 81 or 47 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 5 or 2 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 2 or 1 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 1 or .5 percent responded strongly
Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured supported this finding with a measurement of 4.4. This equates to a profound agreement rating.

For this statement 191 responded or 47 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that a direct relationship exists between foreign policy and ethnicity and culture. 660 or 41 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 84 or 7 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 22 or 2 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 5 or 1 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the collective intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured supported this finding with a measurement of 4.3. This equates to a profound agreement rating.

The statistical data provided by the survey strongly supports the statement. The collective data and the lack of variance between the segmented population sample may validate serve to validate the statements legitimacy.

**Statement 2: China-US bilateral relations hinge on the maintaining a high comprehension level of the role that culture and ethnicity play in foreign relations.**

For this statement 38 responded or 20 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5), that China-US bilateral relations hinge on the maintaining a high comprehension level of the role that culture and ethnicity play in foreign relations. 51 or 26 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 31 or 16 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 40 or 21 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 29 or 19 percent responded strongly Disagree. This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population
polled 3.2 the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.2. This equates to a Agreement rating.

For this statement 26 responded or 15 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5), that China-US bilateral relations hinge on the maintaining a high comprehension level of the role that culture and ethnicity play in foreign relations. 27 or 15 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 28 or 16 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 44 or 25 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 24 or 19 percentage responded strongly Disagree. This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled, do not support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.4. This equates to a Disagreement rating.

For this statement 410 responded or 24 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5), that China-US bilateral relations hinge on the maintaining a high comprehension level of the role that culture and ethnicity play in foreign relations. 96 or 15 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 155 or 38 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 168 or 42 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 76 or 19 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual population polled supports the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.9. This equates to a Agreement rating.

**Statement 3: History provides the best answers to questions posed about the future relations between the two nations-states.**

For this statement 66 responded or 34 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that History provides the best answers to questions posed about the future relations between the two nations-states. 54 or 28 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 5 or 2 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 33 or 17 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and
15 or 7 percent responded strongly agreed. This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US' intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.5. This equates to a profound agreement rating.

For this statement 57 responded or 33 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that History provides the best answers to questions posed about the future relations between the two nations-states. 57 or 33 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 17 or 9 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 21 or 12 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 20 or 11 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled strongly supports the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.5. This equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 520 responded or 32 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that History provides the best answers to questions posed about the future relations between the two nations-states. 369 or 30 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 135 or 11 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 122 or 15 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 41 or 10 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual population polled strongly supports the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.5. This equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

Statement 4: Culture and ethnicity play major roles in the way and what information is disseminated from elites to masses.

For this statement 72 responded or 37 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that culture and ethnicity play major roles in the way and what information is disseminated
from elites to masses. 63 or 33 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 20 or 10 percent
took a neutral position (Answer 3). 21 or 11 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and
13 or 6 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports
that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled strongly support the
ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.9. This equate to a
Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 69 responded or 63 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that
culture and ethnicity play major roles in the way and what information is disseminated
from elites to masses. 63 or 36 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 22 or 18 percent
took a neutral position (Answer 3). 7 or 4 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 1
or .5 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that
argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled strongly support the
ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 4.0. This equate to a
Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 770 responded or 38 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that
culture and ethnicity play major roles in the way and what information is disseminated
from elites to masses. 552 or 34 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 171 or 14 percent
took a neutral position (Answer 3). 64 or 8 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 9
or 4 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that
argument that the collective intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology
of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.9. This equate to a Profound
Agreement rating.
Statement 5: An understanding of culture and ethnicity directly relates to effective diplomacy and dialogue between the two nation-states.

For this statement 52 responded or 27 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that an understanding of culture and ethnicity directly relates to effective diplomacy and dialogue between the two nation-states. 59 or 31 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 20 or 10 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 32 or 16 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 27 or 14 percent responded strongly Disagree (Strongly Disagree). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.4. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 64 responded or 37 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that an understanding of culture and ethnicity directly relates to effective diplomacy and dialogue between the two nation-states. 48 or 27 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 25 or 14 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 15 or 8 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 20 or 11 percent responded strongly Disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.5. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 630 responded or 31 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that an understanding of culture and ethnicity directly relates to effective diplomacy and dialogue between the two nation-states. 496 or 28 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 141 or 11 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 112 or 8 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 47 or .5 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This
statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.5. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

**Statement 6: The “The One China Policy” is a result of a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity.**

For this statement 18 responded or 9 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that “The One China Policy” is a result of a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity. 24 or 12 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 18 or 9 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 53 or 27 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 77 or 40 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled strongly did not support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 1.9. This measurement equates to a Profound Disagreement rating.

For this statement 33 responded or 19 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that “The One China Policy” is a result of a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity. 20 or 15 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 23 or 13 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 26 or 15 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 70 or 40 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.0. This measurement equates to an Agreement rating.

For this statement 70 responded or 17 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that “The One China Policy” is a result of a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity 59 or 14 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 45 or 11 percent took a neutral position
(Answer 3). 79 or 19 percent responded Disagree (Answer 2) and 147 or 36 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual sample population polled does not support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.5. This measurement equates to a Disagreement rating.

Statement 7: The major conflicting views about a heightened “China Threat” resulting from China’s economic and global status increase are indirectly correlated to culture and ethnicity.

For this statement 49 responded or 25 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the major conflicting views about a heightened “China Threat” resulting from China’s economic and global status increase are indirectly correlated to culture and ethnicity. 43 or 22 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 29 or 15 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 28 or 14 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 40 or 20 percentage responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.3. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 63 responded or 36 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the major conflicting views about a heightened “China Threat” resulting from China’s economic and global status increase are indirectly correlated to culture and ethnicity. 24 or 13 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 23 or 13 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 38 or 19 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 24 or 13 percentage responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled strongly supports the ideology of the
surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.2. This measurement equates to a rating.

For this statement 124 responded or 31 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the major conflicting views about a heightened “China Threat” resulting from China’s economic and global status increase are indirectly correlated to culture and ethnicity. 79 or 19 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 53 or 13 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 72 or 18 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 72 or 18 percentage responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual population polled supports the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.2. This measurement equates to a rating.

Statement 8: The ideology that the West is the West and the East is the East and never the to shall meet holds validity in mindset of culture and ethnicity.

For this statement 40 responded or 21 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the ideology that the West is the West and the East is the East and never the to shall meet holds validity in mindset of culture and ethnicity. 50 or 26 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 26 or 13 percentage took a neutral position (Answer 3). 35 or 18 percentage responded disagree (Answer 2) and 39 or 20 percentage responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled supports the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.9. This measurement equates to an Agreement rating.

For this statement 47 responded or 27 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the ideology that the West is the West and the East is the East and never the to shall meet holds validity in mindset of culture and ethnicity. 48 or 27 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 31 or 18 percentage took a neutral position (Answer 3). 30 or 17 percentage
responded disagree (Answer 2) and 16 or 9 percentage responded strongly disagree. This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.4. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 92 responded or 23 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the ideology that the West is the West and the East is the East and never the to shall meet holds validity in mindset of culture and ethnicity. 108 or 27 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 61 or 15 percentage took a neutral position (Answer 3). 79 or 14 percentage responded disagree (Answer 2) and 58 or 14 percentage responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.2. This measurement equates to an Agreement rating.

Statement 9: Conflict is inevitable between the United States and the Peoples Republic of China.

For this statement 39 responded or 20 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that conflict is inevitable between the United States and the Peoples Republic of China. 38 or 20 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 22 or 12 percentage took a neutral position (Answer 3). 48 or 25 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 43 or 22 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the US intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.0. This measurement equate to a Agreement rating.

For this statement 11 responded or 6 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that conflict is inevitable between the United States and the Peoples Republic of China, 36 or
20 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 19 or 11 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 76 or 44 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 30 or 17 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the PRC intellectual population polled does not support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.6. This measurement equate to a Disagreement rating.

For this statement 54 responded or 13 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that conflict is inevitable between the United States and the Peoples Republic of China, 91 or 22 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 44 or 10 percentage took a neutral position (Answer 3). 135 or 33 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 76 or 19 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that the collective intellectual population polled does not support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.7. This measurement equate to a Disagreement rating.

Statement 10: The dynamics between the US and the PRC will create a greater conscience level of culture and ethnicity between the two nation-states resulting in greater positive relations.

For this statement 74 responded or 38 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the dynamics between the US and the PRC will create a greater conscience level of culture and ethnicity between the two nation-states resulting in greater positive relations. 47 or 24 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 20 or 10 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 18 or 9 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 31 or 16 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that
collectively the Sino intellectual population polled support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.7. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.

For this statement 35 responded or 20 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the dynamics between the US and the PRC will create a greater conscience level of culture and ethnicity between the two nation-states resulting in greater positive relations. 53 or 30 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 19 or 11 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 21 or 12 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 24 or 13 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports the argument that collectively the Sino intellectual population polled supports the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 2.9. This measurement equates to a Agreement rating.

For this statement 120 responded or 30 percent strongly agreed (Answer 5) that the dynamics between the US and the PRC will create a greater conscience level of culture and ethnicity between the two nation-states resulting in greater positive relations. 112 or 28 percent responded agreed (Answer 4). 39 or 9 percent took a neutral position (Answer 3). 71 or 17 percent responded disagree (Answer 2) and 58 or 14 percent responded strongly disagree (Answer 1). This statistical data supports that argument that collectively the Sino intellectual population polled strongly support the ideology of the surveyed statement. The Likert scale measured 3.4. This measurement equates to a Profound Agreement rating.
Conclusion

This survey met a warm reception by the majority of the individuals being polled. Young Chinese in Mainland China and in America were collectively enthusiastic that an American not of Chinese lineage was bringing up this issue in an educational survey. They expressed that they understood this action to be a sign that this issue was gaining exposure. Collectively they argued that the impact of culture and ethnicity in Sino-US relations is extremely important yet lacks the appropriate scholarly attention. Young Americans in America collectively were glad that this issue was being brought up on this level because the importance of this issue is often overlooked yet the ramifications can potentially be major. Young Americans in Mainland China collectively were happy that this issue was being studied because it could potentially lead to major future opportunities on a plethora of levels between China and the US for a young skilled and ambitious workforce.

The older individuals that provided data mirrored each other. The Older groups were happy that someone took the initiative to survey this issue and collectively expressed the sentiment that they hoped the information provided helped to foster an environment of effective positive dialogue and maintain a productive level of diplomacy. They also expressed the hope that this type of research would increase scholarly interaction and studying abroad.
The data collected helped to support many issues that include the effects of history and filtered information. This data also introduced another phenomenon that the author had not previously considered. This is the processing phenomenon. The way the statement was processed between the various groups was very different and directly impacted the outcome of the survey. This must be taken into consideration the next time a survey of this kind is taken.

This survey provided valuable information to include the use of statistics. Statistically the collective group of the entire population doesn’t always represent to statistical sentiment of the segmented population samples. In some instances particular collective group were in direct contrast to the measured outcome of the total sample population.
Chapter VI

SUMMARY

Conclusion and Recommendations

The intention of this study was to explore the role ethnicity and cultural differences play in the relationship between the United States of America and the Peoples Republic of China. I focused on two objectives during the course of this examination. The first objective was the analysis the dynamics of the phenomenon. To what degree does a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity play in foreign relations implementation and the decision-making process? What is the importance in understanding the historical roots of the two nation-states and the ramifications of the findings?

This analysis investigated the degree that culture and ethnicity affects two nation-states with reflecting foreign relations policy. Its focus was on of the growing regional power of the Peoples Republic of China and the mono-polar hegemon, The United States of America. The purpose of the thesis was to study the degree that a lack of mutual comprehension of culture and ethnicity has on an effective holistic approach to diplomacy and foreign relations. The premise that this research was based on can apply to any two nation-states or distinct societies and reflecting foreign relation policies to include South and North Korea.
It can be concluded from this analysis that the approaches to political policy are directly influenced by cultural norms. It can also be argued that the foreign policies of each country take into account at some level that the other has a different approach to policy. These approaches have often led to difficulties in Sino-US relations. This would suggest that the misconceptions of culture and ethnicity that have played major roles in international shortcomings. This would furthermore support the argument that an increased focus on the role of culture and ethnicity would positively effect foreign relations.

It can be concluded from this research that the process of and implementation of foreign relations between nation-states is dependant on major determinants which provide the mandated variables in which the decision making process is derived from. In this rapidly evolving world, the conscience thinker/diplomat is well aware of the effects that culture and ethnicity have on economic approach, global understanding and national agenda. Without a systematic effort toward the comprehension of the others history, philosophy, literature, religion and all the other variables that shape the nation-states cultural identity and ethnic moral code, the task of effectively navigating Sino-US diplomatic relations may very well prove to be difficult during interesting time.

The ramifications of continued misperceptions between the United States and China could result in: negative economic relations, the possibility of the two countries becoming full fledge enemies or in a horrific destabilization of the South East Asian Region. The research provided in this analysis of culture
and ethnic differences and the role they play in Sino-US relations by both factions presents disproportionate advantages in diplomatic long-term positive relations.

There is a distinct correlation between culture and ethnicity and the political decision-making process which governs US-Sino relations between the two distinct nation-states.

I would recommend that the governments of both nation-states invest in the advantages of understanding the cultural and ethnicity differences in a holistic approach to this phenomenon. This ideology would add depth and breadth to the potential impact phase during the Course of Action planning section of the decision-making process, enabling both Nation - States to avoid disappointing shortcomings.

I would further recommend that the study of ethnicity and culture be indoctrinated at every supervisory level of the two Nation – States to include the liaisons and diplomats in the government, military and educational fields.

It can be argued that every person is a sum of his or her experiences and levels of exposure. If the theory holds true that a nation is a collective representation of its citizens, then the theory that an understanding of the culture and ethnicity of its people is mandated to maintain positive relations with that nation-state must be warranted.

The theory that only mutual consciousness, astute diplomacy, tenacity and effective leadership from both entities can set the path for constructive future endeavors and peaceful international relations is predicated on a holistic approach culture and ethnic understanding lie a the crux of that approach.
SINO – US Future Foreign Relations Outlook

To an extent this research is inhibited by its exclusive focus on culture and ethnicity's correlation to Sino-US foreign relations. The study of culture and ethnicity and its affect on foreign policy procedures and the decision-making processes are universal and applicable to research between any two nation-states. Due to this phenomenon's potential global threat capability to world peace and the limited amount of research on the subject matter the author believes that the cultural and ethnic affects approach selected present the best scenario to study the Sino-US foreign relations.

The future of Sino-US Relations hinders on the relationships that the two nation-states have to include government, the corporate environment, and the interest of the elites combine with the movement of both masses populations.

Social scientists argue that the affects of globalization will play a major role in Sino-US relations. It is safe to assume that a present time the interest of both societies would foster a positive relation based on each ones regarded ambitions. I would argue that we are living in interesting and rapidly changing times and that the understanding of the other cultural and ethnic history may potentially play a large role in the stabilization or destabilization of a relatively new relationship during trying times. It is my conclusion that the context of the materials covered will have a major impact on an issue dealing with Sino-US relations one day.
SURVEY STATEMENTS: An Overview evaluating the relevance of Culture and Ethnicity in Sino-US foreign relations policy

Administered By
Richard D. Giles II

Survey conducted as partial requirement for thesis project:
HOW DOES THE LACK OF MUTUAL COMPREHENSION OF CULTURE AND ETHNIC DIFFERENCES PLAY A ROLE IN SINO-US FOREIGN POLICY RELATIONSHIP?

Thesis is partial requirement for:
MASTERS OF ARTS IN CORPORATE & PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Sample survey’s objective
The goal was to survey and interview at least 400 individuals in order to receive a quantitative response that would be relevant to this study. The 400 individuals will be equally divided to include: a) Chinese from Mainland China, b) Chinese descendants living in America, c) American descendants living in Mainland China and d) Americans living in America in order to receive qualitative data that would be relative to this study. The sample population will consist of undergraduate level educated personnel and above that have been exposed to the issues of culture and ethnicity as they relate to Sino-US foreign relations. The rational for the educational and exposure level qualification was to attain a qualified collection of individuals who: a) Had prior knowledge of the Case studies studied; b) had a formal collegiate level education exposure that included International Relations, International Communications, or International Psychology and c) had a comprehension of the correlation between culture & ethnicity and the relationship between elites and masses. The author’s argues that the educational and exposure level control variables were needed to supply data from a sample population that can best represent both the elite and mass population with informed and supported rational answers.
SURVEY STATEMENTS: An Overview evaluating the relevance of Culture and Ethnicity in Sino-US foreign relations policy

Procedural Guidelines: Interview 300 to 400 individuals who are citizens of The United States of America or The Peoples Republic of China who reside in Mainland China or the Continental United States of America: Asking them 10 statements regarding their position on Culture and ethnicity's degree of impact on Sino-US bilateral relations. All individuals who provide data to this research must have a collegiate level education and some level of exposure the issue covered.

(Circle one)

Statements:
1. There is a direct relationship between foreign policy and ethnicity and culture.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

2. China-US bilateral relations hinge on the maintaining a high comprehension level of the role that culture and ethnicity play in foreign relations.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

3. History provides the best answers to questions posed about the future relations between the two nations-states.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

4. Culture and ethnicity play major roles in the way and what information is disseminated from elites to masses.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

5. An understanding of culture and ethnicity directly relates to effective diplomacy and dialogue between the two nation-states.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

6. The “The One China Policy” is a result of a lack of understanding of culture and ethnicity.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

7. The major conflicting views about a heightened “China Threat” resulting from China's economic and global status increase are indirectly correlated to culture and ethnicity.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

8. The ideology that the West is the West and the East is the East and never the two shall meet holds validity in mindset of culture and ethnicity.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

9. Conflict is inevitable between the United States of America and the Peoples Republic of China.
   1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

10. The dynamics between the US and the PRC will create a greater conscience level of culture and ethnicity between the two nation-states resulting in greater positive relations.
    1) Strongly Disagree  2) Disagree  3) Neutral  4) Agree  5) Strongly Agree

(Circle one)

Gender: M  F

Nationality: American  Chinese

Current residence: America  Mainland China

Level of Education: Undergraduate  Graduate  Doctorate  Post Doctorate
Information Usage Policy

The sample population data collection will be used to support the argument that culture and ethnicity play a major role in Sino-US foreign relations policy. This sample provides important information about the perceptions and thoughts of the intellectual populations from the United States of America & The Peoples Republic of China. This population represents the most informed sample population that represents elites and masses obtainable. Although 400 people can't provide a validated sample population for over 2 billion people it can provide validation to the argument that further research is logical and accountable.
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<th>Answer #2</th>
<th>Answer #3</th>
<th>Answer #4</th>
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Residing in Chinese Comparison Charts

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China in China

US in China
Chinese in Mainland China Collective Chart

- China in China
Residing in US Comparison Charts

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![Graph 1: China in US](image1)

![Graph 2: US in US](image2)
Americans in America Charts
Americans in Mainland China Chart

US in China

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q5 Q6 Q7 Q8 Q9 Q10
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Chinese in United States Collective

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- Grad
- Doctorial
- Post Doctorial
Chinese in Mainland China Collective

- Undergrad
- Grad
- Doctorial
- Post Doctorial
Chinese in Mainland China (Female)
Chinese in Mainland China (Male)
Chinese in United States (Male)
Chinese in United States (Female)
American in Mainland China (Collective)
References / Bibliography


Culture & Ethnicity's role in Sino-US Foreign Relations


Culture & Ethnicity's role in Sino-US Foreign Relations


