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Study on Process of Intercultural Adaptation of Emigrants and Hosts:

From the Viewpoint of Feeling of Wrongness

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This paper aims to build the process model of intercultural adaptation of emigrants and hosts from the viewpoint of feeling of wrongness.

In Japan, this is a problem of intercultural communication on the plane of receive three hundred thousand international student and the growth of emigrant laborers. The proportion of emigrant in society is seriously lower than hosts. But, in organization (company, school, etc.), the proportion of emigrants is often higher than hosts. Especially, if a minority group composed of emigrants and hosts are formed, they cannot live without communication each other. In this case, not only emigrants but also hosts need to change for adaptation. Because many of preceding researches for intercultural adaptation noticed only adaptation of emigrants, it is difficult to apply their results to the case mentioned above. The process is lead emigrant to adaptation by got over culture shock. But, there is a middle condition what feeling of wrongness condition that between culture shock and adaptation. The traditional Intercultural Adaptation is not applicable to this case.

- Feeling of wrongness: subjective, he/she feel something uncomfortable but it cannot be comprehended and be put into words.
- Feeling of gap: objective, he/she can recognize sense of gaps between oneself and the other.

In this paper, we note that the group-work with international student and Japanese student at graduate school.

First, we took the new students of master's course of School of Knowledge Science JAIST (Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology) as objects of study. We examined the real process of adaptation by using questionnaire and interview. According to the questionnaire and interview, we suggest a new process model of intercultural adaptation from the viewpoint of wrongness.

- 1. Emigrants and hosts feel wrongness about behavior of each other in the scene of intercultural encounters.
- 2. By recognizing the wrongness, emigrants (or hosts) can put situation what he/she feel the wrongness into words.
- 3. Emigrants (or hosts) will think about the origin of feeling of wrongness.
- 4. Emigrants (or hosts) will think about the reason why partner do that.
- 5. Emigrants (or hosts) will change their feeling from wrongness to gap by comparing the difference between oneself with the other.
- 6. But, some case of that emigrants (or hosts) cannot satisfy their gap easily.
- 7. Emigrants (or hosts) will be able to adaptation by satisfied gap.

Second, we tested the process model of intercultural adaptation use questionnaire and interview. We took the international student (6 persons) who from China admitted to JAIST at Oct.2008 as objects of study. Objects had divided into two groups by the first questionnaire about adaptation criterion (One group: bad for adaptation relatively; another group: good for adaptation). To the bad for adaptation relatively group, we used questionnaire about wrongness, and another group we did not do anything. After more or less one month, we did examination about two groups once again. The result about questionnaire, two groups had difference about adaptation criterion in first examination, but in the second, the difference became smaller. So, the process of change wrongness to gap will help satisfaction about wrongness and adaptation. This paper did not test the process model of intercultural adaptation to hosts. But, hosts were having wrongness on the pilot study. The same result about hosts to be expected by the same way.

Finally, the concrete suggestion coming from this study is hold the workshop what emigrants and hosts are debate with feeling of wrongness about each other. The program is follow the process model of intercultural adaptation, emigrants and hosts can catch the difference objectively between oneself with the other by change their feeling from wrongness to gap. The way will be realize about adaptational intercultural communication.

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