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Habitus Change in Current Taiwanese Society: A Study of the Sense of Place in the Reproduction of Cultural Goods

The past few decades have witnessed a dramatic change in Taiwan's society, in which the concept of "community" needs to be redefined. Since the 1990s, with the project of "community empowerment," the government has been building a strong sense of place in local communities and whereby to create different lifestyles according to living environments. The policy had tremendous effect, both socially and intellectually. This present study was a preliminary investigation of the change of "habitus" (Pierre Bourdieu) with its emphasis on the "sense of place" in current Taiwanese society. A total of 1219 graduated studies were surveyed and analyzed. The study found that: 1) the development of communities has become a spectrum of culture in which both global and local elements are simultaneously advocated; 2) An identity paradigm shifts from a national basis to a place-based one; 3) Cultural activities have become products of "symbolic goods" in the post-capitalist market.