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Appropriating Bourdieu's Social Theories into Foreign Social Contexts

The purpose of this paper is to explore how Korean academic community has appropriated Pierre Bourdieu's social theories, focusing upon how social researchers apply Bourdieu's theoretical concepts into Korean social contexts. The study, in the first step, collected academic researches which introduce and interpret Bourdieu's social theories, including translation of his works. The study has made a chronology of translating Bourdieu's works in Korea. The second part of the paper will look into how social researchers adopt, redefine, and re-appropriate Bourdieu's theoretical concepts such as cultural capital and habitus in Korean society which does have different historical trajectories from France. The final chapter will attempt to shed some light on advantages and disadvantages of utilizing foreign theoretical concepts.