Wuo, Young Ie, Taiwan International Workers' Association (TIWA), Taiwan/ Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

Self Reflections on pan-zhu-chi-lao-hu (performing a pig to eat tigers): Autobiography as an Organizing Strategy

This paper is a critical reading of my own dissertation, which is an autobiographical study of a radical labor movement activist in Taiwan. This self-storing is trying to narrate against the Benda-Said's tradition that makes the role of intellectuals become "critical but detached". Some authors criticized their own bodily and emotional experiences in the social movement as immature and over-engaged. These self-denials sound like the language of "the pig" (the victim), yet they actually are as fierce as hidden tiger claws. It functions as disciplinary discourse which encourages the intellectual to be more docile. The dissertation author's self-critique of his own impatience and elitist life decisions is a way to effectuate a denunciation against the popular images of the "disengaged radical intellectuals". In this sense, the autobiography can be read as a story of *counter-performing a pig to eat tigers*.