

ABSTRACT

121 Hong Kong and 115 Guang Zhou university students, representing two Chinese groups living in different social-economic-political systems, rated their current selves, past selves, ideal selves, parents, peers, and a number of ethnic targets including their in-groups, other Chinese and Asian groups, westerners, on a comprehensive list of personality constructs. Both groups of respondents perceived the typical Hong Kong Chinese target as different from the cluster of other Chinese groups (Guang Zhouese, Beijinese, Taiwanese, and Singaporean). Guang Zhou people identified themselves equally highly with the westerners and a number of Chinese groups; while Hong Kong only with the westerners and their in-group. Guang Zhou people perceived the westerners and a number of Chinese groups as similar to their ideal self-image; while Hong Kong people perceived only the westerners as similar to their ideal self and perceived the typical Guang Zhouese as extremely distant from their ideal image. Compared to the Guang Zhou respondents, Hong Kong people had higher levels of identification conflict with their parents, peers, and a number of ethnic groups, and in an overall sense, had a higher level of identity diffusion. The results were discussed with respect to the current situations in Hong Kong and mainland China, and the future Hong Kong-Guang Zhou relationship.