

Abstract of thesis entitled:

The Relationship of Implicit and Self-attributed Motives to Well-being in Hong Kong Adults.

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Four implicit and 15 self-attributed motives are reliably coded from story imagery and personal strivings respectively, of Chinese working adults. Patterns of inter-correlation within and across these levels provide evidence for the existence and dissociation of two discrete motive systems in Chinese. Extending this evidence beyond previous western studies, affiliation motive assessed implicitly in Chinese women, shows opposite association with well-being compared with the same motive assessed explicitly. Contrary to psychoanalytic theory, incongruence across these two motive systems does not predict emotional distress. Head to head comparison of implicit motives, strivings, values and traits in predicting emotional well-being confirms that each level accounts for unique variance, and strivings are the most useful.