CALL for PAPERS

Asian Journal of Social Psychology

Special forum on: Moral emotions in contemporary Asia

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How patterns of moral judgment and emotions in Asian countries (e.g., China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea and the Philippines) change in response to socioeconomic transformations and modernization is an important topic for understanding the connection between social change and normative psychology. Understanding moral judgments and moral emotions are particularly important because they underlie both individual and collective reactions to morally relevant events. For example, in China, its rapid economic and social transformations since 1980s have been accompanied by increased frequency of collective actions, and recent studies reveal that many online collective actions in China were evoked by contagious moral anger (Qiu et al., 2014). Some Chinese citizens felt angry about the moral transgressions they witnessed, spread their anger through the social media and mobilized collective actions to address the social injustices. These phenomena suggest that the link between perceived injustice and anger and the spread of moral anger through social influence is a key to understand collective behaviors in developing Asian countries. Such collective behaviors could contribute to constructive social change if they are managed properly or social instability if they are not properly handled.

The objective of this special forum is to bring together research insights from social psychological studies that have examined moral emotions and their sociocultural significance in Asian countries. We welcome theoretical and empirical analyses at different levels (individual, group, and both within- and across-cultures) that could explain the social construction and situational evocation of moral emotions in Asia; how moral emotions spread in the Asian communities; and the role of moral emotions in the mobilization of collective action in Asia.

Manuscripts for this special forum should be submitted online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ajsp. The deadline for submission is February 28, 2015. Contributors should note that this call is open and competitive; submitted full papers will go through the journal's regular peer-review processes and only those that meet the journal publication criteria will be accepted for publication. Submitted papers must be original manuscripts that are not under consideration by any other outlets.

Reference

Qiu, L., Lin, H., Chiu, C.-y. and Liu, P. (2014), Online collective behaviors in China: Dimensions and motivations. *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*. doi: 10.1111/asap.12049