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Establishing the Need for Cross-Cultural and Global Issues Research

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“The compelling changes in our economy, the dawning of the information age, and the horrible events of September 11, 2001 and their aftermath, have created an unprecedented need to focus on international knowledge and skills. To solve most of the major problems facing our country in the 21st century will require every young person to learn more about world regions, cultures, languages.”

-- U.S. Secretary of State Collin Powell, 2003

Background of the Study

The terrorist attack on the United States on September 11, 2001 shocked and greatly impacted not only the United States but also the entire world. For the first time, perhaps since World War II, the American public is keenly interested in understanding more about the world that lies beyond their borders (States Institute Report, 2002). More than ever, there is the need for people all over the world to better understand the differences between people, nations, culture, religious beliefs, and values in order to live peacefully in this increasingly diverse but globalized world. More than ever, schools need to integrate global education into school curricula and throughout student school life to prepare them for the new challenges of the 21st century.

Attempts to infuse global education into the various states' and local school districts' social studies curricula of the United States can be traced to the late 1960s and early 1970s. The rise of advocacy for global education was doubtlessly caused by many factors such as advances in communication technology, increasing ease of world travel and improved transportation technologies, the growth of recognition of the transnational character of problems such as air pollution and, perhaps most important, the growth of multinational corporations and world commerce.

Global education advocates realized that very little was known about the condition of students' cross-cultural knowledge¹, so efforts were made to gather information that would substantiate the need for global education, portions of which are cited later in this paper. These data augmented other logical and rational efforts to persuade school districts and states to adjust their teaching to include more information about other nations and to offer greater treatment of global issues and themes.

Education systems and the condition of nation states and world affairs change over the span of a single decade, so much of the early research is now completely outdated. The importance of changing world trends increases the need for contemporary assessments of students' cross-national and global knowledge and attitudes. To be useful, new research must be multinational, assessing what paired nations' school aged populations know about one another's history, geography, politics, economics, and international relations. In addition, the inclusion of a global knowledge and issues scale that can provide a uniform basis for making comparisons among the many paired nation studies that are envisioned in our proposed study is needed. A

¹ We realize that cross-cultural knowledge is only one component of global education. However, it is an important component and, taken across, many nations, regions, and cultures, this knowledge provides the wellspring of specific facts and instances that support understanding of global issues, themes, and understandings.

paired-nation survey strategy is proposed for this multinational study in order to reduce the length and complexity of the questionnaire. Specific nation pairings in the present proposal are between selected nations around the world and the United States, however, other pairings of nations are completely possible and should be encouraged. Sample questionnaires are supplied to demonstrate how this paired nation survey technique would work for making comparisons between Korea and the U.S.A. (see Appendix A). Chinese-USA and Japan-U.S.A. surveys are under construction and are proposed to be implemented simultaneously with the Korea survey. Surveys of other country pairings are planned pending successful completion of the first, Asia-centered study. The proposed approach will efficiently yield a comprehensive picture of what U.S. students know about other nations of the world and what the students of other nations know about the U.S., in addition to providing information about what students from all nations know about important global issues. All surveys include brief demographic information and self-report data about the in- and out-of-school sources of cross-national learning.

Early Studies of Students' Knowledge of the World

Early research on children's cross-cultural knowledge and attitudes is often traced to a group of studies that attempted to discover how children viewed their own political and cultural identities at different ages and stages of development. For example, Piaget and Weil (1951) studied how Swiss children's ideas of their homeland developed and their conceptions of relations with other nations and revealed identifiable stages of development that ranged from early cognitive and affective egocentricity to objective understanding of other peoples. Hess and Tourney's (1967) early work on the development of political attitudes demonstrated, among other things, that schools played an important role in the development of attitudes and beliefs about the political system. They also concluded that children normally acquired rudimentary attitudinal attachments to their nation-state at a very early age and that by eighth grade most attitudes, concepts, and understandings important to political socialization were well established.

The first large scale study of children's cross cultural knowledge was conducted by Lambert and Klineberg (1967), who surveyed over 3,000 children, age 6, 10, and 14, in eleven countries. Their research led them to conclude that children's early views of themselves greatly influence their views of foreigners and that these views are often developed by comparing and contrasting views between themselves and foreign people. They noted the existence of exaggerated national loyalties and stereotypes of other nation's peoples. Younger children's predominant sources of knowledge were their own parents and television and movies but by later grades school experiences dominated as referents for their knowledge.

Eicher, Piersma, & Wood (1975) conducted a multi-state (Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota) survey of children's perceptions of the world, mainly China, India, and Nigeria. Their open-ended survey of over 1200 children in grades one through six simply asked students to tell (early grades) or write (upper grades) what they knew about these four referents. Among other things, the authors found evidence of Piaget's stages of intellectual development, with older students possessing more accurate and realistic views of the world than their younger counterparts. This pattern held true for the children's views of China, India, and Nigeria, though even older students still showed substantial misconceptions and stereotypes of these nations. Nigeria was the least understood nation. The investigators generally concluded that younger children mainly view the world in reference to their immediate environment and that they held the most inaccurate and limited views. Students showed more accurate knowledge of the world in later grades and television had a noticeable influence on their perceptions.

The Educational Testing Service (ETS), under a contract from the United States Institute of International Studies, United States Office of Education, conducted a survey of 1,728 students in grades 4, 8, and 12. The survey items and sampling procedure was designed by ETS researchers and implemented in the fall of 1974 in 27 states. The survey assessed students' knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of China, Egypt, England, France, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Spain, and the United States. Knowledge questions were about evenly distributed between geographic, political, cultural, and economic information. Attitudes were assessed with semantic differential items and paired comparison items were used to measure cross-cultural perceptions. Overall, the investigators (Pike, Barrows, Mahoney & Jungeblut, 1979) deemed that their results show substantial student illiteracy of world affairs. Data are provided on the foreign languages students studied, relevant aspects of students' and teachers' backgrounds, the frequency and rank order of importance of the nations studied at each grade level and the extent of students' learning in each of the four knowledge areas. The investigators particularly noted the geographic illiteracy of students at all grade levels. However, there were weak performances across the board on the knowledge items, causing the investigators to conclude: "As illustrated in the preceding section, this study presents some powerful examples of the extent of student illiteracy in world affairs and gives some indication of how far we have to go" (p.15).

Following the lead of Lambert and Klineberg, John Cogan (1984) conducted another study that provided cross-national comparisons, this time focusing on college students and only between the United States and Japan. His survey of Japanese college students' international and global knowledge and attitudes replicated a national survey of U.S. college students (cited in Cogan, 1984) conducted in 1980 by the Council on Learning. Cogan noted that the U.S. study had shown, among other things, that teacher education students had the lowest scores of all majors and, "Perhaps even more disturbing, the students responses to the attitude and opinion scales shows a very limited and parochial view of the world." Cogan asked Japanese scholars to translate the U.S. survey into Japanese and then checked for accuracy of cross-cultural meaning by conducting a "backtranslation" into English from Japanese. The instrument had four major sections and took about two hours to administer. The four sections were: background information on the respondent; foreign language interest and use; attitudes about world issues; and knowledge of the world. Cogan found, among other things, that Japanese students outperformed their U.S. counterparts in knowledge by an average of about 10% and that there were differences in both groups' attitudes, with the Japanese students being more altruistic and less chauvinistic. He reported, "The sum of this is that Japanese education majors...know more about the world in which they live than their U.S. counterparts" (p. 22).

Cogan's 1984 preliminary report of his research was followed by a deeper analysis that held further insights (Cogan, Torney-Purta, & Anderson, 1988). This research used regression analysis to investigate relationships among the items and variables that were included in the study and allowed the investigators to report a number of new insights in the data. Among other things, the investigators reported that students who had been admitted to better schools, students with higher SAT or ACT scores, those who had studied history and geography, and those who frequently read international news had better knowledge of global issues. Japanese students tended to know more than American students about Asian religion, Chinese culture, international trade, nuclear issues, and international organizations. Kogan, Tourney-Purta & Anderson (1988) also included information on Tourney-Purta's 1985 10-state study of secondary school students that used many of the same test items to examine predictors of global awareness and concern. Among the conclusions reported from this study was that global awareness and concern were

related to "school grades, reading international news in the paper, gender (boys performed better), number of years of social studies classes, foreign travel, and watching television news."

Recent Studies of Students' Knowledge of the World

A few more recent studies continue to suggest that American students lack basic knowledge of other nations. Osunde's study (1996) reveals that American high school and university students know very little about non-Western nations, especially those of sub-Saharan Africa. Besides, students had developed stereotypes, misconceptions, and negative attitudes about Africa.

In June 2001, the National Commission on Asia in the Schools issued its report on American students' knowledge of Asia (Asia Society, 2001). The report found that despite the fact that Asia is the world's largest, most populous, and fastest-growing region, that majority of American students acknowledged Asia's vital role in the continued prosperity of the United States, in general, they lacked a rudimentary knowledge of Asia's geography, history, people or economic and political systems. Most students identified their teachers and schools as the principal source of information about Asia. However, it was found that most teachers are not being prepared to help students to learn international knowledge because few non-western history courses are offered at American colleges. Asian history is not required for a degree in history and a teaching certificate. Similarly, language instruction in the United States does not reflect today's realities. Very few students study Asian languages. The report concluded that young Americans remained dangerously uninformed about international matters, especially Asia, home to more than 60% of the world's population (Asia Society, 2001).

A year after this study, in 2002, the National Geographic-Roper 2002 Global Geographic Literacy Survey polled more than 3,000 18- to 24-year-olds in nine countries including Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, and the United States (RoperASW for National Geographic Education Foundation, 2002). The survey found that U.S. students lagged behind their peers in other countries in their knowledge of geography and current affairs. While only 17 percent of young American citizens could find Afghanistan on a world map, about 11 percent could not even locate the U.S. on the map. Considering this survey was conducted in light of September 11, it was appalling that young Americans remained uninformed or ignorant of even basic knowledge of the world.

Holm and Farber (2002) examined the geographic knowledge and global awareness of American upper-level undergraduate university students in a large teacher education program. Holm & Farber's study suggests a high degree of inattention, insularity, and lack of awareness among the prospective teachers. They argued that it would be like "teaching in the dark" if the pre-service teachers do not share geopolitical knowledge or develop global awareness, which has become increasingly important in an increasingly diverse world.

The most recent study was conducted by Clarke (2004) to investigate students' global awareness and attitudes to internationalism in a world of cultural convergence. It surveyed a sample of 701 college students to ascertain their global awareness and attitudes toward internationalism. The research found that students had average levels of global awareness, and mixed beliefs about the United States' involvement with other countries.

The findings of these studies clearly indicates that it is critical that more efforts be made to foster both American students' and pre-service and in-service teachers' knowledge of other nations and promoting cultural and global understanding and awareness. American educators need to be knowledgeable about global education and about what American students know about

other nations. It is equally important and necessary that we understand how other countries conduct global education to develop their students' cross-cultural and global awareness, and how well their students are informed of other nations in terms of history, geography, politics, economics, and international relations.

The meaning of the term "global education" can come in varied forms. Terms such as development education, education for development, global perspectives in education, intercultural education, and world studies were used and being used in Canada, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States (Pike, 2000; Tye, 1999). Great efforts have been made in many countries to include global education in their school curricula to promote students' global understanding and awareness. The following section aims to 1) explore the status of global education in countries including Canada, United Kingdom, Russia, China, Japan, South Korea, and Australia; and 2) review possible research in these countries that report how well their students know about other nations.

Global Education in Canada

Global education in Canada evolved with the funding provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) (Tye, 2003). When the CIDA funding was eliminated, local sources have been funding global education programs in some provinces. The main purpose of global education in Canada is to integrate a global perspective into teaching and to instill a sense of global citizenship and increase global awareness of students.

Attempts have been made to infuse global education into Canadian social studies curriculum to help students better understand other nations. A study was conducted by James Petrie, in New Brunswick, Canada in 1988 as an assessment of the impact of the 9th grade social studies curriculum that had been developed by the New Brunswick Global Education Center. The test was administered to all 6,396 9th grade students at the beginning and end of the 1987 school year. The first part of the test required students to locate countries on an outline map of the world and the second part measured particular aspects of Canadian geography, economics, and politics. The third part borrowed heavily from the ETS study and assessed students' knowledge of the geographic, cultural, political, and economic conditions in China, Middle East, Japan, India, Africa, Western Europe, and Latin America. The final portion of the study measured students' attitudes toward several global issues. Among other conclusions, Petrie reports that what teachers emphasized or neglected in their presentation of the curriculum directly influenced students' knowledge. Students were also apparently influenced by both print and television news. Significant increases in students' knowledge of specific countries were present when teachers confirmed that significant attention had been given to these nations. Petrie noted that students emerged from the yearlong curriculum with a "more international...outlook," and that "the attitudinal changes represented by the results of the tests would appear to be those which are generally sought by proponents of global education" (p.16).

Students show some increase in their understanding of the Portuguese influence in Latin America, but a considerable number of them failed to distinguish between the areas of Portuguese and Spanish control and failed to recognize the dominance of Catholicism in the region. About 34.5% of students linked Hinduism with Brazil. The lack of instruction in some schools on Latin America explains why students perceived Brazil as an exotic region and associate it with an exotic religion. It's encouraging to note that students had adequate geographic knowledge of Brazil.

The results of the test, on the whole, show that inclusion of the regions in the curriculum and the instruction help increase student knowledge and awareness. Interpretation that is based on limited items of tests invites errors. Interpretation should be comprehensive and further research is necessary to confirm the results.

Global Education in the United Kingdom

Global education in the United Kingdom (UK) dates back to the early educational interest in world matters in the 1920s (Hicks, 2003; Holden, 2000; & Ibrahim, 2005). This early interest led to the well-known World Studies Project in the 1970s and 1980s. The conceptual framework of the Project, directed by Robin Richardson influenced UK teachers to develop a global dimension in the curriculum. In the 1980s, the World Studies Project 8-13 was established and targeted children aged 8-13. The project had five themes: others and ourselves; rich and poor; peace and conflict; our environment; and the world tomorrow. By the mid 1980s, many schools in England and Wales adopted the world studies 8-13 project (Holden, 2000).

Another equally influential global education program was conducted by Selby and Pike at the Center for Global Education. Selby and Pike were both influenced by Richardson's World Studies Project and their global education program focused more on secondary schools.

The world studies programs in the 1980s were attacked by conservative politicians in the UK (Hicks, 2003; Holden, 2000). Among the major criticisms, world studies projects were accused of indoctrination for giving one-sided views of the world. The conservatives pointed out that by building a global perspective into the curriculum, politics was brought into the classroom. The teaching methods were also under attack. The use of simulations and role-play were considered improper. The rationality of having world studies as a school subject was questioned. The conservatives believed that the world studies project lowered the educational standards for the schools that had these projects.

A recent study reported by Davies, Evans, and Reid (2005) calls for a "new" global citizenship education based on an analysis of the existing global education and citizenship education programs in England. Their study reviewed and compared the global education and citizenship education programs in UK during the last three decades and concluded that global education and citizenship education programs should be separate from each other. Instead they call for a "globalizing citizenship education".

Global Education in Russian

Global education was not introduced in Russia until 1991 when the Russian Ministry of Education invited scholars both in Russia and the United States to establish a global education program in its national curriculum (Mehlinger, 1998; Tucker, 1991). The objectives of global education in Russia are as follows: 1) understanding the plurality of possible world outlooks; 2) understanding problems the world civilization faces; 3) developing abilities to positively accept other cultures, finding commonalities and differences when comparing cultures; 4) systematic and system thinking; and 5) active involvement in solving problems of community, country and the whole world (Kolker, Ustinova, & McEneaney, 1998; Mehlinger, 1998; Tucker, 1991). In Russia, global education was perceived as an approach to education that will help build a bridge between the nation's authoritarian past and the more democratic and open society of their future (Tucker, 1991; Mehlinger, 1998). Global education was also adopted as an approach to break down Russia's isolation of the 20th century and enable them to participate more fully in the interdependent world of the 21st century.

While the United States and Russia share many geopolitical characteristics and are facing a similar challenge to integrate the nations' economies and cultures into the world community of nations in the post Cold War era, both countries view a joint global education program as a potential channel for collaboration. In fact, such a channel has surfaced between the two nations. Mason, Kruchkov, and Kilbane (1998) compared the global education programs integrated in the curriculum of two schools, one in Russia and one in the United States. The study found that there is considerable agreement between Russian and United States educators regarding the fundamental issues related to global education, but there are some differences as well. In terms of the purpose of global education, the Russian school seemed to emphasize the significance of a global perspective to the individual development of students while the American school focused more on the relational impact of the global curriculum (Mason et. al, 1998). Kolker et. al (1998) were convinced that such an integrated global curriculum can promote comprehensive changes in education.

Global Education in Asian Pacific

A striking development in global education in the Asian Pacific area was the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Center for Education for International Understanding (APCEUI) by joint efforts of Asian governments and UNESCO in 2000. "Its major tasks are to conduct research, strengthen school curricula, create support in the civil society, train professionals, promote international exchanges, develop and disseminate educational materials and information, and encourage international cooperation and networking" (Tye, 2003, p.166).

The global education movement in Asia was launched by each nation that intends to meet the urgent needs of the new century and to improve its relationship with other nations in this increasingly interconnected world. To a certain degree, this global education movement also attributes to the efforts made by APCEIU.

Global Education in China

Tremendous changes have taken place in Chinese society since the late 1970s when China started the policy of opening to the world and economic reform. Since then there is a strong and growing concern for issues related to global education, such as global awareness, education for international understanding, environmental education, population, and globalization of economy (Tye, 2003). Global education has become a hot topic in China in recent years as China endeavors to improve its political and economic status in the world and achieve the goal of developing China into a powerful but peace-seeking nation.

Traditionally, knowledge of the world gained by Chinese students is mainly presented through the social studies curriculum, specifically, world history, world geography, and political science. Under current curriculum reform, world knowledge is presented through "Morality and Society" at the elementary school level, "History and Society" at the middle school level, world history and world geography at the high school level. The new national curriculum standards stress that one of the major goals of social studies is to help students develop global awareness, and understand and respect different cultures in the world.

To help K-12 Chinese students to be more aware of global issues and implement international understanding, the Beijing Institute of Education conducted a survey of students' knowledge of global issues (Yu, 2002). This survey investigated over 2,000 middle and high school students in Beijing on their knowledge of: 1) world culture and history; 2) world religion and ethnicities; 3) world population, resources, and environment; and 4) peace and development.

The research found that Chinese students, in general, lack deep understanding of the other nations' culture and history. While the majority of the students have a deep knowledge of the United States, their knowledge of Europe and other nations is poor. Students have some knowledge of world religions, yet this knowledge is incomplete and often biased. Most students understand the interrelationship between population, resources, environment and sustainable development, and they are concerned about global issues; however, their knowledge of environmental protection and some global issues is superficial and sometimes misleading. The research also found that Chinese students are resistant to learning about the Japanese culture because of the Japanese invasion of China during WWII and history textbook controversy.

Another study was conducted recently to understand how Chinese students perceive America and what they know about America (Zhao, Zhou, & Huang, 2005). Over 100 high school students in three regions of China were either interviewed or wrote an essay about their image and knowledge of America. The research found that although Chinese students had mixed feelings toward America, they possessed great knowledge of American culture, history, geography, and political and economic system. Media and social studies curriculum were reported as the major sources of their knowledge.

Besides the social studies curriculum, English education in China is no doubt the most important way to expand students' world knowledge. As an international or a global language, English serves as a window for Chinese to see the world, the key to accessing the western modern scientific and technological advances, and the most important way to communicate with both native English speakers and people from non-Chinese speaking countries. The major goal of English teaching in China is to help students become capable of communicating in English and obtain more knowledge from different sources.

Global Education in South Korea

Global education in South Korea can be traced back to 1960s, when the Korea National Commission of UNESCO (KNCU) tried to disseminate the value of peace. The most important role of education in Korea today is to help Koreans understand the local and global contexts in which Koreans live (Savolainen, 2001).

Two important changes have taken place in the realm of education in South Korea in the past few years: one is the revised 7th Curriculum includes "Education for International Understanding and Peace Education (EIU) as an elective course at high schools in 2001, and another is that the South Korea Ministry of Education started to implement the New Approach for Unification Education (Chung, 2000). The revised curriculum mandates that the course cover a series of topics and programs, including democratic citizenship education, environmental education, education of information and its ethics, and education for international understanding, cooperation and peace (South Korean Ministry of Education, 1998).

Global education in South Korea is mainly conducted through the social studies curriculum, especially world history and world geography. The general goal of world history is to help students: 1) understand the development process of civilization in world history; 2) recognize Korean status in the world through learning the process and characteristics of the formulation of modern society; 3) understand, analyze, and interpret historical materials to synthesize and evaluate the world history; 4) analyze the decision making process in history and apply the process to the solution of problems in current society; and 5) understand historical conflicts and their resolutions, and actively participate in solving problems shared by whole human races. However, Modern and contemporary world history in South Korean addresses

more western history than eastern history. This overemphasis on Western history results in ignorance of other cultures that do not belong to western society (Zhao, Hoge, Choi, & Lee, 2006).

The national goal of world geography also tends to help students understand the world through investigating the characteristics and the change of these countries based on basic knowledge of geography, developing abilities to explore and solve local problems from the worldview; and cooperating with people in different countries (South Korean Ministry of Education, 1998).

As in China, South Korean students are generally resistant to learning about the Japanese culture. The tensions between Korea and Japan still run deep. The root of these tensions stems from Japanese atrocities during its occupation of Korea for 36 years in the 20th century and distortion of the historical issues regarding Japan's actions during WWII.

Global Education in Japan

In Japan, the term “international education” is more commonly used than global education. The concept of international education, as introduced by UNESCO, came to be known to the general public in 1954 when UNESCO adopted the recommendation concerning “education for international understanding and co-operation” and Japan adopted and promoted similar proposals to those of UNESCO (Sato, 2004). Since then this form of education has been called “Education for International Understanding” in Japan.

Basically Japanese elementary students obtain their knowledge of the world through social studies and moral education. However, in both subjects, little world knowledge is introduced before the 5th grade and oftentimes the knowledge presented is heavily and explicitly value-laden (Sato, 2004). The main purpose of social studies and moral education is to help develop students' attitudes to and ways of thinking about other countries and about Japan. In secondary schools, the major source to gaining world knowledge continue to be social studies and moral education curriculum.

International education in Japan may be popular and progressing, but in reality, the knowledge of and attitudes towards the world that are being structured in schools are very Western-biased (Parmenter, 1999). Knowledge and culture of Asia and other nations are largely ignored.

Education for international understanding in Japan emphasizes understanding various cultures of other countries and learning foreign languages. As in China and South Korea, foreign language education is highly valued. To a large extent, foreign language in Japan, China, and South Korea means learning English. In Japan, every Japanese student takes English language courses from elementary grade through the final year of high school. Foreign language is a major school subject with an international perspective, however, the major goal of foreign language education in Japan is not international understanding or world knowledge, but the mastery of grammar and vocabulary necessary to pass exams (Parmenter, 1999).

More than 50 years have passed since Japanese started its education for international understanding. However, Okuda's research indicated that the education for international understanding in schools in Japan is far from satisfactory (Okuda, 1997). A positive development is that the new school curriculum now includes education for international understanding, and hopefully it will help Japanese students develop more knowledge of nations outside Japan.

Global Education in Australia

Global education in Australia can be dated back to development education in 1960s. At that time among educators there was a growing international concern about world issues and a commitment to change or eradicate global poverty and inequality (Griffin, Woods, Dulhunty, & Coates, 2002). Later environmental education, peace education, education for human rights, and multicultural education were advocated and sought as school curriculum ideas and materials. Global education in Australia is supported by the national government and many non-governmental organizations that develop instructional materials for teachers. Emphasis is on ecology, social justice, human rights, economic, technological, and political interdependence (Tye, 2003). Generally, global education in Australian schools aims to help students to: 1) understand international development issues and ways to reduce poverty; 2) build peace and resolve conflict; 3) appreciate and value diverse cultures, languages and religions; 4) promote human rights and social justice; and 5) work towards environmental sustainability (The Australian Agency for International Development, 2005).

In recent years the Australian government and schools have largely recognized its regional position and its relation with Asian countries. This further enhances the international dimension in Australian school curriculum.

The Assessment Research Center at the University of Melbourne conducted a survey of 7000 Australian students' knowledge and understanding of Asia (Griffin, Woods, Dulhunty & Coates, 2002). The purposes of this research were: 1) to collect and analyze national data on Australian primary and secondary students' knowledge about Asia and their attitudes to learning about Asia; 2) to identify patterns of educational context that influence students' knowledge and attitudes; 3) to provide state and territory schools with calibrated attitudinal and achievement tests of Australian students' knowledge, attitudes and understanding of Asia; and 4) to assess the effectiveness of the Access Asia schools program.

Primary and secondary students' knowledge and understanding was described in a profile that consisted of seven levels, including knowledge of historical, cultural and contemporary issues in Asia, understanding of the impact of Asian historical figures on traditional and contemporary practices, basic knowledge of symbols, food, customs, costumes, popular cultural artifacts and people. The research found that students' scores were distributed over the seven knowledge levels, although more secondary than primary students were grouped at higher levels. At primary and secondary levels, girls tended to have more positive attitudes than boys towards Asia. Differences in the year levels are most evident at the extremes. Middle school students tended to have more negative attitudes towards Asia than primary students. It is unclear why there was such a difference of attitudes.

Conclusion

There has been some progress in global education in almost all these countries in the past years and increasing international content, especially knowledge of Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and various global issues, is presented in school social studies curricula and other subjects. At the same time, some global education programs have been implemented in schools. Some countries, mainly non-English speaking countries have put tremendous emphasis on foreign language education to promote students' cross-cultural awareness and global understanding.

Despite the increase in global or international education, reviews of the research literature found few studies have been conducted that examined how effective various global education

programs are in Canada, UK, Australia, Russia, and some Asian Pacific countries. Similarly, few studies have examined students' global knowledge and awareness at elementary, middle, or high school levels and how much students' global knowledge and awareness improved due to the implementation of the global education programs. This specific lack of research is the primary impetus for our call for cross-cultural and global issues research.

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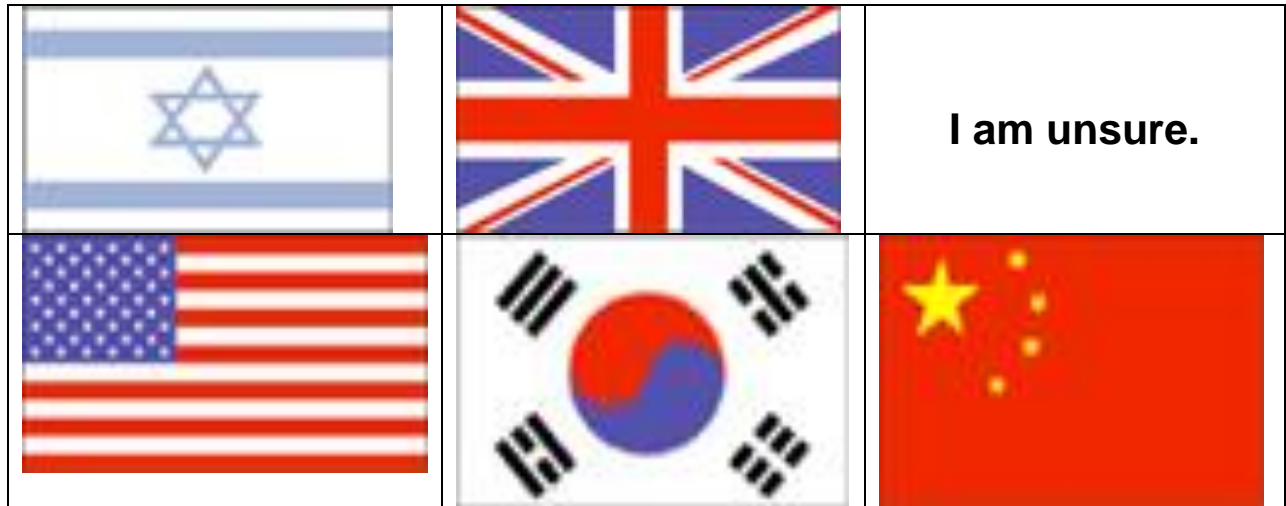
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Appendix A

**Questionnaire on South Korea for American Students
-High School Version-**

1. Which one of the following looks most like the South Korean flag? Place an X over it.



2. Study the world map below. Which number is for South Korea? Place the number of your answer here: _____



3. What is the name of South Korea's current President?
- ___ Koizumi
- ___ Kim Young Sam
- ___ Kim Jung Il
- ___ ROH Moo-hyun
- ___ I am unsure.

4. What is the name of the capital city of South Korea?
- ___ Tokyo
- ___ Pyongyang
- ___ Seoul
- ___ Inchon
- ___ I am unsure.

5. Listed below are character traits that may be generally applied to the people of any nation. Using the scale below, circle one response on the left that you believe describes the **people of South Korea** and circle one response on the right that you believe describes the **people of the United States**.

Scale: (**SA**=Strongly Agree, **A**=Agree, **U**=Unsure, **D**=Disagree, **SD**=Strongly Disagree)

The people of SOUTH KOREA are:		The people of the UNITED STATES are:
SA A U D SD	HARD WORKING	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	SMART	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	POLITE	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	SHY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	VIOLENT	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	TRUSTWORTHY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	GREEDY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	FRIENDLY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	LAW-ABIDING	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	EMOTIONAL	SA A U D SD

6. Are the following statements about Korea true or false? Circle the appropriate letter (T=True, F=False, U=Unsure) for each statement.

- T F U 6a. South Korea is a crowded nation.
- T F U 6b. South Korea has warm and sunny winters.
- T F U 6c. The Korean peninsula has very few mountains.
- T F U 6d. Koreans come from a lot of different racial and cultural backgrounds.
- T F U 6e. South Korea is a Christian nation.
- T F U 6f. Scholarship (education) is a very important part of virtually all Koreans' lives.
- T F U 6g. Korean history goes back almost 500 years.
- T F U 6h. Korea has served as a cultural link between China and Japan.
- T F U 6i. Korea has been invaded, influenced, and fought over by its larger neighbors.
- T F U 6j. The South Korean government is democratic.
- T F U 6k. South Korea's economy has failed to grow rapidly.
- T F U 6l. The United States is a very important market for South Korea.
- T F U 6m. Korea exports computers, televisions, and cars to the U.S.
- T F U 6n. The United States fought a war in South Korea.
- T F U 6o. The United States still has soldiers stationed in South Korea.
- T F U 6p. Seoul has a smaller population than New York City.
- T F U 6q. South Korea has a heavier rainfall in summer than in winter.
- T F U 6r. Korean society has traditionally been hierarchical.
- T F U 6s. South Korea's dominant religions are Christianity, Buddhism, and Confucianism.
- T F U 6t. South Korea's relationship with North Korea is an important and current political issue.
- T F U 6u. The greatest barrier to further democratization in South Korea is its present system of indirect presidential elections.
- T F U 6v. South Korea attempted to grow its economy by an export-led strategy of industrialization.
- T F U 6w. Korea's globalization drive was initiated by the state.
- T F U 6x. In the Korean War U.S. troops entered the conflict under the flag of the United Nations.
- T F U 6y. Official diplomatic relations between South Korea and China began in the early 1990s.
- T F U 6z. Japan's World War II occupation of Korea lasted until its defeat in 1945.

7. Below are some additional statements about Korea. Circle the appropriate letter (SA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, U=Unsure, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree) for each statement.

7a. Korean society has a moral tone lacking in the United States.

SA A U D SD

7b. Americans should maintain a strong interest in South Korea as a friend and as a trading partner.

SA A U D SD

7c. U.S. schoolchildren should learn something about South Korean culture, for example, their folktales, art, music, and food.

SA A U D SD

7d. South Koreans can benefit by fully adopting an American conception of democratic citizenship.

SA A U D SD

7e. South Korean schoolchildren should learn something about American history, geography, politics, and economic development.

SA A U D SD

7f. Americanization of South Korea is an unfortunate result of globalization.

SA A U D SD

7g. Strong security relations with the U.S. should be an essential part of South Korea's foreign policy.

SA A U D SD

Global Awareness Questions

8.1. What is at the core of the persistent conflict between the Arabs and Israelis?

- a. A land dispute
- b. An oil dispute
- c. An environmental dispute
- d. A trade dispute
- e. I am unsure.

8.2. Which of the following is true regarding world trade?

- a. There is less world trade today than 50 years ago.

- b. World trade has grown immensely over the past 100 years.
- c. Rich nations trade less than poor nations.
- d. The United Nations regulates world trade.
- e. I am unsure.

8.3. Which of the following is true regarding biodiversity in today's world?

- a. Biodiversity is increasing rapidly.
- b. Biodiversity has not changed in the past 100 years.
- c. Biodiversity is slowly increasing.
- d. Biodiversity has declined in the past 100 years.
- e. I am unsure.

8.4. Which of the following factors is the least direct cause of hunger around the world?

- a. Poverty
- b. Wars
- c. Natural disasters
- d. Pollution
- e. I am unsure.

8.5. Which of the following is NOT among the consequences of the recent "El Niño" weather pattern?

- a. Disruption of the fishing industry in the Pacific Ocean
- b. Increased melting of the permafrost in the Arctic
- c. Increased drought and brush fires in Australia
- d. Depletion of the ozone layer
- e. I am unsure.

8.6. What contributes the most to ill-health and suffering across the globe?

- a. Lack of clean water
- b. Local and regional wars
- c. Natural disasters
- d. Climate change
- e. I am unsure.

8.7. The world's rapid population growth has many adverse effects on the planet's ecology. Which of the following is LEAST LIKELY to be the result of increased population?

- a. Decreased biodiversity
- b. Deforestation
- c. El Niño
- d. Depletion of the ozone layer

- e. I am unsure.
- 8.8. Which of the following diseases has been responsible for the most deaths in the past 20 years?
- a. Black Plague
 - b. Polio
 - c. Cholera
 - d. AIDS
 - e. I am unsure.
- 8.9. Which of the following nations is the largest user of the world's energy resources?
- a. India
 - b. China
 - c. United States
 - d. Japan
 - e. I am unsure.
- 8.10. Which of the following nations has the lowest population density?
- a. India
 - b. China
 - c. Russia
 - d. Japan
 - e. I am unsure.

Please answer the following personal questions:

9. What is your age? ____
10. What is your present grade level? ____
- 10.a. What is the highest grade level that your **father** completed?
 ___ I'm not sure. Grade: ___ 8 ___ 9 ___ 10 ___ 11 ___ 12 ___ some college
 ___ finished college ___ some graduate school ___ finished graduate school
- 10.b. What is the highest grade level that your **mother** completed?
 ___ I'm not sure. Grade: ___ 8 ___ 9 ___ 10 ___ 11 ___ 12 ___ some college
 ___ finished college ___ some graduate school ___ finished graduate school
11. Are you: ___ MALE ___ FEMALE
12. Do you have a South Korean family heritage?
 ___ YES ___ NO ___ UNSURE

13. Have you studied the South Korea **outside of school**?

YES NO

12a. If you have studied South Korea **outside of school**, which of the following sources do you feel was most influential to your learning? Please rate your responses from 1 (not used; not influential) to 5 (used most; most influential)

Popular television shows	1	2	3	4	5
Television news	1	2	3	4	5
Hollywood movies	1	2	3	4	5
Magazines	1	2	3	4	5
Newspapers	1	2	3	4	5
Internet websites	1	2	3	4	5
Novels & literature	1	2	3	4	5
School textbooks	1	2	3	4	5

14. Have you studied the South Korea **in school**?

YES NO

14a. If you have studied South Korea **in school**, which of the following sources do you feel was most influential to your learning? Please rate your responses from 1 (not used; not influential) to 5 (used most; most influential)

My teacher's lessons	1	2	3	4	5
Videos on South Korea	1	2	3	4	5
School textbooks	1	2	3	4	5
Internet websites	1	2	3	4	5
Novels & literature	1	2	3	4	5

15. Would you like to learn more about South Korea in school?

YES NO UNSURE

16. Have you or a member of your family ever visited South Korea?

YES NO UNSURE

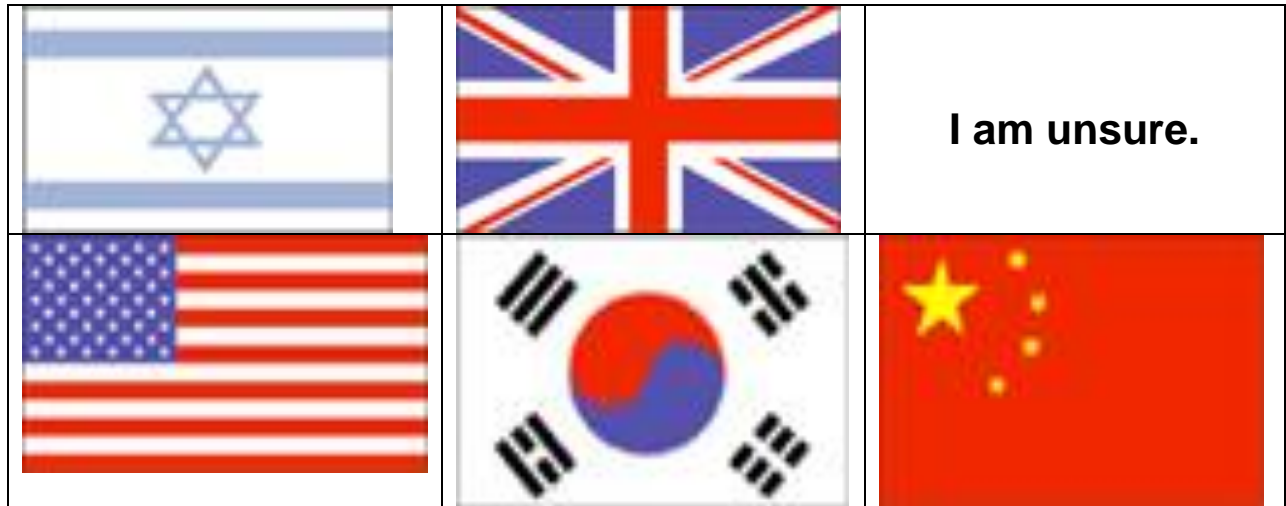
17. Would you like to visit South Korea sometime in the future?

YES NO UNSURE

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE!

**Questionnaire on the United States for Foreign Students
-High School Version-**

1. Which one of the following looks most like the United States flag? Place an X over it.



2. Study the world map below. Which number is on the United States? Place the number of your answer here: _____



3. What is the name of the current President of the United States?
- ___ Bill Clinton
 ___ George Bush
 ___ Ronald Reagan
 ___ Al Gore
 ___ I am unsure.

4. What is the name of the capital of the United States?
- ___ New York
 ___ Los Angeles
 ___ Washington, D.C.
 ___ San Francisco
 ___ I am unsure.

5. Listed below are character traits that may be generally applied to the people of any nation. Using the scale below, circle one response on the left that you believe describes the **people of <FOREIGN NATION>** and circle one response on the right that you believe describes the **people of the United States**.

Scale=(**SA**=Strongly Agree, **A**=Agree, **U**=Unsure, **D**=Disagree, **SD**=Strongly Disagree)

The people of FOREIGN NATION are:		The people of the UNITED STATES are:
SA A U D SD	HARD WORKING	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	SMART	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	POLITE	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	SHY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	VIOLENT	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	TRUSTWORTHY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	GREEDY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	FRIENDLY	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	LAW-ABIDING	SA A U D SD
SA A U D SD	EMOTIONAL	SA A U D SD

6. Are the following statements about the United States true or false? Circle the correct letter (T=True, F=False, U=Unsure) for each statement.

- T F U 6a. The island State of Hawaii is located in the Atlantic Ocean.
 T F U 6b. Alaska is the largest U.S. state in total area.
 T F U 6c. San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York are all West coast U.S. cities.

- T F U 6d. Americans come from a lot of different racial and cultural backgrounds.
- T F U 6e. The dominant languages in the United States are English and Spanish.
- T F U 6f. Early immigration to the United States was from Western Europe.
- T F U 6g. Thomas Jefferson was the first U.S. president.
- T F U 6h. Slavery was legal and widely used on Southern plantations prior to the Civil War.
- T F U 6i. In 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan
- T F U 6j. The U.S. president's powers are formidable but limited by the U.S. Constitution, Congress, and rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court.
- T F U 6k. The President of the United States is elected to a six-year term.
- T F U 6l. The United States currency is called the dollar.
- T F U 6m. The United States exports a lot of crude oil to Asian countries.
- T F U 6n. The United States has a market oriented economic system.
- T F U 6o. In Korean War, United States troops entered the conflict under the flag of the United Nations.
- T F U 6p. New York City has the largest population of any city in the United States
- T F U 6q. People of African, Hispanic, and Asian backgrounds account for 60 percent of all United States citizens.
- T F U 6r. The United States was colonized by the European countries in the 17th century.
- T F U 6s. The first Korean immigrants to the United States came to the island State of Hawaii.
- T F U 6t. Women won the right to vote during the United States' Civil War.
- T F U 6u. The official diplomatic relations between South Korea and United States began in 1940s.
- T F U 6v. The United States' electoral system revolves around two major parties: (1) the conservative and free enterprise oriented Democratic Party, and (2) the liberal and big government oriented Republican Party.
- T F U 6w. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which was put into effect in 1994, called for the rapid elimination of tariffs and trade restrictions among Canada, the United States, and Mexico.
- T F U 6x. Major trading partners of the United States are Australia, Brazil, Cuba, and Mexico.
- T F U 6y. The United States has had several periods of substantial immigration from different regions of the world.
- T F U 6z. The United States has been at war with Canada only once in the past 100 years.

7. Below are some additional statements about Korea. Circle the response (SA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, U=Unsure, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree) that represents your view.

7a. <Foreign Nation> society has a moral tone lacking in the United States.

SA A U D SD

7b. Americans should maintain a strong interest in <Foreign Nation> as a friend and as a trading partner.

SA A U D SD

7c. U.S. schoolchildren should learn something about <Foreign Nation> culture, for example, their folktales, art, music, and food.

SA A U D SD

7d. <Foreign Nation> can benefit by fully adopting an American conception of democratic citizenship.

SA A U D SD

7e. <Foreign Nation> schoolchildren should learn something about American history, geography, politics, and economic development.

SA A U D SD

7f. Americanization of <Foreign Nation> is an unfortunate result of globalization.

SA A U D SD

7g. Strong security relations with the U.S. should be an essential part of <Foreign Nation> foreign policy.

SA A U D SD

Global Awareness Questions

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- a. Biodiversity is increasing rapidly.
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 - c. Biodiversity is slowly increasing.
 - d. Biodiversity has declined in the past 100 years.
 - e. I am unsure.
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- a. Poverty
 - b. Wars
 - c. Natural disasters
 - d. Pollution
 - e. I am unsure.
- 8.5. Which of the following is NOT among the consequences of the recent "El Niño" weather pattern?
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 - b. Increased melting of the permafrost in the Arctic
 - c. Increased drought and brush fires in Australia
 - e. Depletion of the ozone layer
 - f. I am unsure.
- 8.6. What contributes the most to the ill-health and suffering across the globe?
- a. Lack of clean water
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- a. India
- b. China
- c. United States
- d. Japan
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- d. Japan
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10. What is your present grade level? ____

10.a. What is the highest grade level that your **father** completed?

___ I'm not sure. Grade: ___8 ___9 ___10 ___11 ___12 ___some college

___finished college ___some graduate school ___finished graduate school

10.b. What is the highest grade level that your **mother** completed?

___ I'm not sure. Grade: ___8 ___9 ___10 ___11 ___12 ___some college

___finished college ___some graduate school ___finished graduate school

11. Are you ___MALE? ___FEMALE?

12. Do you have a United States family heritage?

___YES ___NO ___UNSURE

13. Have you studied the United States **outside of school**?

___YES ___NO

13a. If you have studied the United States **outside of school**, which of the following sources do you feel was most influential to your learning? Please rate your responses from 1 (not important) to 5 (most important)

Popular US television shows	1	2	3	4	5
US television news	1	2	3	4	5
Hollywood movies	1	2	3	4	5
US magazines	1	2	3	4	5
US newspapers	1	2	3	4	5
US Internet websites	1	2	3	4	5
US novels & literature	1	2	3	4	5
School textbooks	1	2	3	4	5

14. Have you studied the United States **in school**?

YES NO

14a. If you have studied the United States **in school**, which of the following sources do you feel was most influential to your learning? Please rate your responses from 1 (not used; not influential) to 5 (used most; most influential)

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Videos on the US	1	2	3	4	5
School textbooks	1	2	3	4	5
Internet websites	1	2	3	4	5
US novels & literature	1	2	3	4	5

15. Would you like to learn more about the United States in school?

YES NO UNSURE

16. Have you or a member of your family ever visited the United States?

YES NO UNSURE

17. Would you like to visit the United States sometime in the future?

YES NO UNSURE

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE!