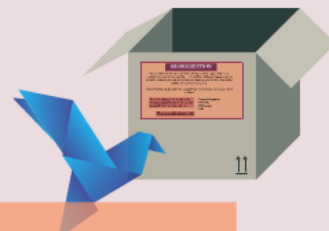




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The Globalization of the Renminbi: Feeling the Stones on the River Bed



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GLOBALIZATION

Globalization is "the spread of knowledge, technology, culture, and capital from country to country it has lifted millions of people out of poverty, reducing hunger and infectious disease, and, in turn, improving quality of life,"(Harvard, 2016).

This definition of globalization would hold true for how it is experienced in China.

There are many cultural and social effects of globalization in China that are worth looking into, such as:

- **Imports/exports**
- **Identity**
- **Education**
- **Diet**

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Imports/Exports

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Chinese reform in 1978 is what started the globalization in China, which allowed for more foreign trade and investment

Reforms that led China's foreign trade to soar from \$21 billion in 1978 to more than \$1.1 trillion in 2004, when China became the world's third largest trading economy" (Bransetter & Lardy, 2006).

China practically became a factory for the world.

Gloablization causes economy to thrive in China and improves standards of living.

China's economy is not the only one that benefits from the exportation of their goods; the American economy benefits through the importation of their goods.

Identity

Globalization is largely influenced by Western culture - including beauty standards

Cosmetic surgery to look more Western is not uncommon

Chinese youth struggle with their cultural identity and sense of Individualism.

Cultural identity is "a certain world view, constructed and developed by the individual in interaction with others" (UK Essays)

Youth has different world view because they interact differently with the world

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Education

The Chinese education systems have been structured to reinforce identity among students, an identity that is driven by traditional Chinese culture and traditions.

In other words, not a cultural identity that has the cultural influences of globalization.

language and history are heavily taught within the curriculum, as "language and history are two major curriculums that foster national and cultural identity," (UK Essays 2013).

The Chinese literature curriculum teaches students "Chinese languages as well as Chinese traditional cultures and values."

Chinese history is taught with the purpose of teaching China youth to "support ethnic, regional, or political identities in both Nationalist and Communist China."

it is likely that the over-emphasizing of national and cultural identity in national curriculum will bring negative effect on the awareness of the diversity cultural values in the world

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Diet

Globalization has had negative effects on Chinese diets.

There is a rising OBESITY epidemic

This is the result of increased access to cheaper, less quality food that is high in calories; and the excessive intake of refined grains, animal product, sugary drinks, and fast food," (Harvard 2016)

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**ALSO, as technology advances,
physical activity declines**

Conclusion

Cultural and social effects of globalization can be empowering and disempowering to Chinese culture

Ignoring cultural and social implications of globalization will become increasingly difficult for China over time as technology continues to advance

Countries should embrace social and cultural globalization instead of trying to stop the unstoppable.

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