

## A STUDY ON THE DAMON AND HART'S SELF-UNDERSTANDING MODEL IN TAIWANESE CHILDREN

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### ABSTRACT

Self concept has been recognized as an important determinant of human behavior. Recently, the Damon & Hart's Self-Understanding Model emphasized the developmental and multidimensional approach to the investigation of self concept. The purpose of this study was to test Damon & Hart's developmental model of self-understanding. Seventy-two Taiwanese children aged 5 to 16 were given the revised "self-understanding interview". The results were: (a) All seven aspects of self identified by Damon & Hart — physical self, active self, social self, psychological self and the self agency, self continuity, self distinctness, were found in early childhood. Furthermore, these aspects of self underwent developmental changes throughout the entire period from early childhood to late adolescence; (b) there were differences among groups of different ages concerning the statements of self-understanding in all seven aspects of self. The results indicate that the Taiwanese subjects in this study have the same developmental model of self-understanding as the subjects in U.S.. And there are differences in the statements of self-understanding between Taiwanese and American subjects.