Indigenous Psychology:
basic concept and research methods

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What is this?
Didgeridoo
What is this?
Tedak Siten

- Tedak means to step foot; Siten from Siti means soil, earth, Tedak Siten means to step foot on earth.

- This ritual depicts someone readiness to face a successful life in the future, with the God’s blessings, with the guidance from the parent, since her/his childhood.

- This traditional ceremony is performed, when a child, a girl or a boy is at the age of 7 selapan : 245 days.
What is this?

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Aksara Jawa

GA

RA
Indigenous Psychology

• The scientific study of human behavior or mind that is native, that is not transported from other regions, and that is designed for its people (Kim and Berry, 1993).

• Indigenous psychology advocates examining knowledge, skills, and beliefs people have about themselves and studying these aspects in their natural contexts.

• Theories, concepts, and methods are developed to correspond with psychological phenomena.
The point of view

General Psychology

Indigenous Psychology
Indigenous Psychology

• Indigenous psychology is an emerging field in psychology. It attempts to extend the boundary and substance of general psychology.

• General psychology seeks to discover decontextualized mechanical, and universal principles and it assumes that current psychological theories are universal.

• Indigenous psychology, questions the universality of existing psychological theories and attempts to discover psychological universals in social, cultural and ecological context (Kim & Berry, 1993; Yang, 2000).

• Indigenous psychology represents an approach in which the content (i.e., meaning, values, and beliefs) context (i.e., family, social, cultural, and ecological) are explicitly incorporated into research design.
# Indigenous Psychology characteristics

1. Indigenous psychology emphasizes examining of psychological phenomena in context.

2. Contrary to popular misconception, indigenous psychologies are not the studies of Native peoples, ethnic groups, or people living in Third World countries.

3. Indigenous does not affirm or preclude the use of a particular method.

4. Both internal and external points of view are necessary in providing a comprehensive and integrated understanding of psychological phenomena.

5. Indigenous psychology is different from Heider’s (1958) naïve psychology (attribution theory).
Indigenous Psychology characteristics

6. Indigenous concepts have been analyzed as examples of indigenous psychologies

7. Many indigenous psychologists search philosophical and religious texts to explain indigenous phenomena

8. Indigenous psychology is identified as a part of the cultural sciences tradition

9. Indigenous psychology advocates a linkage of humanities with social sciences

10. Two starting points of research in indigenous psychology: indigenization from without and indigenization from within.
Indigenous psychology point of view

From Kim (2003)
Is it indigenous psychology relevant?

Why do we need to understand people in context?
Personality

- Personality is a broad concept that refers to many aspects of an individual’s **unique characteristics**.

- Personality can be defined as a set of relatively enduring behavioral and cognitive **characteristics, traits, or predispositions** that people take with them to different situations, contexts, and interactions with others, and that contribute to **differences** among individuals (Matsumoto and Juang, 2013).
National Character
Perspective: how do we view culture-personality

Personality organization and dimensions are universal and somewhat biologically innate.

Personalities are dependent on the cultures in which they exist, and rejects notions of universality.
Big Five Personality Inventory

• **Extraversion**: a personality dimension describing someone who is sociable, talkative and assertive.

• **Agreeableness**: a personality dimension describing someone who is good-natured, cooperative and trusting.

• **Conscientiousness**: a personality dimension describing someone who is responsible, dependable, persistent and achievement oriented.

• **Neuroticism**: a personality dimension which characterizes someone who is calm, enthusiastic, secure (positive) to tense, nervous, depressed and insecure (negative).

• **Openness to experience**: a personality characteristic which characterizes someone who is imaginative, sensitive and intellectual.
CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES ON PERSONALITY TRAITS:
THE FIVE-FACTOR MODEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neuroticism</th>
<th>Extraversion</th>
<th>Openness</th>
<th>Agreeableness</th>
<th>Conscientiousness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>Warmth</td>
<td>Fantasy</td>
<td>Trust</td>
<td>Competence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angry hostility</td>
<td>Gregariousness</td>
<td>Aesthetics</td>
<td>Straightforwardness</td>
<td>Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>Assertiveness</td>
<td>Feelings</td>
<td>Altruism</td>
<td>Dutifulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-consciousness</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Actions</td>
<td>Compliance</td>
<td>Achievement striving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impulsiveness</td>
<td>Excitement seeking</td>
<td>Ideas</td>
<td>Modesty</td>
<td>Self-discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerability</td>
<td>Positive emotions</td>
<td>Values</td>
<td>Tender-mindedness</td>
<td>Deliberation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

McCrae, Terracciano, Khoury et al. (2005)
CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES ON PERSONALITY TRAITS: THE FIVE-FACTOR MODEL

McCrae, Terracciano, Khoury et al. (2005)
Indigenous point of view?

Manungsa
=  
Manunggaling 
Rasa
Research Methods

Indigenous psychology approach
Realism is the belief in a reality that is completely ontologically independent of our conceptual schemes, linguistic practices, beliefs, etc. Realists tend to believe that whatever we believe now is only an approximation of reality and that every new observation brings us closer to understanding reality.

Relativism is the idea that views are relative to differences in perception and consideration. There is no universal, objective truth according to relativism; rather each point of view has its own truth.
## Research Paradigm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paradigm</th>
<th>Ontology</th>
<th>Epistemology</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positivism</td>
<td>Hidden rules govern teaching and learning process</td>
<td>Focus on reliable and valid tools to undercover rules</td>
<td>What works?</td>
<td>Quantitative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive/constructivist</td>
<td>Reality is created by individuals in groups</td>
<td>Discover the underlying meaning of events and activities</td>
<td>Why do you act this way?</td>
<td>Qualitative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical</td>
<td>Society is rife with inequalities and injustice</td>
<td>Helping uncover injustice and empowering citizens</td>
<td>How can I change this situation?</td>
<td>Ideological review, Civil actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pragmatic</td>
<td>Truth is what is useful</td>
<td>The best method is one that solves problems</td>
<td>Will this intervention improve learning?</td>
<td>Mixed Methods, Design-Based</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Constructive Realism

Qualitative
- Inductive
- Interviews – Observations
- Open-ended questionnaire
- Thematic analysis

Quantitative
- Deductive
- Experimental – Nonexperimental
- Survey (psychological scale)
- Statistical analysis
Konstruksi dan identifikasi properti psikometris instrumen pengukuran kebahagiaan berbasis pendekatan indigenous psychology: strudi multitrait-multimethod.

Research example
ABSTRACT

• The aim of this study was to develop a scale of happiness based on indigenous psychology approach and identify it’s psychometric properties. The research was divided into three step of scenario: 1. happiness construct exploration based on indigenous psychology approach; 2. Develop the construct into a scale of happiness (Likert model); and 3. Identify it’s psychometric properties (reliability and validity). The psychometric properties analyses consist of internal consistency reliability (alpha-Cronbach) and construct validity (convergent-discriminant).

• Multitrait-multimethod matrix was used on the analysis in order to identify the convergent-discriminant validity (including three comparative scales: Self-Esteem Scale Rosenberg, Self-Esteem Inventory Coopersmith, and PGC Morale Scale). The exploration result shows a unique indicators of happiness in the East native culture (N=604). The psychometric properties analysis show the alpha reliability $\alpha = 0.895$ and the validity was psychometrically accepted (N=111). The conclusion of this study: happiness is a unique construct that consist of strong contextual aspects and the measurement of a native happiness should used a scale of happiness that based on indigenous psychology approach. Further result will be discussed.
Research Scenario

- happiness construct exploration based on indigenous psychology approach
- Develop the construct into a scale of happiness (Likert model)
- Identify its psychometric properties
Happiness: an indigenous study

The purpose of Scenario 1 is to explore the indigenous happiness dimensions from the native based on indigenous psychology perspective.

The data were collected from the natives using an open-ended questionnaire as the indigenous exploration instrument. Next, the data (qualitative) were classified into a group of categories. The data classification is based on the similarities meaning of the respondents response. The categories were identified as the indicators of the native happiness dimensions.

• The open-ended questions:
  1. What makes you happy? (I.1)
  2. Why it’s make you happy? (I.2)

• Total respondents $N=604$, divided into 3 groups: high school ($N=467$), undergraduate/S1 ($N=110$), and master/S2($N=27$) student.
Scenario 1

• The open-ended questions:
  1. What makes you happy? (I.1)
  2. Why it’s make you happy? (I.2)

• Total respondents N= 604,
  divided into 3 groups: high school (N=467), undergraduate/S1 (N=110), and master/S2(N=27) student.
Categorical Result: What makes you happy?

- Family Gathering: 62
- Having a harmonic family: 21
- Having Succeed: 21
- Making parents happy: 23
- Together with friends: 24
- Achieving Goals: 24
- Spiritual Needs: 28
- Happiness I.1
Categorical Result: Why it’s make you happy?

- making others happy: 16
- being able to make parents proud: 16
- amusing experience: 22
- spiritual needs: 25
- feeling happy: 38
- support or togetherness: 44
- Goals achieved: 59
Build the scale

• The author concluded that the native or indigenous happiness dimension at least consist of 4 aspects:
  1. Family bond
  2. Spiritual needs
  3. Goals and achievement
  4. Relationship with others

The purpose of Scenario 2 is to build a happiness scale based on the result of construct exploration (categorical result in Scenario 1)

The items was generated from the categorical responses that indicate the native happiness orientation.

The Likert model was chosen as the response model of Indigenous Happiness scale.
Scenario 2

The purpose of Scenario 2 is to build a happiness scale based on the result of construct exploration (categorical result in Scenario 1)

The items was generated from the categorical responses that indicate the native happiness orientation.

The Likert model was chosen as the response model of Indigenous Happiness scale.
Scale construction steps

1. Define the dimension of indigenous happiness (Scenario 1 result)
2. Build the blue-print based on the dimensions
3. Build the items based on the blue print (Likert model, +/- 40 items, 5 responses)
4. Verify the wording of each item (by professional judgement)
5. Generate forward and back-translation for the items (bahasa-English-bahasa)
6. Verify the wording of each item (by professional judgement)
7. Create the Indigenous Happiness Scale booklet
Scenario 2 (temporary) Result

• Blue Print

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Family bound</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spiritual needs</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Goals and achievement</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Relationship with others</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>total</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Response (favorable items)

strongly agree – agree – neutral – disagree – strongly disagree

5  4  3  2  1
Wording Items

• Example of the items (in bahasa Indonesia):
  1. Saya merindukan momen-momen berkumpul bersama seluruh keluarga
  2. Saya memiliki keluarga yang harmonis
  3. Saya ingin menjadi pemeluk agama yang taat
  4. Orang tua sangat mendukung aktivitas-aktivitas yang sedang saya jalani
  5. Kesuksesan yang saya capai adalah berkah dari Tuhan
  6. Saya bangga dengan prestasi akademis yang saya peroleh
  7. Saya nyaman bergaul dengan teman-teman saya
  8. Saya bekerja keras untuk mencapai cita-cita saya
  9. Saya bangga dengan keluarga saya
 10. Saya menikmati waktu bercanda bersama teman-teman
Scenario 3

The purpose of Scenario 3 is to identify the psychometric properties of the indigenous happiness scale.

- Internal consistency Reliability
  - Alpha-Cronbach
- Construct Validity (convergent-discriminant)
  - multitrait-multimethod matrix
Scenario 3

• Multitrait-multimethod matrix consist of 4 correlations:
  o monotrait-monomethod → convergent
  o monotrait-heteromethod → convergent
  o heterotrait-monomethod → discriminant
  o heterotrait-heteromethod → discriminant

- Traits: happiness & self-esteem
- Methods: Likert & Yes-No scale
### Scenario 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Multitrait-Multimethod Matrix</th>
<th>Likert Model</th>
<th>Yes-No Model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Likert Model</td>
<td>Indigenous Happiness Scale</td>
<td>Self-esteem Scale Rosenberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-esteem Scale Rosenberg</td>
<td>Discriminant</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes-No Model</td>
<td>PGC Morale Scale (revised)</td>
<td>Convergent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-esteem Inventory Coopersmith</td>
<td>Discriminant</td>
<td>Convergent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indigenous psychology research in Indonesia

- Trust and trustworthiness
- Mental health and culture
- Spirituality
- Family relation
- Social relation
ARTIKEL JURNAL

Sadness as perceived by Indonesian male and female adolescents

The basis of children’s trust towards their parents in Java, ngemong: Indigenous psychological analysis
Mohammad Abdul Hakim, Haldar Buidan Thontowi, KwartarinIW Wahyu Yunarti, & Ulchol Kim

What make teenagers happy? An exploratory study using indigenous psychology approach
Ardi Primasari & KwartarinIW Wahyu Yunarti

The role of trust in shaping mother-and-child relationship: Indigenous psychological analysis
Tri Hayuning Tyas, KwartarinIW Wahyu Yunarti, Ulchol Kim
Ardi Primasari & KwartarinIW Wahyu Yunarti

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Sinopsis
Thank you.