

Research Abstract

Traditional ecological knowledge—~~abbreviated as~~ (TEK)—does matter in contemporary research in anthropology. TEK **not only** presents native ecosystems which support indigenous life, **but also** demonstrates how humans interact with their environment, therefore, connecting both ~~into to the~~ natural-cultural continuum, in terms of which we could discover the equal relationship between human and non-human beings. In ~~middle of~~ central Taiwan, some ~~of~~ local communities ~~there~~ traditionally gather their surrounding plants in the environment to fit their various needs of feeding, healing, and other specialized uses. ~~Different from formal medical treatments, such as Western and Chinese medicine, local people~~ grow and gather medical plants and heal illness by their traditionally secret recipes, ~~different from formal medical treatments, such as Western and Chinese medicine,~~ and which are composed by varieties of herbs and materials. ~~However,~~ such measures, generally called folk healing, ~~however,~~ are not allowed by governmentally medical management, although to some degree they populate in some ~~of~~ local communities in Taiwan. ~~What exactly is your research question and how might it build on previous research?~~

This study ~~would~~ will investigate several medicinal gardens in ~~middle~~ Central of Taiwan, ~~and will include~~ interviewing garden owners and growers, attempting to explore what TEK ~~they~~ these gardeners conserve, how they transmit TEK, and observe the obstacles of preservation and transmission ~~they meet~~ in the contemporary world. Moreover, ~~given from the~~ legislation of cultural heritage conservation in recent years in Taiwan, my fieldwork also wants to excavate the TEK of local communities which have ~~the potential to be assigned~~ lawfully designated as the intangible cultural heritages lawfully. ~~Anything else you want to say about your proposed study design or the framework you'll be using?~~

TEK can contribute to our world now, ~~as~~ more and more anthropological research points out that the wisdom from indigenous daily life can play an important role in this period of dramatic ~~ally~~ climate change and environmental destruction. The knowledgeable system of medical plants in Taiwan may give a chance to ~~serve~~ improve human conditions in modern life and ~~allow us to~~ reconsider our relationships with non-human beings.

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Commented [LR1]: Word choice

Commented [JL2R1]: One of the mainstream approaches in contemporary anthropology

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Commented [LR3]: Use a summary phrase here: both _____

Commented [JL4R3]: Human-environmental interaction

Commented [LR5]: This is unclear to me as a reader—let's try to give this idea its own sentence

Commented [JL6R5]: Place this idea in its own complete sentence.

Commented [LR7]: Central Taiwan?

Commented [LR8]: I think it would be more natural to use nouns here: food, medicinal treatments, and other specialized use.

Commented [LR9]: The grammar is off here—I'll explain

Commented [LR10]: What does this refer to?

Commented [LR11]: are still practiced

Commented [JL12R11]: Are still popular/Are still common

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Commented [LR13]: unclear

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