

Risk in Asia: an exploratory analysis

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1. Introduction

Open any daily newspaper on almost any day and you will frequently find an article related to the daily risks. Risk is a significant social problem. Recognition of the serious impact that the feeling of risk may have on individuals and communities has emerged among many researchers. In addition, it seems evident that the contemporary society is experiencing more risks than before. As a social problem, several aspects of risks are notable. One of them is how to define and operationalize the risk and it is still a contested issue.

Sometimes, some of risks related to cultural norms which are unique to each nation, its history, and popular ideas. Certain commentators argue that there are a number of important features in notions of risk in late modern societies. However, little attention is paid to the broader social, cultural and historical contexts in which such heuristics are developed and function. The question is how differently risk might be understood as a sociocultural phenomenon in each individual society. What are identified as 'risks' are understood as inevitably the outcome of sociocultural processes. Such risks tend to serve certain social, cultural and political functions.

Needless to say, all of these risks will vary over time and are not in static. Theoretical attempt to explain the feeling of risk can be categorized into several dimensions such as personal vulnerability, the environment, and the social relationship. It seems reasonable to start with socio-demographical variables to account for variations in the risk levels.

Obviously, many previous research approaches took this step. Previously, many fear related research has built a model in which vulnerability is conceptualized along with physical, social and psychological dimensions.

In this paper, I mostly focus on the social construction of the risk and describe the phenomenon of risk in Asia. In terms of serious worries that might be identified as risks, I try to examine how those risks are patterned and how differ country to country. Finally, as an exploratory study, I test which factors influence on the level of risks and how those determinants of risks differ country to country.

2. Theoretical Background

One of the most lively areas of theoretical debate in social and cultural theory in recent times is that addressing the phenomenon of risk and the role it plays in contemporary social life (Lupton, 1999). Three major theoretical perspectives on risk have emerged and three major approaches can be summarized as the ‘cultural/symbolic’, and ‘risk society’ and the ‘governmentality’ perspectives (Lupton, 1999). Even though they have different approaches, they do have some common concerns on the research of risk. For example, those three approaches to risk take account the broader social, cultural, and historical contexts in which risk as a concept derives its meaning and resonance.

The ‘risk-society’ approach have chosen to focus their analyses largely on macro-structural factors influencing what they see to be an intensification of concern in late modern societies about risks. This approach argues that the risks produced under the conditions of late modernity have increased magnitude and become globalized, and are therefore more difficult than in past eras to calculate and therefore manage or avoid. In short, Beck’s and Giddens’s

arguments on risk society can be considered as the concept of reflexive modernity.

On the social construction of the risk, Bauman(2000) argues that today's individual freedom is evaluated more highly than collective economic security and this eventually produces widespread anxiety. Needless to say, Bauman(2000) argues that society becomes more postmodern, it will increase the levels of insecurities. But still, Bauman emphasizes on the importance of the social construction of anxiety or risk.

Compared to the 'risk-society' approach, the cultural/symbolic perspective is more towards the relativist side. In other words, the cultural/symbolic approach argues that the dangers which are identified as risks as 'all too real'. In other words, it is not about the reality of dangers, but about how they are conceptualized and recognized as risks. Among these approaches, this paper tries to focus on the cultural/symbolic approach. In a sense, this paper seeks to identify a range of dimensions/features of risks in relations to the representation of public anxieties about risk. Based on the social and cultural significance of risk, this paper will try to identify a contextualistic formulation of risk (Thompson and Dean, 1996) so as to understand what risk and how risk is constructed in each Asian country and will eventually retrieve the social meaning of the public perceptions of risk. Thompson and Dean(1996) distinguish between two conceptions of risk: one is a probabilistic approach and the other is a contextualistic formulation of risk. From a probabilistic approach, risk is purely a matter of the probability of an event or its consequences. On the other hand, a contextualist formulation of risk includes the cultural understanding of a risk and its consequences, and aspects of trust and blame, so on. For this reason in a contextualistic formulation, risk has no single determining criterion. Therefore, a risk will be associated with a number of characteristics including societal and personal attributes.

As an exploratory study, this paper tries to identify the kinds of risk, and mapping out different causal factors. And also, this paper tries to identify who are the most at risk(feeling) groups in each countries or regions. It is reasonable to start with the position that the social demographic characteristics could be associated with the more fearful individuals(feeling of risk).

3. Data and Methodology

1) Data

The data for this paper is from 2006 & 2007 Asia Barometer Survey. This paper covers 12 countries including Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The sample size is about 1,000 individuals for each country except China which contains 2,000 individuals. The total sample consists of 13,000 individuals.

2) Measures

Obviously, there is no direct measure on risk per se. However, the Asia Barometer utilizes such questions about people's serious worries. For example, the question of "serious worry" covers so many issues from poverty, unemployment, natural disasters, and so on. Risk was operationalized in terms of the respondent's answers on the 29 questions of serious worries. A risk scale was constructed by adding up all the items. In other words, a risk scale was defined for research purposes in terms of cumulative scores from 0 to 29. This measure was scored in a positive direction such that higher scores indicate greater values on serious worries. In this sense, the index of serious worries will reveal a differential sensitivity.

As demographic variables, this paper utilizes four variables such as gender, age, income, and education. These demographic variables are based on the perceived vulnerability thesis (Hale, 1996; Killias, 1990). In short, perceived vulnerability involves with physical, social, and situational aspects of vulnerability. And, anticipated vulnerability to risk can explain differences in levels of anxiety between certain social groups. Gender(female) was treated as a dichotomous dummy variable (0=male, 1=female). Age was coded as 10 year interval so this paper contains from 20s to 60s age groups. Income was coded as High, Mid, and Low. Education level was also coded as High, Mid, and Low. All of these demographic variables are related to the vulnerability hypothesis. In the vulnerability hypothesis, it is argued that if people feel vulnerable then there will be likely to be more worries or risky feeling. Being female, being in lower income, being in lower education, and being older are all meant to be vulnerable in this sense.

As well as demographic factors, this paper also utilizes four more variables such as Confidence in Institutions, Satisfaction on Personal Life, Satisfaction on Standard of Living, and Satisfaction on Social Institution. These variables considered as some indicators of social relationships. Sunstein(2005) argues that cultural values play a greater role in risk perception. In short, individuals hold attitudes toward risk which reflect and strengthen their preferred views of society. In other words, according to Douglas(1992), people's conception of what constitutes danger, or risk, vary. Simply, it relies on the way their social relations are organized. Based on their social relations, people select risks as being important or trivial. For this reason, this paper includes several social relations related variables. In order to measure individual's trust in public institutions, the confidence in public institutions was measured with a scale of 5 items designed to measure people's trust in public institutions. The list of institutions includes central government, local government, army, legal system, police,

and parliament and congress($\alpha = .807$).

Satisfaction on Personal Life was measured with a scale of 7 questions such as marriage, family life, friendships, spiritual life, neighbors, leisure, and health. On each question, the respondent was asked to “please tell me how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with the following aspects of your life?.” Every questions were inverted the original values so that higher scores mean the higher degree of satisfaction. The satisfaction on personal life was created by adding up all 7 questions($\alpha = .808$).

Satisfaction on Standard Living was measured with a scale of 5 sub-questions from “Please tell me how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with the following aspects of your life.” The standard of living variable includes house income, standard of living, job, education, and housing questions. Every questions were inverted the original values so that higher scores mean the higher degree of satisfaction. The satisfaction on standard living was created by adding up all 5 questions($\alpha = .785$).

Satisfaction on Social Institution was measured with a scale of 4 questions such as social welfare, public safety, democratic system, and the environment. Every questions were inverted the original values so that higher scores mean the higher degree of satisfaction. The satisfaction on social institution was created by adding up all 4 questions($\alpha = .795$).

3) Analytic strategy

Based on the comparative nature of this paper, this paper will present some descriptive statistics by the regions and countries. And then, I will explore if there is any different patterns of risks among countries and regions. Finally, in order to check if there are different determinant of risks, I run a series of OLS regression on each country and compare the results.

4. Results

4.1 Descriptive Statistics

In terms of demographic variables, there is no clear pattern among all 12 countries. However, there is a clear difference on the measures of satisfaction and confidence variables between the two major regions (South East and East). It seems that the levels of satisfaction and confidence among South East Asian countries are somewhat higher than East Asian countries. It seems that people in South East Asian countries have a relatively higher level of 'Satisfaction' and 'Confidence' scales.

<Table 1. Here>

Table 2 shows the sample characteristics of 12 countries and the mean score of serious worries of each country. Cambodia has the highest level of serious worries (13.89) and the level of serious worries in Cambodia is relatively higher than any other Asian countries. The lowest level of serious worries can be found in Hong Kong(4.99).

<Table 2. Here>

In order to compare each country's level of serious worries, I divided into two regions. South East Asian countries include Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. And, East Asian Countries include China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. On the questions of serious worries, most of SE Asian countries have higher levels of worry than East Asian countries. Even though the levels of serious worries are higher in the SE Asian countries, the patterns of serious worries are very similar in Asian Countries (Figure 1). Figure 1 shows the pattern of serious worries in South East Asian Countries and East

Asian Countries. It is interesting that the pattern of serious worries is very similar, almost identical. However, there are some different patterns on several questions. For example, most of SE Asian countries have a higher level of worries but not on the issues of 'Aging' and 'Birth rate.' On the issues of 'Aging' and 'Birth rate', Japan and South Korea have a higher levels of worries compared to other countries. From this comparison, it is evident that countries have differential sensitivity to risks, which seems to be based on their cultural and sociological background.

<Figure 1 Serious Worries by Region (South East Asia & East Asia) here >

If we turn to the rank order of serious worries among countries, it is much more clear that there are some differences among countries (Table 3). For example, the most worry among South East Asian countries is the issue of 'poverty' except Singapore(=Unemployment) and Malaysia(=Crime). However, the most worry among East Asian countries is the issue of 'unemployment' except Japan(=Natural disaster) and China(=poverty). It is obvious that the most worry reflects the cultural and sociological concern of each country. For example, as expected, the most worry of Japan is the natural disaster. It is also noteworthy that the Asian Dragons such as Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan are now having same issue(=unemployment) as their most worry.

<Table 3. Here>

Now we turn to the results of the dependent variable of this study. Table 4 shows the result of mean comparison between two regions. Table 4 reveals that South East Asian countries have a higher level of worry than East Asian countries and the difference is statistically significant($t=22.121, p<.001$).

<Table 4. Here>

4.2 Demographic variables and the serious worries

Now we turn to whether the demographic variables have a differential effect on the dependent variable (Table 5). Based on the vulnerability thesis, I now test whether anticipated vulnerability to risks can explain the differences in the levels of anxiety or risks between certain social groups.

4.2.1 Gender and the levels of risks

In terms of gender difference on the serious worries, I now test the mean difference between regions and countries. When I consider all samples without considering regions, it seems that there is no gender difference on the levels of serious worries. In addition, there is no gender difference between the regions (South East and East). However, if I separate each country and run a t-test analysis, I can find some significant gender difference in a specific country. Most of countries do not show a significant gender difference on the level of serious worries. However, the countries such as Philippines and China do show some gender differences on the levels of serious worries. In addition, it is noteworthy that some countries males do have higher levels of serious worries but some countries females do show different directions.

<Table 5. Here>

4.2.2 Income and the levels of risks

<Figure 2. Here>

Figure 2 shows the mean difference by income levels in each region. In South East Asian countries, Low income group has a higher level of serious worries compared to Mid and High

income groups. But, in the East Asian countries, the high income group has a higher level of worries compared to Mid and Low income groups. In the South East Asian countries, the income difference in worry was partly explained by lower income group typically feeling less able to control risk than higher income groups. However, in East Asian countries, it shows a different picture. In East Asian countries, people in higher income group feel more worries compared to Low and Mid income groups. And, apparently, the vulnerability explanation does not apply to the pattern in the East Asian countries.

<Table 6. Here>

However, if I separate each country, I can find some meaningful patterns. For example, in terms of the relationship between the level of worries and the income level, three patterns can be identified. Three patterns are ‘squeezing middle class’, ‘linear growth pattern’, and ‘V type pattern.’ For example, squeezing middle class type includes Cambodia, Hong Kong, Japan, and South Korea. In these countries, the mid income group has a relatively higher worry level compared to other income groups. In the V shape pattern which includes China, Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand, people in the mid income group usually have a lower level of worries compared to Low and High income groups. And, the linear pattern including Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, and Vietnam shows an increasing pattern as income increases (Table 7).

4.2.3 Age and the levels of risks

<Figure 3. Here>

Figure 3 shows the mean difference by age groups in each region. In South East Asian countries, it seems there is a significant difference among age groups. For example, specific age groups such as 30s and 50s have a higher level of serious worries compared to other age

groups. However, in the East Asian countries, there seems no significant difference among age groups. Rather, it seems the level of serious worries decreases as age increases. However, if I separate each country, there seems to be some meaningful relationships between age and the level of serious worries. Three relationships between age and serious worries can be identified. First pattern is a decreasing pattern and it can be related to a certain culture so called 'Chinese culture sphere.' The Chinese culture sphere includes China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan. In these countries, the level of serious worries decreases as age increases. The second pattern between age and serious worries is M type pattern which means certain age groups have a higher level of serious worries. This M type pattern includes Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. In these countries, certain age groups such as 30s and 50s have a higher level of serious worries compared to other age groups. The last pattern between age and serious worries can be found in Japan and South Korea. It is hard to say that there is a same pattern between Japan and South Korea. But, people in their 40s in Japan and South Korea have a higher level of serious worries than any other age groups. In terms of age difference in worry in Japan and South Korea, it can be interpreted as people in their 40s are experiencing more vulnerable situation in both countries.

<Table 8. Here>

4.3 Different determinants of risk(serious worries) by region and country

<Table 9. Regression results by region>

Table 9 is the results of regression analyses on the serious worries by regions. In terms of determinants of serious worry, there are some differences between South East Asian countries and East Asian countries. For example, in South East Asian countries, the income has a significant effect on the level of serious worries. However, in East Asian countries, only the

education significantly influence on the level of serious worries. In terms of satisfaction and confidence, only the satisfaction variables have a significant effect on the level of serious worries in South East Asian countries. However, in East Asian countries, all the satisfaction variables as well as confidence in public have showed significant effects. More specifically, ‘confidence in public institutions’ has a significant effect on the level of serious worries in East Asia countries, but it doesn’t have any impact in the South Asia countries. The variable ‘Satisfaction on personal life’ also shows interesting results. In the South Asian countries, it negatively influences on the level of serious worries, but the direction is changed in the East Asian countries. In other words, in the South East Asian countries, the levels of serious worries significantly decrease as the individual levels of ‘satisfaction on personal life’ increase. However, in the East Asian countries, the levels of serious worries also increase as the individual levels of ‘satisfaction on personal life’ increase.

<Table 10. Here>

Table 10 shows the regression results performed for each individual country. Even though the goodness of fit index for regressions performed on each individual country reveals a very low explanatory power, it is still worthy to find any different tendency or different determinants of the individual country. In other words, the purpose of this presentation of the regression results of individual country is to find out the different patterns of differential individual attributes effects.

In the South East Asian countries, it is hard to find any discernible pattern of determinants of risks. In other words, each country shows different determinants and different results. In Cambodia, only the female variable is significant. Being female is negatively related to the level of serious worries in Cambodia. In Indonesia, only the education is

positively related to the level of serious worries. In Malaysia, only the income is positively related to the level of serious worries. However, in Philippines, there are several significant factors to predict the level of serious worries. In Philippines, being female and having more income level are positively related to the level of serious worries. But, the satisfaction on the standard of living is negatively related to serious worries. In Singapore, only the Confidence in Public Institution is negatively related to serious worries. It is interesting that there is a contradictory effect of being female between Cambodia and Philippines.

However, in the East Asian countries, the satisfaction level on the institution is all negatively related to serious worries. Among East Asian countries, those who have high satisfaction on the institution are more likely to have lower levels of serious worries. Except the satisfaction on the institution, there are some more significant variables in each country. For example, the satisfaction on the standard of living is also negatively related to the serious worries. In South Korea, the education is positively related to the serious worries. In other words, in Korea, the levels of serious worries increases as the education level increases. The confidence in public institution is also significant in Japan and Taiwan. However, the direction is opposite. The effect of the confidence in public institution is positive in Japan, but it is negative in Taiwan. In other words, high confidence in public institution intensifies the concern in Japan, but it decreases the level of concern in Taiwan.

5 Conclusion

As a broad sketch of the conceptualization and patterns of risks in Asia countries, the results of this paper reveals that each Asian country somewhat differently conceptualized and recognized risks. Obviously, serious worries identified as risks are real to each country and

they are mostly constructed and related to their own cultural norms.

Even though there is a discernible pattern of relationships between some demographic variables and risks, most of them are descriptive. In terms of determinants of risks, each country shows different significant factors and directions. It reveals that each country or culture has its own mechanism to produce feelings of risks. For example, gender (or any other variables) matters in one country but not in any other country. And, I believe that we need to focus further on these cultural differences and such particular cultural expression on the issue of risks.

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Table 1. Confidence and Satisfaction by Region

SEE		conf_pub	pl_satis	sl_satis	ln_satis
South East	Mean	14.6738	29.0316	18.7634	14.8904
	N	5521	4898	6730	5842
	Std. Deviation	2.82495	3.84332	3.50126	2.98406
East	Mean	12.7103	25.4821	16.4118	12.2128
	N	5385	4310	5740	5836
	Std. Deviation	2.89970	3.76466	3.19196	2.74696
Total	Mean	13.7043	27.3702	17.6810	13.5523
	N	10906	9208	12470	11678
	Std. Deviation	3.02566	4.19841	3.56074	3.16503

Table 2. Mean (serious worries) by Country

Country	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Cambodia	13.8953	1012	6.10305
China	6.6915	2000	3.78398
Hong Kong	4.9900	1000	3.09572
Indonesia	6.2720	1000	3.08959
Japan	7.2303	1003	5.06522
Malaysia	7.2110	1000	4.29522
Philippines	6.2170	1000	3.59762
Singapore	8.0096	1038	4.83657
South Korea	5.0283	1023	3.04310
Taiwan	6.0765	1006	3.26798
Thailand	6.0240	1000	3.85854
Vietnam	7.4290	1000	4.18766
Total	7.0640	13082	4.62547

<Table 3. Rank order of serious worries by country>

Rank Order	Cambodia	Indonesia	Malaysia	Philippines	Thailand	Vietnam	Singapore	SE	China	Hong Kong	Japan	South Korea	Taiwan	E
1	Poverty	Poverty	Crime	Poverty	Poverty	Poverty	Unemployment	Poverty	Poverty	Unemployment	Natural Disaster	Unemployment	Unemployment	Unemployment
2	Health	Unemployment	Poverty	Crime	Illegal Drugs	Unemployment	Terrorism	Unemployment	Health	Poverty	Crime	Health	Economic	Poverty
3	Corruption	Natural Disaster	Illegal Drugs	Unemployment	Crime	Natural Disaster	Health	Crime	Natural Disaster	Environmental/Pollution	Environmental/Pollution	Economic	Poverty	Health
4	Illegal Drugs	Economic Inequality	Natural Disaster	Illegal Drugs	Unemployment	Health	Natural Disaster	Illegal Drugs	Unemployment	Natural Disaster	War/Conflict	Poverty	Crime	Natural Disaster
5	Unemployment	Crime	Terrorism	Terrorism	Terrorism	Illegal Drugs	War/Conflict	Natural Disaster	Corruption	Economic	Moral Decline	Education	Natural Disaster	Environmental/Pollution

<Table 4. Mean comparison between SE and East Asian countries>

	Region	N	Mean	S.d	t
Total_Worry	South East	7050	7.8765	5.07128	22.121 ***
	East	6032	6.1144	3.83045	

Table 5. Mean comparison by Gender & country

	Gender	N	Mean	S.D	S.E	t
South East	male	3338	7.91	5.13	0.09	.500
	female	3712	7.85	5.02	0.08	
Cambodia	male	483	14.28	6.17	0.28	1.937
	female	529	13.54	6.02	0.26	
Indonesia	male	431	6.24	3.03	0.15	-.294
	female	569	6.30	3.14	0.13	
Malaysia	male	497	7.27	4.23	0.19	.444
	female	503	7.15	4.36	0.19	
Philippines	male	494	5.92	3.26	0.15	-2.560 *
	female	506	6.50	3.88	0.17	
Singapore	male	475	8.10	4.83	0.22	.546
	female	563	7.93	4.85	0.20	
Thailand	male	476	5.95	3.81	0.17	-.598
	female	524	6.09	3.91	0.17	
Vietnam	male	482	7.45	4.21	0.19	.170
	female	518	7.41	4.17	0.18	
East	male	3027	6.17	3.93	0.07	1.047
	female	3005	6.06	3.73	0.07	
China	male	1015	6.88	3.91	0.12	2.250 *
	female	985	6.50	3.64	0.12	
Hong Kong	male	484	4.92	2.82	0.13	-.739
	female	516	5.06	3.33	0.15	
Japan	male	502	7.22	5.16	0.23	-.058
	female	501	7.24	4.98	0.22	
South Korea	male	512	4.98	3.22	0.14	-.462
	female	511	5.07	2.86	0.13	
Taiwan	male	514	6.08	3.48	0.15	.051
	female	492	6.07	3.04	0.14	

Table 6. Mean(serious worries) by Income groups by region

		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	F	Sig.
South East	Low	2148	9.08	6.01	0.13	80.384	.000
	Mid	2532	7.27	4.44	0.09		
	High	2074	7.66	4.62	0.10		
	Total	6754	7.97	5.10	0.06		
East	Low	2815	6.14	3.87	0.07	4.014	.018
	Mid	1918	5.91	3.44	0.08		
	High	921	6.31	3.98	0.13		
	Total	5654	6.09	3.75	0.05		

Table 8. Mean(serious worries) by Age groups by Region

		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	F	Sig.
South East	20-29	2089	7.86	4.77	0.10	3.818	.004
	30-39	1963	8.17	5.15	0.12		
	40-49	1564	7.68	5.17	0.13		
	50-59	929	7.92	5.45	0.18		
	60-69	505	7.31	4.88	0.22		
	Total	7050	7.88	5.07	0.06		
East	20-29	1277	6.23	3.97	0.11	1.985	.094
	30-39	1565	6.16	3.72	0.09		
	40-49	1408	6.15	3.91	0.10		
	50-59	1083	6.10	3.76	0.11		
	60-69	699	5.75	3.74	0.14		
	Total	6032	6.11	3.83	0.05		

<Table 9. Regression results by region>

	South East Asia		East Asia	
	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta
Female	-.012	-.014	-.019	-.025
Age	-.020	-.031	.000	.001
Income	-.142 ***	-.152 ***	-.026	.012
Edu	.031 *	.022	.092 ***	.089 ***
conf_pub		.023		.036 *
pl_satis		-.229 ***		.056 *
sl_satis		.080 ***		-.002
ln_satis		-.096 ***		-.157 ***
N	5747	3010	5648	3478
R ²	.019	.093	.008	.030

Table 10 OLS Regression on Risk (by region & country) [Std. beta]

	Cambodia		Indonesia		Malaysia		Philippines		Singapore		Thailand		Vietnam	
	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta
Female	-.074 *	-.089 *	.023	.049	-.021	.017	.076 *	.118 **	-.020	-.015	.023	.037	.004	
Age group	.063	.046	.004	-.008	.005	.030	-.062	-.029	-.021	-.027	.017	.013	.058	
Income	-.038	-.012	-.013	-.082	.089 **	.120 *	.130 **	.124 **	-.019	-.024	.021	.011	.038	
Edu	-.029	-.051	.196 ***	.189 ***	.057	.060	.053	.071	.050	.043	.048	.066	.077 *	
conf_pub		.040		.008		.019		.015		-.106 *		.048		
pl_satis		-.018		.065		.078		.094		.037		-.012		
sl_satis		.090		-.063		-.112		-.178 **		-.039		-.073		
ln_satis		-.037		.031		-.095		-.066		.001		-.067		
N	1012	610	994	624	916	488	825	627	1005	503	1000	661	1000	
R2	.012	.019	.037	.042	.014	.037	.038	.062	.004	.014	.004	.020	.010	
	China		Hong Kong		Japan		South Korea		Taiwan				Total (12 countries)	
	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta	Beta
Female	-.047 *	-.030	.028	-.023	-.034	-.031	.035	.029	.003	-.005			-.011	-.020
Age group	-.016	.017	-.062	-.081	-.023	-.063	.092 *	.083	.006	-.020			-.057 **	-.076 ***
Income	-.007	.025	-.046	.032	.001	.005	-.065	-.026	.082 *	.124 **			-.028 **	-.038 **
Edu	.078 **	.060	.121 **	.061	.055	-.005	.141 **	.117 *	.094 *	.052			-.011	-.018
conf_pub		-.039		-.028		.126 **		.019		-.180 ***				.056 ***
pl_satis		.066		.067		-.020		-.008		-.054				-.030
sl_satis		-.084 *		.061		.028		.078		.059				.069 ***
ln_satis		-.063 *		-.154 **		-.262 ***		-.190 ***		-.009				-.079 ***
N	1990	1369	936	469	748	458	990	616	984	566			12400	6991
R2	.009	.017	.023	.042	.006	.071	.013	.040	.017	.059			.004	.014

Figure 1.

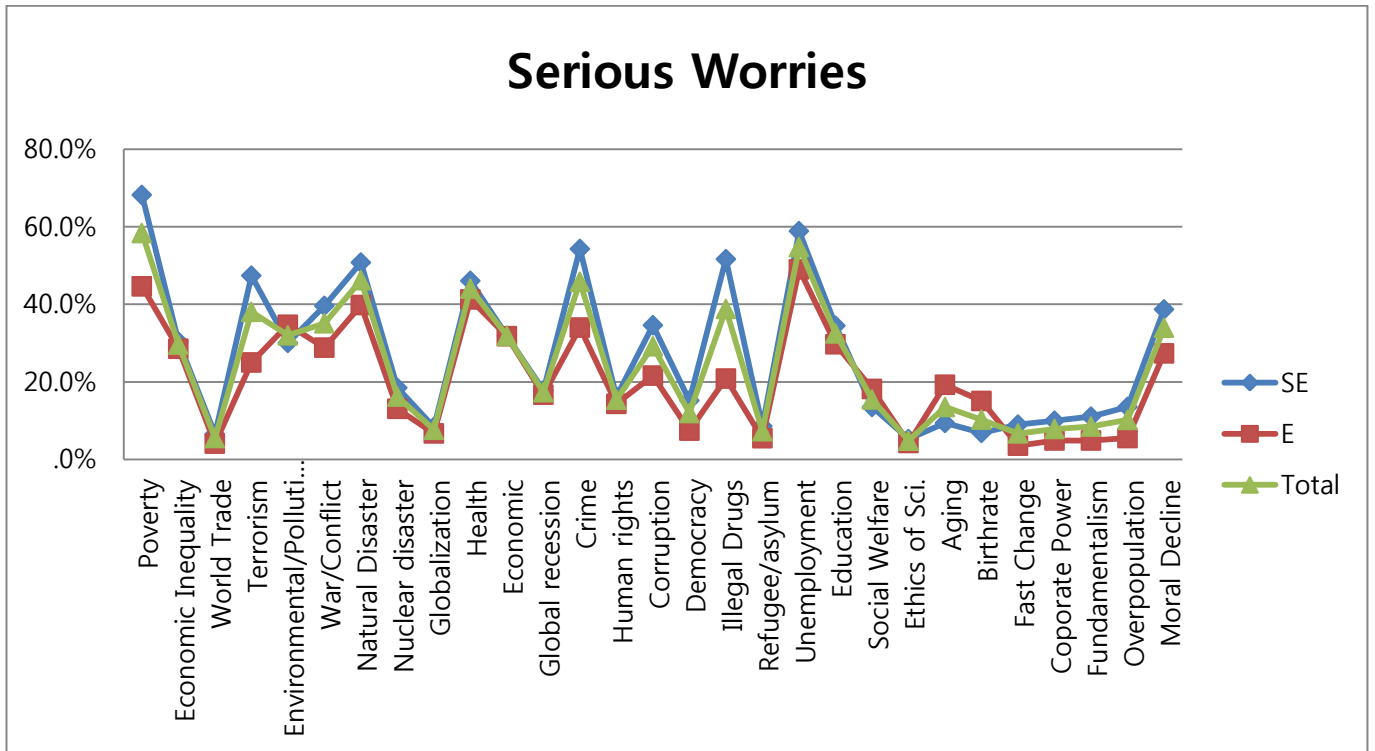


Figure 2. Mean (serious worries) by Income Level by Region(SE and E)

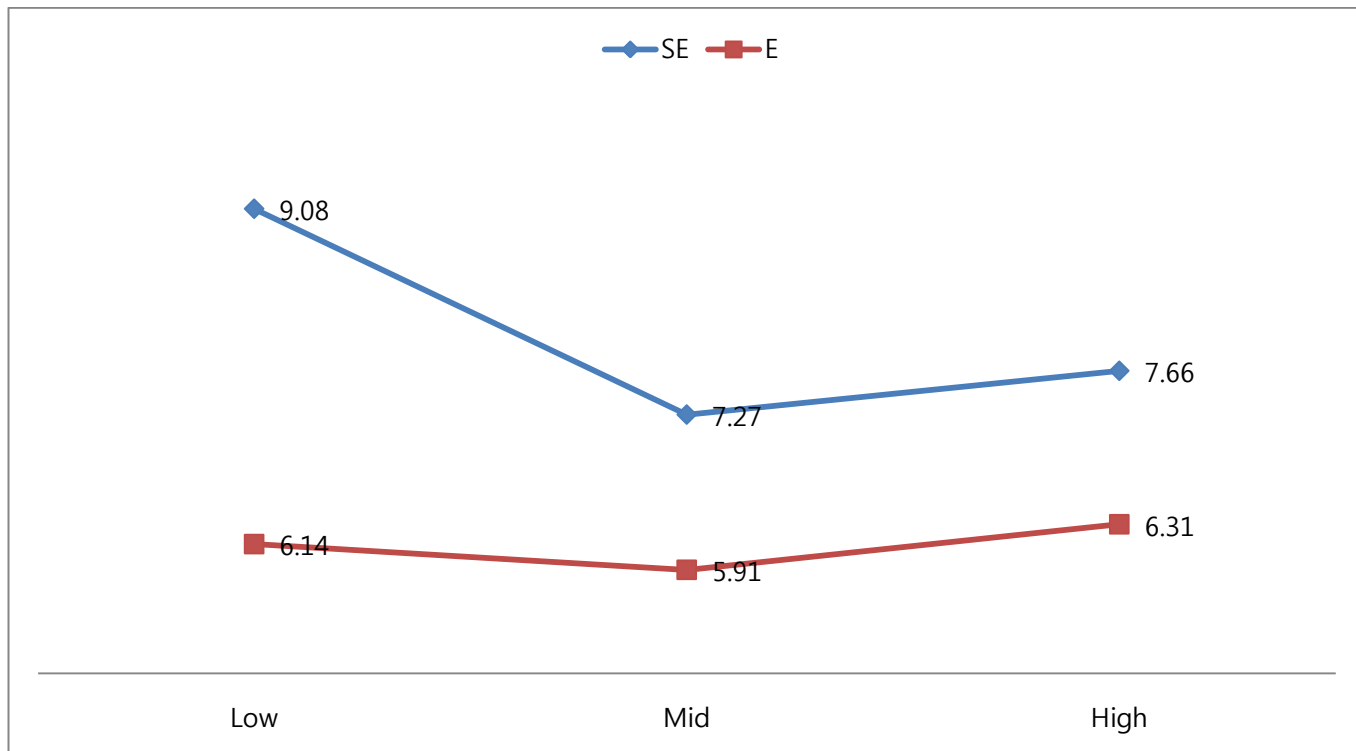
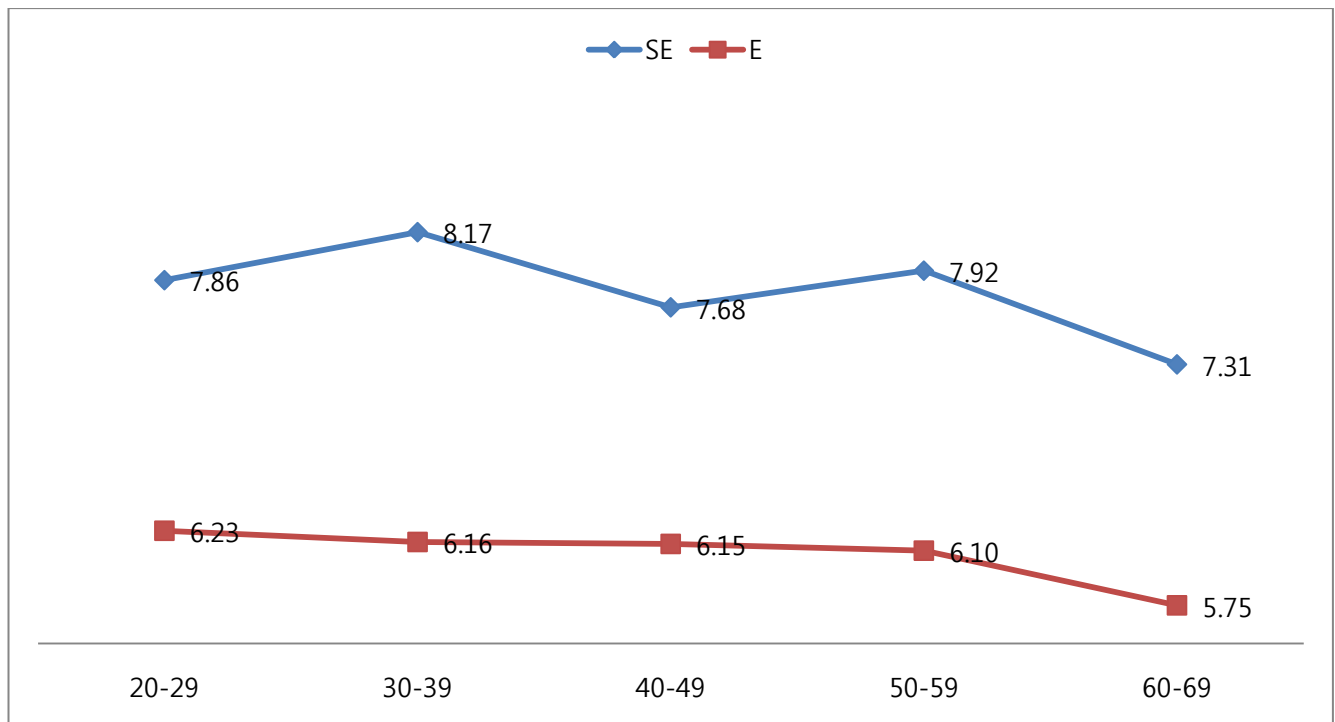


Figure 3. Mean(serious worries) by Age groups by Region(SE and E)



		Country											Total	
		Cambodia	China	Hong Kong	Indonesia	Japan	Malaysia	Philippines	Singapore	South Korea	Taiwan	Thailand		Vietnam
Gender	Male	483 48%	1015 51%	484 48%	431 43%	502 50%	497 50%	494 49%	475 46%	512 50%	514 51%	476 48%	482 48%	6365 49%
	Female	529 52%	985 49%	516 52%	569 57%	501 50%	503 50%	506 51%	563 54%	511 50%	492 49%	524 52%	518 52%	6717 51%
Age group	20-29	341 34%	416 21%	215 22%	360 36%	188 19%	332 33%	276 28%	204 20%	208 20%	250 25%	250 25%	326 33%	3366 26%
	30-39	299 30%	584 29%	258 26%	305 31%	219 22%	250 25%	266 27%	288 28%	264 26%	240 24%	267 27%	288 29%	3528 27%
	40-49	197 19%	457 23%	268 27%	198 20%	184 18%	220 22%	204 20%	294 28%	256 25%	243 24%	236 24%	215 22%	2972 23%
	50-59	111 11%	350 18%	156 16%	91 9%	225 22%	135 14%	159 16%	179 17%	171 17%	181 18%	157 16%	97 10%	2012 15%
	60-69	64 6%	193 10%	103 10%	46 5%	187 19%	63 6%	95 10%	73 7%	124 12%	92 9%	90 9%	74 7%	1204 9%
	Educational group 2003-2008	Low	606 60%	995 50%	420 42%	613 61%	82 8%	417 42%	329 33%	597 58%	195 19%	325 32%	584 58%	373 37%
	Mid	315 31%	488 24%	419 42%	331 33%	442 44%	439 44%	402 40%	252 24%	441 43%	395 39%	151 15%	321 32%	4396 34%
	High	91 9%	517 26%	159 16%	56 6%	473 47%	144 14%	266 27%	189 18%	386 38%	286 28%	265 27%	306 31%	3138 24%
Household income group	Low	679 67%	1366 69%	380 41%	226 23%	370 49%	187 20%	359 43%	279 28%	487 49%	212 22%	60 6%	358 36%	4963 40%
	Mid	175 17%	300 15%	466 50%	417 42%	222 30%	493 54%	226 27%	382 38%	321 32%	609 62%	470 47%	369 37%	4450 36%
	High	158 16%	324 16%	91 10%	351 35%	160 21%	236 26%	242 29%	344 34%	183 18%	163 17%	470 47%	273 27%	2995 24%
Total		1012 100%	1990 100%	937 100%	994 100%	752 100%	916 100%	827 100%	1005 100%	991 100%	984 100%	1000 100%	1000 100%	12408 100%

	Cambodia	Indonesia	Malaysia	Philippines	Thailand	Vietnam	Singapore	SE	China	Hong Kong	Japan	South Korea	Taiwan	E	Total
Poverty	93.3%	68.7%	55.6%	75.6%	64.6%	77.8%	41.9%	68.2%	65.8%	52.9%	21.5%	36.5%	46.5%	44.6%	58.4%
Economic Inequality	38.5%	45.2%	35.0%	16.5%	24.3%	25.4%	27.8%	30.4%	38.5%	19.9%	23.1%	30.0%	31.2%	28.5%	29.6%
World Trade	15.4%	4.0%	3.2%	7.5%	4.6%	6.3%	4.7%	6.5%	3.0%	6.6%	3.7%	2.7%	4.4%	4.1%	5.5%
Terrorism	61.2%	37.3%	45.5%	40.3%	44.0%	35.9%	67.6%	47.4%	25.4%	24.5%	42.4%	11.0%	21.7%	25.0%	38.1%
Environmental/Pollution	62.1%	16.6%	34.8%	16.6%	17.4%	38.6%	24.3%	30.0%	38.1%	36.7%	51.0%	24.1%	23.7%	34.7%	32.0%
War/Conflict	75.1%	23.9%	37.6%	27.2%	18.5%	39.9%	55.0%	39.6%	29.1%	27.4%	48.5%	12.7%	26.5%	28.8%	35.1%
Natural Disaster	66.8%	62.8%	47.9%	17.0%	41.1%	63.2%	56.7%	50.8%	50.0%	35.7%	52.1%	20.9%	40.4%	39.8%	46.2%
Nuclear disaster	29.2%	9.2%	17.7%	11.2%	4.5%	21.3%	36.1%	18.5%	14.9%	9.2%	20.2%	8.8%	12.1%	13.1%	16.2%
Globalization	15.0%	6.1%	7.4%	5.8%	5.7%	4.8%	13.5%	8.3%	3.9%	8.1%	4.0%	6.9%	10.6%	6.7%	7.7%
Health	86.4%	26.2%	28.6%	22.7%	37.6%	59.5%	61.5%	46.1%	52.7%	32.3%	45.4%	50.5%	25.4%	41.3%	44.1%
Economic	43.9%	23.0%	42.9%	26.6%	37.6%	15.7%	33.5%	31.9%	13.6%	35.7%	23.0%	38.8%	47.7%	31.8%	31.8%
Global recession	31.1%	5.9%	27.7%	4.3%	12.2%	13.7%	29.6%	17.8%	6.9%	17.4%	14.9%	11.8%	32.5%	16.7%	17.3%
Crime	59.5%	41.0%	65.5%	59.4%	50.4%	53.2%	51.1%	54.3%	37.3%	13.8%	51.4%	23.9%	43.6%	34.0%	45.8%
Human rights	44.3%	12.0%	11.9%	22.7%	8.9%	.0%	13.5%	16.2%	29.0%	9.4%	15.2%	6.7%	11.3%	14.3%	15.4%
Corruption	85.1%	32.3%	39.3%	37.9%	14.6%	.0%	33.0%	34.6%	43.2%	8.2%	12.9%	15.6%	28.2%	21.6%	29.2%
Democracy	41.4%	7.2%	10.4%	15.0%	17.6%	.0%	14.7%	15.2%	8.4%	8.0%	8.9%	2.0%	9.8%	7.4%	12.0%
Illegal Drugs	80.1%	36.2%	54.2%	45.1%	53.6%	58.8%	33.5%	51.7%	38.6%	12.8%	27.1%	6.1%	19.7%	20.9%	38.8%
Refugee/asylum	32.2%	2.7%	7.9%	3.5%	5.2%	.0%	8.3%	8.5%	7.8%	3.1%	10.9%	1.4%	4.3%	5.5%	7.3%
Unemployment	79.2%	64.2%	41.5%	45.3%	47.0%	64.7%	70.3%	58.9%	43.7%	56.5%	33.2%	54.8%	56.9%	49.0%	54.8%
Education	71.8%	29.1%	20.3%	36.4%	23.5%	35.2%	25.0%	34.5%	25.3%	24.7%	31.0%	34.8%	32.7%	29.7%	32.5%
Social Welfare	33.4%	12.1%	6.1%	10.8%	14.5%	8.8%	9.0%	13.5%	21.4%	5.0%	33.6%	21.3%	9.5%	18.2%	15.5%
Ethics of Sci.	13.0%	.7%	2.6%	5.4%	.8%	9.6%	4.5%	5.2%	8.3%	2.8%	4.0%	1.8%	4.4%	4.2%	4.8%
Aging	20.8%	1.4%	6.0%	4.0%	1.9%	7.5%	24.1%	9.4%	10.7%	13.2%	34.2%	21.1%	17.1%	19.3%	13.5%
Birthrate	20.5%	1.8%	3.7%	4.9%	1.1%	7.6%	8.3%	6.8%	2.2%	5.2%	39.6%	19.5%	8.9%	15.1%	10.3%
Fast Change	26.5%	3.1%	8.2%	6.7%	4.8%	3.7%	9.8%	9.0%	3.0%	2.3%	6.8%	2.9%	2.7%	3.5%	6.7%
Coporate Power	27.1%	3.1%	7.1%	12.9%	3.6%	8.8%	7.3%	10.0%	5.0%	3.1%	7.4%	4.3%	4.7%	4.9%	7.9%
Fundamentalism	32.6%	9.3%	8.3%	4.7%	6.2%	4.6%	11.6%	11.0%	6.4%	4.5%	7.2%	2.7%	3.6%	4.9%	8.5%
Overpopulation	28.2%	5.1%	3.3%	21.6%	2.9%	25.7%	8.0%	13.5%	14.0%	5.8%	4.3%	.8%	2.7%	5.5%	10.2%
Moral Decline	76.0%	37.0%	40.9%	14.1%	33.7%	52.6%	16.6%	38.7%	23.9%	14.2%	45.7%	28.3%	24.8%	27.3%	34.0%
Total	1012	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1038	7050	2000	1000	1003	1023	1006	6032	13082