

The Effect of Human Capital and Social Capital on Cultural Capital of the Korean Elderly

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Abstract

In this study, in order to identify the effect of human capital and social capital on cultural capital of Korean elderly. For the collection of data, in November 2013, a survey was conducted targeting 353 elderly people residing in the local community. First, looking at the cultural capital level of elderly, it was 2.12 points in the past, but it is 2.63 now, so the level in the present and the past were less than the central value's 3 points, but the current cultural capital improved compared to the past. Second, the more of number of certificate as the human capital is, the more official network as the social capital is, the larger the cultural capital of the past is. In addition, the higher the personal reliability as the social capital is, the more the public network is, the larger the current cultural capital is. Especially, the public network was the variable which made most influential power on the cultural capital of the past and the current cultural capital. Thus, this study contributed to re-light the life of the elderly as productive in active aspect by examining the effects of the human capital and social capital on the accumulated and internalized cultural capital through whole life and examining the resource of the elderly.

Keywords: Cultural capital, Elderly, Human Capital, Official Network, Social Capital

1. Introduction

The aging of the population is causing the complexly many problems in the microscopic level and macroscopic level or the personal dimension and the social dimension¹. The increase of aging population means that the old people's desire such as the healthy elderly, sickly elderly, productive elderly, nonproductive elderly, active elderly, non-active elderly etc. are diversified, and this study focused on the resource of the elderly in order to approach the study on the elderly multi-dimensionally.

The resources are divided with the human capital, social capital, and cultural capital largely. First, the human capital is defined as the broad terms of the acquired skills and learning including the individual's innate ability through the education training². It is shown

as the revenue growth, health promotion through the investment about the education, training, health, and information in long-term, it is the result of the investment as the 'Product' accumulated in the human body. In early industrialization, the labor power was plentiful, so the importance of the human capital was not magnified, but the demand about the professional skills and knowledge of personnel as industrialization progresses increased, and the importance of the human capital is stressed due to the finiteness of the labor force indeed³.

Some of the scholars^{4,5} divided the human capital with the general human capital and the detailed resource by the work situations. The general human capital is related to the regular academic degree process, but the detailed human capital has deep relationship with the training process after relatively the academic degree process⁶.

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So the general human capital is in the educational level, but the detailed human capital means the certificate or job after the regular educational process. In addition, the personal human capital includes the technology and knowledge in school and the technology and knowledge in the enterprise, and the worker's health and the labor market information are regarded as the human capital⁷. By a comprehensive preceded study of these claims, in this study, the human capital was measured using the level of education of the elderly and the number of license held, the long-term job, duration of longest job and current job.

The social capital is the term first used in 1916 by Judson Hanifan⁸. The old stage is the time when the economic power decreases, so the old people's interest about the social capital may be begun from the perspective that the elderly is productive and independent. Especially the social capital is in the social relation but the individual, and it has significance as the resource to create the economic benefits for a long time⁹, the social capital of elderly is the important resource to help their happy old stage¹⁰.

However, there is difference between the definitions of the social capital by the scholars.^{11,12} defined the social capital in the shared values and trust aspect^{13,14}. He insisted that the social capital should be recognized as the valuable asset by the organization like material resource and human capital.¹⁵ defined the social capital in the network aspect for the cooperation^{13,14}. Putnam R⁸ insisted that the trust, norms, network are the three elements of the social capital three elements but he changed the emphasis point of the social capital as the norms of network and reciprocity, furthermore, he instead that the more rigorous and reliable social capital is only the network¹⁶. Based on such conceptual definition, this study has defined the social capital of elderly by dividing it into relational dimension and structural dimension. Relational dimension was measured using a private trust and public trust, and structural dimension was measured using a non-official network and official network as a social network.

Finally, the scholar who conceptualized the concept of the cultural capital systematically is Bourdieu. The cultural capital can divided the cultural tendency and attitude without passing down the social position directly like the economic capital, and it emphasizes the ability to use the cultural subject, so it can be said as the excellent mechanism to reproduce the social position¹⁷. In other

words, the cultural capital is defined as the language and cultural skills which can be learned by the ruling circles and the high rank culture preference which is used for the cultural and social selection and the cultural attitude and preference¹⁸.

Based on such conceptual definition, in this study, the cultural capital was measured by separating the previous (childhood) cultural capital from the current cultural capital as a cultural environment and experience.

This cultural capital is influenced by the human capital or social capital of the elderly. It costs the personal expense to learn the cultural capital for a long time, but the obtained cultural capital can be maintained for the individual's propensity in the social process for a long time, and even if the economic capital increases, it cannot buy suddenly¹⁹, so it have effects on the cultural activity and culture taste, and this cultural capital is passed on unobtrusively, and it is reproduced hierarchically²⁰. Bourdieu P¹⁸ insisted that the preference level about the cultural practices (visiting museum, concert participation, reading etc.) and literature, painting, music is closely connected to the educational level and secondly class²¹, so he emphasized the effects of the official education in the school for forming the cultural capital. In addition,²² insisted that the quality educational level increases the income and wage level and the social capital and cultural capital. Bourdieu P¹⁸ emphasized the importance of the initial socialization process in the childhood for learning the inherited cultural capital from parents²³, finally it implied that the effects of the social capital as the relationship between people on the cultural capital indirectly.

Thus, despite the importance of the cultural capital position for the old stage resource, the interest about the old stage cultural capital is insufficient, and the study on the relations between the human capital, the social capital and the cultural capital is insufficient. That is because of maybe the elderly is hardly exposed to the cultures in the contemporary historic situation. But the perspective about the life of elderly in the resource aspect of elderly in Korean society with the rapid rate of aging will contribute to relight the elderly as the productive people in the active dimension by the only dependent target.

Therefore, this study aims to examine the effects of the human capital and social capital of the elderly on the cultural capital based on the elderly. In detail, the human capital and social capital of the elderly, cultural

capital level will be examined. Second, the cultural capital difference by the socio demographic feature of the elderly will be examined. Third, the effects of the human capital and social capital of the elderly on the cultural capital will be examined.

2. Methodology

2.1 Procedures

For the collection of data, in November of 2013, a survey was conducted targeting 356 elderly people residing in Seoul, other large metropolitan areas and Chungnam province. Among them, eliminating 1 questionnaire with a lot of non-response and questionnaires of two elderly in the age of 50's, a data of 353 people was used for final analysis.

2.2 Material

Human capital was measured 5-items (educational level, the number of license held, the long term job and duration of longest job and current job).

Social capital measured using²⁴. Relational dimension (private trust and public trust) and structural dimension (nonofficial network and official network) were measured. Private trust were measured 5-items, 5-point Likert-type scale and public trust were measured 6-items, 5-point Likert-type scale. The Cronbach's alpha of the private and public trust were .72, .88 in present study. And nonofficial network were measured number of adults children providing cash, number of brother/sister proving cash, freq. of child encounter, asking neighbors, number of helpers. Official network were measured number of society groups that the elderly were involved.

Cultural capital measured using²⁵, by separating the previous (childhood) cultural capital from the current cultural capital with each 6-items, 5-Likert type scale. The Cronbach's alpha of the scale was .91, .91 in present study.

2.3 Socio-demographic Characteristics

The number of elderly women was about 2 times the number of elderly men with figures of 61.4% for elderly women and 38.5% for elderly men. An average age of elderly was 75.88 years and elderly with spouse was 46.2% and those without was 53.8% showing that figures of elderly without the spouse was higher. Christianity and the Catholic Church accounted for 46.0% which was the

highest and the elderly residing in small to mid-sized cities accounted for 50.4% of the entire group showing the highest figure. The subjective health status and subjective economic level of the elderly was 3.05 points and 2.96 points respectively showing an average level.

2.4 Analysis

In order to identify the effect of human capital and social capital on cultural capital of Korean elderly using the SPSS 21.0, descriptive, t-test, one-way ANOVA and multiple regression analysis were conducted.

3. Result

3.1 Human Capital, Social Capital, Cultural Capital Level of Elderly

Looking at the human capital level of elderly, about the academic background, the elderly who graduated an elementary school was topped with 38.4%, and the elderly who graduated the middle and high school followed with 30.7%. The certificate of the elderly was averagely 0.61, so it was less than 1. About the job engaged in the long-term through the whole life of elderly, the agriculture and fishing was topped with 35.4%, and simple□ Production job followed with 30.0%. About the working period engaged in the longest-term was average 31.13 years, and about the current occupation, the unemployed or housewife was 65.5% of whole.

Next, the personal reliability level as the relational dimension among the social capitals of the elderly was 3.68 points, so the reliability about the family members or neighbors, relatives, friends was high. The public trust level was lower than the personal reliability level with 3.12 points, but it is more than central value, so the reliability about the government and City Hall, borough office, dong office, civil society organizations, and media organizations was shown as the medium level.

Looking at the unofficial network level among the social capital as the structural dimension, the number of children who provided the cash or gift was average 2.74 people, and the number of brothers and sisters who provided the cash or gift was average 0.89 people, so it is less than one person. The meeting with the children was averagely 43.41 times in a year, so meeting with the children was three or four times in a month. The number of neighbor housing who can be asked was average 3.34

housings, and the number of neighbor housing who can be helped was average 3.78 housings. The number of official network of elderly was average 3.08. The official network is the meeting or organization for the elderly to participate in, so the religious organization participation was topped with 46.2%, and the social welfare organizations participation followed with 43.9%. Third-rank was Gye meeting with 25.5%. As the meeting or organization with low participation, the environmental organizations were 2.0%, labor organizations were 1.1%, and the Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice was 0.6%.

In the result of analysis on the cultural capital of elderly by dividing with the present and the past, the cultural capital of the past level was quite low with 2.12 points. Differently with that, the current cultural capital was lower than the central value with 2.63 points, but the current cultural capital of the elderly, the subject of this study was improved compared to the past.

3.2 Cultural Capital Difference by the Socio-demographic Feature of Elderly

Looking at the difference of the cultural capital of the past by the socio-demographic feature of elderly (Table 1), the male elderly compared to the female elderly, the elderly who is living in the big city and small and

medium-sized cities compared to the elderly who is living in the agricultural and fishing village and the elderly who recognized their health level as 'Normal' and 'Good' compared to the elderly who recognized their health level as 'Bad' showed more cultural capital of the past. In addition, the cultural capital of the past of the elderly who recognized the economical level as 'Bad' was lowest, and the 'Normal', 'Good' followed, and the elderly who recognized their economical level as 'Good' was topped. Looking at the difference of the cultural capital of the past by the socio-demographic feature of elderly (Table 1), the male elderly compared to the female elderly, the elderly in their 60s compared to the elderly more than 70s and 80s, and the elderly with spouse compared to the elderly without spouse, the elderly who is living in the big city and small and medium-sized cities compared to the elderly who is living in the agricultural and fishing village and the elderly who recognized their health level as 'Normal' and 'Good' compared to the elderly who recognized their health level as 'Bad' showed more current cultural capital. In addition, the elderly who recognized their economical level as 'Bad' showed the lowest current cultural capital, and the 'Normal', 'Good' followed, and the current cultural capital of the elderly who recognized their economical level as 'Good' was topped.

Table 1. Differences in Past and Present Cultural Capital in Accordance with Socio-Demographic Characteristics

		Previous cultural capital			Current cultural capital		
		M(SD)	t/F	Duncan	M(SD)	t/F	Duncan
Sex	Male(n=136)	2.28(.97)	2.52*	-	2.78(.96)	2.44*	-
	Female(n=216)	2.02(.90)			2.53(.96)		
Age	60'(n=63)	2.14(.89)	.13	n.s	2.95(.86)	6.88**	b
	70'(n=183)	2.13(.96)			2.65(1.01)		
	Over 80'(n=106)	2.08(.92)			2.39(.88)		
Marital status	With spouse (n=189)	2.05(.93)	-1.70	-	2.42(.92)	-	-
	Without spouse (n=162)	2.22(.93)			2.87(.96)		
Religion	Christians & Catholic(n=162)	2.20(.95)	1.06	n.s	2.67(.98)	1.01	n.s
	Buddhist (n=120)	2.08(.91)			2.66(.90)		
	without a religion (n=70)	2.02(.94)			2.48(1.03)		
Residence	Metro city(n=48)	2.12(1.06)	16.50***	b	2.72(1.13)	9.05***	b
	Small city(n=178)	2.36(.96)			2.80(.92)		
	Rural(n=125)	1.77(.69)			2.34(.89)		

Health status	Bad(n=120)	1.83(.87)	10.78***	a	2.29(.86)	13.44***	a
	Median(n=104)	2.17(.85)		b	2.68(.91)		b
	Good(n=128)	2.36(.98)		b	2.90(1.00)		b
Economic status	Bad(n=120)	1.72(.83)	16.43***	a	2.25(.87)	14.01***	a
	Median(n=105)	2.15(.86)		b	2.65(.87)		b
	Good(n=127)	2.51(1.02)		c	3.00(1.10)		c

* p<.05, ** p<.01, *** p<.001

3.3 The Effects of the Human Capital, Social Capital of the Elderly on the Cultural Capital

The effects of the human capital, social capital of the elderly on the cultural capital were examined through the regression analysis (Table 2). About putting the variables, as the control variables, there were the gender, age, marital status, living area, subjective health level, subjective economical level showed the significant difference in the analysis by the socio-demographic feature, and the human capital and social capital were included.

The human capital and the social capital and 19

variables explained 26.4% of cultural capital of the past of the elderly and 36.0% of the current cultural capital, and the effects of the official network on the cultural capital of the past and the current cultural capital were most significant.

Explaining except the control variable, the more number of certificate as the human capital is, the more official network as the social capital is, the larger the cultural capital of the past is. The higher the personal reliability as the social capital is, the more the public network is, the larger the current cultural capital is. There was no human capital which had effects on the current cultural capital.

Table 2. The Effect of Human Capital and Social Capital on Cultural Capital (N=353)

Variables		Previous cultural capital			Current cultural capital		
		B	β	t	B	β	t
(Constant)		-.163		-.223	1.815		2.561*
Control variables	Sex ^a	-.113	-.060	-.840	-.250	-.128	-1.919
	Age	.013	.090	1.409	-.012	-.084	-1.413
	Marital status ^a	.069	.037	.576	.265	.136	2.270*
	Residence a Health level 1	.384	.199	3.009**	.328	.163	2.642**
	Economic level	.059	.071	1.219	.084	.097	1.791
Human capital	Educational level ^a	.170	.154	2.541*	.093	.081	1.433
	Long-term job ^a	-.190	-.037	-.627	.520	.096	1.760
	Current job	-.008	-.004	-.059	.258	.113	1.850
	No of license	.083	.044	.779	-.032	-.016	-.311
	Duration of longest job	.156	.163	2.218*	.014	.014	.200
Social capital	Private trust	-.005	-.097	-1.550	-.002	-.039	-.662
	Public trust	.039	.030	.511	.151	.111	2.053*
	No of children providing cash	.017	.014	.236	.040	.032	.571
	No of Brother providing cash	-.018	-.035	-.607	-.009	-.017	-.317
	Freq. of child encounter	-.003	-.006	-.099	-.003	-.004	-.083
	Asking neighbors	.001	.064	1.188	.000	.028	.567
	No of helpers	-.006	-.147	-.775	-.012	-.085	-1.512
	Official network	.013	.083	1.350	.012	.075	1.305
	F	.076	.197	3.070**	.109	.269	4.479***
	R ²		5.257***			8.219***	
			.264			.360	

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

^a Dummy variables: Sex(1=male), marital status(1=having spouses), residence(1=metropolitan), educational level(1=college or more), long-term job(1=professional), current job(1=yes)

4. Discussion

In this study, in order to identify the effect of human capital and social capital on cultural capital, in November 2013, a survey was conducted targeting 353 elderly people residing in the local community.

Main outcomes of the study are summarized as follows:

First, looking at the human capital level of the elderly, the elderly who graduated an elementary school was topped with 38.4%, the elderly owned average 0.61 certificates, and 35.4% of elderly worked in the agriculture and fishing in long term. Next, looking at the social capital level of the elderly, the personal reliability and public trust as the relational dimension were high with 3.68 points and 3.12 points. Looking at the unofficial network as the structural dimension, the children who provided the cash was 2.74 members, the brother/sister who provided the cash was 0.89 members, and the neighbor who met with the children often and the neighbors who can be asked or helped was 3.34 housings, and 3.78 housings. The number of official network was 3.08. Finally, looking at the cultural capital level of elderly, it was 2.12 points in the past, but it is 2.63 now, so the level in the present and the past were less than the central value's 3 points, but the current cultural capital improved compared to the past.

Second, looking at the difference of the cultural capital of the past by the socio-demographic feature of elderly, the male elderly, the elderly who is living in the big city and small and medium-sized cities, the elderly who recognized their health level as 'Normal' and 'Good' and the elderly who recognized their economical level as 'Good' showed the higher cultural capital of the past. Next, looking at the current cultural capital difference, the male elderly, the elderly in their 60s, the elderly without spouse, the elderly who is living in the big city and small and medium-sized cities, the elderly who recognized their health level as 'Normal' and 'Good' and the elderly who recognized their economical level as 'Good' showed the higher current cultural capital.

Therefore, it shows that the male elderly is enjoying the culture more than the female elderly, and the case living in the urban area has more chance to enjoy the culture than the case living in the agricultural and fishing village area. In addition, the outcome shows the importance of the health and economical level to enjoy the culture. Especially, by considering that the cultural capital is

related to the feeling of euphoria of the elderly¹⁰, the aggressive policy for the female elderly, the elderly who is living in the agricultural and fishing village, and the elderly with bad economical level to obtain the cultural capital is needed.

Third, the more number of certificate as the human capital is, the more official network as the social capital is, the larger the cultural capital of the past is. In addition, the higher the personal reliability as the social capital is, the more the public network is, the larger the current cultural capital is. Especially, the public network was the variable which made most influential power on the cultural capital of the past and the current cultural capital.

The public network means the number of the official and social meeting such as the clan gathering or religious meeting, sports leisure meeting, environmental organizations etc., and these meetings for Korean elderly mean one of the leisure activity and the simple social relationships as well, and it is one of the cultural activities, so it can be judged that the effects of the public network on the cultural capital of the past and the current cultural capital are significant.

And the leading researchers^{21,22} are emphasizing the effects of the educational level on the resource, but in the result of the study, the current educational level of Korean elderly has not significant effects on the cultural capital of the past or the current cultural capital. The more the certificate is, the bigger the cultural capital of the past is. The certificate means the detailed human capital which was insisted by Madsen⁴, Bosma, N⁵ and the certificate may be obtained or not by the educational level, so the certificates such as the driver license or the pharmacist, doctor's license for the current elderly generation can be seen one indicator reflecting the educational level. Finally, the higher the personal reliability is, the bigger the current cultural capital. The personal reliability means the faith for the family members or relatives, neighbors etc. and it is the result showing that the Korean elderly is obtaining the information about the cultural activity or cultural art through the personal relation.

Thus, this study contributed to re-light the life of the elderly as productive in active aspect by examining the effects of the human capital and social capital on the accumulated and internalized cultural capital through

whole life and examining the resource of the elderly, but it should pay attention to the generalization of the study due to the subjects that will be limited to some of Korea.

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