

Tribal development and community empowerment: a study of Paiwanese tribe in Pingtung County

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Abstract

This study aims to establish the model of tribal development work based on local people's perspectives and on promoting community development model. This study employed an action research and auto-ethnography approach and adopted participant observation, fieldwork notes, relevant documents and in-depth interviews to collect data. This study suggested that the model of tribal development work by local people can use their social capital more effectively as well as employ the strategies that have been described in this paper. In addition, local worker should take the characteristics of local culture into account and link up with their traditional culture spirits, such as Paiwanese tribal meeting, in terms of promoting tribal development and community empowerment. The study also provides some recommendations and reflections for those who would like to engage in tribal development work.

**Keywords: tribal work, local worker, community empowerment, action
research**