

Preface

This book has been a major part of my Ph.D. research findings, which attribute to multiple field trips to Northeast China and the Korean Peninsula from 2007 to 2012. I have grown up in an environment that has easy access to the Korean minority culture, and later I have been blessed with a number of precious academic opportunities to further research about multicultural and multilingual development in Northeast Asia. On the other hand, working and research experience at both international organizations and tertiary institutions in different parts of the world have also inspired me to ponder the relationship between civil society and nation-state in terms of citizenship identity socialization. The case of Korean minority is a perfect case to observe both multiculturalism and state-civil society relationship in socializing citizens' identity. Hence with the encouragement from both experts in the field and friends from the two cultures, I have decided to turn what I have observed and analyzed into this book. It is expected that this book could bring a more updated understanding about Korean minority's identity development in China, as well as contribute to the existing theories of citizenship identity and minority studies about China. Readers are expected to renew their evaluation on China's Minority Regional Autonomy policy, and further deepen their understandings of multicultural development in China.

During the writing process of the whole book, I have struggled to minimize my personal feelings by presenting research outputs in close relation with the concepts of instrumental autonomy, political socialization, and citizenship identity. Approaching the end of the writing, I have also improved my understanding of my own research interests and developed many skills to explore answers from theory as well as data. The biggest challenge in life has been my limited time to invest in this book, with other ongoing life commitments during the day, I ended up staying late many nights in the past year to think and write. I have to thank my lovely and healthy daughter Nolia, all the family members, and my private mentor for being who they are and their great company during this whole period, they make the process challenging but meaningful, and I feel very lucky for having so many unforgettable and special moments with them.

It took me a whole year full of nonstop thinking, writing, and editing to finally complete this immature book. Instead of being an end or an answer, this book is more as a start and a stepping-stone. I wish it could contribute to our understanding of relevant issues and encourage many different opinions. Lastly, I would like to dedicate this book to my beloved parents, for whose love and with whose love I would forever carry on my academic research adventure.

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Instrumental Autonomy, Political Socialization, and
Citizenship Identity

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