

Horris Feng

Professor Holguin

Rhetoric 102 Section AR5

22 April 2018

Research Project Proposal: Comparison of Secondary Education in China and Britain

The British way in secondary education is relatively free, encouraging students to express their thoughts, while the Chinese pattern of secondary education is fixed, forcing students to work hard, which leads to different quality of secondary education. Interested in different patterns of secondary education and the respective outcomes, I will use a BBC documentary, called “Are Our Kids Tough Enough? Chinese School”, as my primary source to compare and contrast the Chinese and British ways of secondary education. In the documentary, students from Grade Nine, Bohunt School, Liphook, Hampshire, Britain were divided into two groups to receive the Chinese and British secondary education respectively for a month, after which all of them would take Math, Science, and Mandarin tests to figure out which way of secondary education was better.

Considering that Mandarin is a special case, I will focus on Math, Science, and Physical Education, analyzing different ways used in education, students’ reactions to distinct patterns, and interviewees’ comments on Chinese and British secondary education in the documentary. Based on the analysis, I will argue that educators may need to combine both the Chinese and British patterns to educate secondary students because of different emphasis of the distinct educational ways and develop a “so what” factor on how these two patterns may be combined to fulfill various requirements.