

Blog 2_Issac Goh.docx

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Declaration of Academic Integrity

CC0001 Inquiry and Communication in an Interdisciplinary World

Assignment title: Blog 2

Student's (official) name: Goh BoJun, Issac

Tutorial group number: T026

Tutorial day/time: Monday/1430-1630

Tutor's name: Dr Prasanthi Ram

Declaration

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Research Question (RQ)	Why do many Singaporeans continue to work during leisure time?	
Source's citation (APA) Last name/s, First name initial. (DATE). Article title. <i>Journal/newspaper/website</i> . Pages/URL	Source 1: Wee, Ying Wei (2016). "Work-in-Life" : reconsidering work-life balance in Singapore . https://dr.ntu.edu.sg/handle/10356/66130	Source 2: Lim, Zhixun.; Lim, Lu Fei.; Tan, Stephanie Xiu Xian.(2006) : Recommendations on work-life balance in Singapore. https://dr.ntu.edu.sg/handle/10356/10022
Summary of Source (200 words each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce your source – author, year, title, subject and context. Sum up the source's argument in your own words – if it is a long paper, summarize only the claims that are useful and relevant. Explain the reasoning supporting the argument's claims, and if necessary, evidence. Integrate ONE essential quotation (should be a short phrase or short sentence) into your own writing and cite the source: (Lee, 2010). 	Summary of Source (200 words each) <p>In a research titled "Work-in-Life..." by Wee Ying Wei, she suggests that organization control through digital communication tools and normative control results in Singaporeans to work outside of their standard working hours.</p> <p>Firstly, the transition into the digital age resulted in some company processes to be done digitally. This shift in paradigm has prompted some companies to provide technological tools to their workers to utilize outside of working hours, sometimes enabling workers to work remotely. This results in workers obtaining work-related documents during their down time through digital devices. Such a situation "creates a virtual office", obscuring the distinction between work and leisure time, incentivising workers to capitalize on their personal time to continue working.</p> <p>Furthermore, the presence of underlying social norms in the workspace imposes a normative control on workers' personal life by their company. Although companies</p>	Summary of Source (200 words each) <p>In a research titled "Recommendations on work-life..." by Lim Zhixun, Lim Lu Fei and Tan Stephanie Xiu Xian. They assert that the presence of such a working phenomenon is due to cultural and environmental influences.</p> <p>Firstly, the cultural influence may have originated from the predominant Asian culture present in Singapore which can result in the culmination of a poor work-life culture. In Singapore actions are "influenced more strongly by Confucian dynamism". This has spillover-effects to work-related attitudes and behaviors. They suggest that Confucian beliefs of virtue which place tenacity and adherence to pecking order are prioritized in the working space in Singapore. This results in the adoption of a longer working culture and a stronger work ethic in Singapore.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Singapore environment encourages workers to work beyond what is necessary. Being brought up in a capitalistic world, people are influenced to pursue materialistic wealth, with words</p>

	<p>may not impose strict rules on the usage of digital devices for work, employees may have "strong alignment of organizational interests". For such employees with values that align with the capitalistic goal of companies such as a strong sense of responsibility, this results in the overuse of digital devices to remain overly connected with the working world even during their free time.</p>	<p>even being invented to better encapsulate such an attitude. With high expense ratios compared to other countries, this can result in a never-ending pursuit for materialistic wealth that gets increasingly more expensive which pushes its citizens to work even harder to obtain it.</p>
<p>Evaluation of Source (150 words each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frame the source for your reader. What angle or perspective does your source present? • What is your main takeaway? Identify the claims or concepts that address the RQ. Explain how these claims / concepts are related to the RQ. • Does the source have a limitation or gap in terms of context of publication, scope of argument or research, or logic (focus on just 1)? How does it remain applicable or useful in answering the RQ? • Linking to your RQ: Write a sentence that shows you moving beyond the source (extending or revising its claims/concepts) to offer a more convincing response to the RQ. <i>(This is important for the final op-ed, but is optional in Blog 2).</i> 	<p>Evaluation of Source</p> <p>This article underscores the misuse of digital devices both by companies and employees which aligns with my observation of adults utilizing their laptops for work during their leisure time, showcasing the irony of flexible work arrangements.</p> <p>However, this article evaluation is limited in terms of its scope of its argument by placing its main focus on organizational control through the use of digital devices and normative controls. This results in misrepresentation of other companies that adopt organizational control tools beyond communication technologies.</p>	<p>Evaluation of Source (150 words each)</p> <p>This article highlights the role of Asian cultural and Singapore environmental influences on Singapore's work ethic where workers tend to work beyond necessary which aligns with my observation of the adults working during their leisure time.</p> <p>However, this article evaluation was published in 2006 where such behavior was observed in a more traditional workplace setting of a structured and communal work environment. Thus, there may be a shift in working attitudes to less importance placed on working more hours due to companies increasingly adopting</p>

	<p>However, this article remains useful as it can be seen from the observation that communication technology is the main means to remain connected to work during their leisure time.</p> <p>Thus, proving that organization control has exacerbated work-life integration, resulting in Singaporeans to work outside of their working hours.</p>	<p>flexible work arrangements.</p> <p>However, this article remains useful as Asian influences are still prevalent as seen from the rise of the tuition industry where the drive to succeed is even more so today. Furthermore, Singapore is now topping the charts for the most expensive city annually, incentivising its citizens to work even harder to maintain their standard of living.</p> <p>Thus, proving that environmental and cultural influences serve as driving forces for Singaporeans to work beyond mere necessity.</p>
<p>Moving to Synthesis (1-2 sentences)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which key concepts from each source work together? • Which key concepts from each source are on different ends of the spectrum (unrelated or counter each other)? 	<p>Although the 2 sources highlight environmental factors that have resulted in Singaporeans to work excessively hard, spilling over to work beyond conventional hours, the first source underscores working culture while the second source depicts broader societal influences as the cause.</p>	

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1

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GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

/100

GENERAL COMMENTS

Even though the sources are relevant to the question, S2 is very outdated and both references are incorrectly done. Rather than give me the NTU link, could you give me the original link?

Source 1 (Wee, 2016)

What is organisation control and normative control? Is incentivising the right word? What do you mean by underlying social norms?

As for evaluation, could you give some examples of organisational tools behind communication tech and elaborate further? Also what do you mean by exacerbating work life integration? What is the downside? Were any of the claims from the source surprising? For example that sometimes it's not the organisation but the employees themselves? This is something you could further comment on.

Source 2 (Lim et al., 2006)

When the authors say Confucian value leads to stronger work ethic, do they mean it in a neutral or a negative way? What do you mean by words being invented to encapsulate this attitude?

As for the evaluation, good attempt at addressing how norms may have shifted. However the reference to the tuition industry is quite abrupt and unlinked — this either needs to be better explained or removed.

For your synthesis, wouldn't the first source emphasise how the organisation controls or defines work culture?

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