

**The understanding of 'happiness' and 'meaning of life'
in the concept of human nature
of Germans and Peruvians.
An empirical cross-cultural comparison**

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dedicated to Douglas Adams

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Appendix A

Appendix B

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Professional Career

- 1967 born in Berlin
- 1981 moved with family to Lima, Peru
- 1986 'Abitur' at the Peruvian-German Alexander von Humboldt School in Lima
- 1987 returned to Germany to study Psychology
- 1990 awarded my 'Vordiplom' in Psychology at the Institute of Psychology at the Free University of Berlin
- 1990-1994 taught German and Spanish as foreign languages
- 1992 worked for six months in the fields of prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation with victims of sexual abuse at the 'Ser y Crecer' Foundation in San José, Costa Rica
- 1992-1994 worked as a research assistant in the Department of Educational Psychology and Health Psychology at the Free University of Berlin under Prof. Dr. Ralf Schwarzer
- 1993-1994 worked on a research project at the Berlin Scientific Centre for Social Research, investigating methods of communication in Environmental Studies under the direction of Dr. Hans-Joachim Fietkau and Dr. Helmut Weidner
- 1994 awarded my diploma in Psychology at the Free University of Berlin
Title of thesis: "Evaluating psychometric scales for measuring general and specific perceived self-efficacy in a cross-cultural research project"
- 1995-1999 worked as a member of the evaluation team for a governmental pilot study entitled "Self-Efficacious Schools in Germany" under the direction of Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Edelstein and Prof. Dr. Bernhard Brackhahn. *Responsibilities:* data collection and analysis, monitoring the pilot study, training teachers, counselling and assisting at the internal evaluation of the participating schools, developing evaluation tools for the study
- 1996-1999 worked on a project entitled 'The concept of human nature in Peru', funded by the German Research Association, in the Department of Developmental Psychology and Educational Psychology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich, under Prof. Dr. Rolf Oerter. *Responsibilities:* data collection, data analysis, and co-ordination of the study in Peru and Germany
- 1996-2000 working as a junior lecturer at the Institute for Education at Potsdam University under Prof. Dr. Diether Hopf. *Responsibilities:* teaching and research in Educational Psychology
- 1998-1999 taught English as a foreign language at the 'Wirtschaftsfachschule in Berlin GmbH [Business school Berlin]'

- since 2000 working as a psychologist in the further vocational training of teachers and doctors (e.g. giving talks at the Academy of Social Medicine in Berlin)
- since 2000 project evaluator for the Ministry of Economic Co-operation and Development in Bonn
- May 2000 co-directing the seminar: 'Council of Europe In-Service Training Program for Educational Staff European Seminar N° 87 "What makes children strong" at the 'Staatliche Akademie für Lehrerfortbildung Donaueschingen [Governmental Academy for teacher training in Donaueschingen]', together with Karlo Hafner, Blaustein
- August 2000 moved to Southampton to write my doctoral thesis in Developmental and Cross-Cultural Psychology
- April 2001 handed in my doctoral thesis at the Free University of Berlin
- Title of thesis:* "The understanding of 'happiness' and 'meaning of life' in the concept of human nature of Germans and Peruvians. An empirical cross-cultural comparison"

Research Interests

Developmental Psychology
Health Psychology
Educational Psychology
Cross-cultural research
Prevention of sexual abuse

Future Projects

- March 2002 co-directing seminars about social learning theories (target group: school directors and teachers in South Germany)
- July 2002 directing seminars for the Council of Europe about prevention and intervention of the burnout syndrome (target group: school directors and teachers from 12 European countries)

Languages

Fluent in German and Spanish
Virtually fluent in English
Functional knowledge of French
Basic knowledge of Italian and Portuguese