About the Author: My name is Hye Jung Na, one of the CY student. I was born in Seoul in the year of 1987. I spent a quarter of my life, here in State. I came to United States in 2002 and attended The Christian Academy in Brookhaven, PA through 02'-03'. And then I moved to Delaware County Christian School in Newtown Square, PA and finished high school in 2006.

I am now here in Universtiy of Illinois at Urbana Champagin.

Still experiencing new things everyday and still survivng.

Keywords: CY, Chogi Yuhak, Study Abroad, Family

Abstract: My interview question is mostly based on their CY life and about their family. The question is designed to find out what is the condition for the relationship between the interviewees and their family. It has been always argued and questioned what the components are and factors that impacts life of students who are in study aboard from their young stage of their life. And I assumed that the condition and statue between the student and the family is being a great reason and factor for their CY life. As a result, these questions were created to find out distinguishable facts in their family relationship after their CY life has begun. Whether they still have the relationship they used to have when they were in Korea, or whether their relationship got worse or better. It is a well known factor that family greatly influences children’s worldview and value system. Therefore, these question significantly asks how this relationship gives an impact, or affects on their CY life and their future. Also, these interview questions are designed to argue whether their relationship with family results in the success or the failure of their CY life and how it would influence the student's morality which will be a important component for their life.

Initial Exercises:

Question: •When did you first come to the United States? (how old were you? how long have you been here?)
•Why did you choose USA out of all those countries? What was real reason for coming to the United States or studying abroad? Why did you come to the United States to study? Honestly.
•Studying English was one of main purposes to study in USA? Why do you want to learn English?
• Is it your will or by others such as parents to be a CY student? If coming to U.S.A. was by your own will or by others? And what was the reason for others to ask you to come to U.S.A. and who were they?

• if it was your parents, did you agree at first? if it was your parents, do they satisfy with their decision?

II. General experiences
• Are you satisfied with your life in USA? Are you happy with your current life of studying abroad? (in aspect of studying, socializing, extra activities...etc)

• Do you regret of being CY? if yes, why? Have you ever regretted for leaving Korea? if yes, when was it? and why? Have you ever regretted for coming to the States?

• How much score would you like to give to yourself, about successful CY?

• What is the most proud achievement that you have made so far in USA or studying abroad?

• What is the most benefit you think you are getting from CY life? What is the best part of being CY?

• When was the toughest/ roughest time you had to go through as a CY? What was the most tough thing that you had to overcome with?

• What time of the day is the hardest for you?

• Have you ever felt discriminated in any situation? if so, when?

• Have you been through racism?

• If someone asks you to do this over again, are you willing to do it or not? (CY life)

• Would you recommend this CY to your friends?

• If you become parents, do you want your kids to be CY students? Why? Would you send your child to USA when you become a father/mother?

• If your children want to be CY in future, would you send them to other countries to study? If yes, which country?

III. Living as a CY and their friends
• Do you actively participate in class? If no, why not?
• What do you do with your free time?

• What kind of media do you use for communication with your friends? (cyworld, myspace, msn etc)

• Did you have more Korean/Asian friends or American friends?

• Who do you want to get close to? Americans or Koreans?

• How many close American friends do you have? Was it easy to make American friends? If not, why?

• How many Korean-American friends do you have?

• What do you believe is the difference between you and the other Korean groups (1.5 Korean-American, 2nd generations, and international students)?

• What kind of people do you spend time with (ethnicity)?

• What kind of media do you use for communication with your friends? (cyworld, myspace, msn etc)

IV. Future of CY – What do they like to do? Where do they like to be?

• Do you have a specific vision or future plan?

• Do you plan on living or working in the United States? Will you go back to Korea after graduation or will you stay in the States?

V. Final

• If someone asks you about CY life and if they are willing to be CY, what would you recommend? What is your suggestion to the future CY student?

Focus 1. Family Dynamics

• Do you miss your family? When the most?

• How usually do you talk to your family? (either by email or phone)

• How did the condition of your family change after your study abroad?

• Do you think is it better to be apart from family than be with family? And why? And when do you miss them most?

• How do you feel when you go home and see your family during break?

• Are you the only one who study abroad among your siblings?

• If yes, how many are they? Where are they?
Plan:

Data:  *Interview #1*

Interviewer: Hye Jung Na

Interviewee: Tiffany Kim ( fictious name)

HJ ( Hye Jung Na)

TK ( Tiffany Kim)

I. General Reasons

HJ: Thank you for accepting this interview TK,

TK: you’re very welcome

HJ: So I heard you first went to Canada for CY?

TK: yes, I did, I was 8th grader. And it was 2001.

HJ: why did you choose Canada for the CY? What was real reason for coming to the Canada?

TK: Because I had relatives in Canada. The main reason for coming to United States were for learning English

HJ: So...English was one of the main purpose to study in Canada?

TK: Um....it was the main purpose at the first time, back in 2001. But it’s been changed. I study here in United States for...um.. better future?

HJ: you mean.. better Job?

TK: yes.

HJ: Is it your will or by others such as parents to be a CY student? Is coming to camada was by your own will or by others?

TK: Parent asked me to go to Canada as CY student. After few years they asked me to come back to Korea, but I did not want to.

HJ: So...did you agree with going to Canada as CY?

TK: No, I didn’t at the fist time. I took a while to make a decision.

II. General experiences
HJ: Does your parent satisfy with their decision to send you to Canada?

TK: Yes they like me being here.
HJ: Then, are you satisfied with your life in USA and Canada? Are you happy with your current life of studying abroad?

TK: Yes, I am. The college life is pretty busy so it’s very hard to join in such activities. I wish I can get a lot of chances to join and participate in such activities. The program of study is excellent although it’s tough to follow.
HJ: Do you regret of being CY? if yes, why? Have you ever regretted for leaving Korea? if yes, when was it? and why? Have you ever regretted for coming to the Canada or States?
TK: I regret some time but very temporarily. When I’m sick I regret most of leaving my parent. And I miss Korea when I think about delicious home-made Korean Foods.

HJ: I do, too. Well, how much score would you like to give to yourself, about successful CY?
TK: if it’s out of ten, about 7 or 8?
HJ: What is the most proud achievement that you have made so far in USA or studying abroad?
TK: Um..probably…making into college?

HJ: What is the most benefit you think you are getting from CY life? What is the best part of being CY?
TK: I think my ability to taking care of problems by myself has grown up..I am more independent than I used to be.
HJ: When was the toughest/ roughest time you had to go through as a CY?/ What was the most tough thing that you had to overcome with?
TK: I think the 1st year was the toughest.... adjusting new culture and all? Especially the host family was the worst memory of my whole CY life. My very first year in Canada, I got into this tragic place.

HJ: oh....I know what it is like when Host families are bad...

TK: It was unbelievable... it was my first year in a foreign country... and the way they treated me was so bad...I RARELY..very RARELY..fixed me foods..

HJ: ....

TK: They never fixed me a breakfast. Didn’t help me or provided me
a food to bring to school for a lunch and didn't fix me a dinner...and asked me to fix myself.... I was only 8 th grader...... is there any 8th grader who can make spaghettis or any kinds of food for dinner?

HJ: Too...bad ...

TK: And I was manipulated by one of older Korean student.

HJ: What??HOW ??

TK: There was this girl who I ’ m living with, and I was paying more money than other students ... and I finally figured out she was taking out these money for her own good..

HJ: I guess that really hurt your feeling.

TK: Well, moreover, the host mother ’ s daughter really did not behave nice.

HJ:In what way?

TK: She was senior girl. And she was one of theses “ cool girls ” in our school. Since I was pitiful Asian 8th grader, her friends and she often made fun of me.

HJ: That would been awful!! Well, h ave you ever felt discriminated in any situation? if so, when?

TK: Canada was pretty multicultural country- at least where I’ve live.

HJ:So..no racisim at all?

TK: I remember one time when I was taking a bus...In our school, we had very same system as U of I for taking a bus. We had to show our student ID for taking a Bus to go out.. However, the bus driver let these white kids to take a bus while they did not have their ID, but the driver did not show me a generosity...He harshly rejected me and I couldn’t take that bus

HJ:If someone asks you to do this over again, are you willing to do it or not? (CY life)

TK: yes, I am

HJ:Would you recommend CY life to your friends?
TK: Yes-
HJ: If you become parents, do you want your kids to be CY students? Why? Would you send your child to USA when you become a father/mother?

TK: No I will not send my children to Study Abroad.

HJ: Wow,,you recommend this to your friends but not your own kids... why?

TK: Well, I would not send my children if it’s a boy...There are more temptations for boy to fall in to bad stuffs than girls. I will never send my children when they are in their immature state of their age.

HJ: If your children want to be CY in future, would you send them to other countries to study? If yes, which country?

TK: Maybe.. China? or Japan? But not for a long time.

III. Living as a CY and their friends

HJ: Do you actively participate in class? If no, why not?

TK: Since my school had small size of classes, I could not avoid participating in the class.

HJ: What do you do with your free time?

TK: Usually....I go out for movies or restuarnats...with my friends

HJ: What kind of media do you use for communication with your friends?

TK: Cyworld or Facebook....ah! and MSN

HJ: Did you have more Korean/Asian friends or American friends?

TK: Asian friends

HJ: Who do you want to get close to? Americans or Koreans?

TK: I honestly don ’ t have a tendency or determination of getting close to certain group of people

HJ: How many close American friends do you have? Was it easy to make American friends? If not, why?

TK: I have a lot of Canadian friends...It was a very small high school and we all knew each other. We got so close at the end of the school
year and had so much fun.

Moreover, I have few American friends here ... I got to know them through my dorm..especially my last year ’ s roommate

HJ: How many close Korean Friends do you have?

TK: A LOT

HJ: How many Korean-American friends do you have?

TK: Um..I guess only one..but we aren’t that close

HJ: What do you believe is the difference between you and the other Korean groups (1.5 Korean-American, 2nd generations, and international students)?

TK: The way of spending free time?

HJ: What kind of people do you spend time with (ethnicity)?

TK: Koreans?

IV. Future of CY – What do they like to do? Where do they like to be?

HJ: Do you have a specific vision or future plan?

TK: yes I do..I want to go to professional school.

HJ: Do you plan on living or working in the United States? Will you go back to Korea after graduation or will you stay in the States?

TK: If I can get the job in State, I will.

V. Final

HJ: If someone asks you about CY life and if they are willing to be CY, what would you recommend? What is your suggestion to the future CY student?

TK: I would recommend them to do CY because they will experience things beyond just being normal high school students.

Focus 1. Family Dynamics

HJ: Do you miss your family? When the most?

TK: I miss them a lot when I am depressed.

HJ: How usually do you talk to your family?(either by email or phone)

TK: Very often...about a once a week?

HJ: How did the condition of your family change after your study abroad?

TK: I think they treat and care me better than they did before...
hohoho
**HJ:** Do you think it's better to be apart from family than be with family?
**TK:** I don't think it's good at all...Because teenagers need their parent to lean on

**HJ:** How do you feel when you go home and see your family during break?

**TK:** I really feel awkward for few days after I get into home, but I get used to, since we are family.

**HJ:** Are you the only one who study abroad among your siblings? if yes, how many are they? where are they?

**TK:** My brother used to be CY student but not anymore.

**Interview #2**

**Focus 1. Family Dynamics**

*What was your first thought when you sent your kids off?*

- I really did not want to send her away. But because it was her will to go on study abroad..I just let her go. I was very worried at first time. Although I trusted her, it was very hard to send the only child.

*Why did you decided to send your kids abroad?*

- Although I really felt uncomfortable at first time, she had strong will and courage to go on this CY life. And I thought she would experience a lot of things if she goes to bigger world.

*How long did it take to do that?*

- It took about a year to prepare for CY. I thought it was pretty risky to just send her as CY, so my daughter and I decided to join in an exchange program

*What is an exchange program?*

- This program was one of the biggest exchange program in state. And was operated by trustable agency in Seoul. The program was called AYUSA and the organization allowed these exchange student to experience the culture at most.

*what is the benefit vs. cost?*
-Well, it took a lot of money since it's her 6th year in State and she attended private high school. But I think I should give her the best education she can get..not the money and nor the properties.

*How will you describe Korean education? Do you think American education system is better? Why or why not?

-I think Korean education system is pretty complicated and changes too often. I think American education system is much better in a way that they allow students to do more than just studying

*What factors do you consider most for kids coming to U.S.A. for the study abroad? That is , in what fields, these students should be ready?

-I think English have to be well prepared to be in classes. And they should be aware of American culture. And most of all, their reasons and purposes of studying in U.S.A. should be clarified.

#3 Interview

Interviewer : Hye Jung Na

Interviewee : Andy Park (Fictitious Name)

HJ (Hye Jung Na)

AP (Andy Park)

I. General Reasons

HJ: Hey, Andy, When did you first come to the United States? (how old were you? how long have you been here?)

AP: It was last year. I've been here only ....year and half?

HJ: Why did you choose USA out of all those countries? What was real reason for coming to the United States or studying abroad? Why did you come to the United States to study? Honestly.

AP: Because..I thought I have to strengthen my English ..and..I really wanted to experience things I can't in Korea. And, what I want to study, - Eletrical Engineering-is very well supported, here in USA.

HJ: Studying English was one of main purposes to study in USA? Why
do you want to learn English?

AP: I wouldn't say that it is a MAIN purpose, but it's one of the reason that I came to United States. As we all know, one who can't speak English, can't survive in a competitive society like Korea.

HJ: Is it your will or by others such as parents to be a CY student? If coming to U.S.A. was by your own will or by others? And what was the reason for others to ask you to come to U.S.A. and who were they? AP: Definitely my own will.

II. General experiences

HJ: Are you satisfied with your life in USA? Are you happy with your current life of studying abroad? (in aspect of studying, socializing, extra activities... etc)

AP: Yes I am...although I don't get to speak English that much, so...that's one thing I don't like about.

HJ: Oh, Why is that?

AP: As you know, it's my first year in State, and I have to speak English more than speaking Korean...but it's sort of hard...because I'm always around Korean friends and it's hard to join in the group with American kids.

HJ: Do you regret of being CY? if yes, why? Have you ever regretted for leaving Korea? if yes, when was it? and why? Have you ever regretted for coming to the States?

AP: Never..

HJ: How much score would you like to give to yourself, about successful CY?

AP: 9.99 out of 10?

HJ: WOW...you are that satisfied...?

AP: Of course..

HJ: What is the most proud achievement that you have made so far
in USA or studying abroad?

AP: Dean's list

HJ: What is the most benefit you think you are getting from CY life? What is the best part of being CY?

AP: Meeting different kinds of people?

HJ: In what way?

AP: Um.. the friends here.. maybe.. we call it.. CY students? are different than freinds I had in Korea..

HJ: How different are they?

AP: Well.. most CY students have a lot of money.... it seems like they never had a hardship in the money issue.. Compare to my friends in Korea.

HJ: When was the toughest/ roughest time you had to go through as a CY?/ What was the most tough thing that you had to overcome with?

AP: English

HJ: Have you been through racism?

AP: Yes, couple times

HJ: When was it?

AP: At convinient store , or in Restaurant?

They didn't serve me well, and didn't give me the service I supposed to have as a cusomer.. they were WAY TOO RUDE.

HJ: If someone asks you to do this over again, are you willing to do it or not? (CY life)

AP: YES, i am
HJ: Would you recommend this CY to your friends?

AP: YES

HJ: If you become parents, do you want your kids to be CY students? Why? Would you send your child to USA when you become a father/mother?

AP: NO

HJ: Why?

AP: I think children should be with their family in their young stage of their life

III. Living as a CY and their friends

HJ: Do you actively participate in class? If no, why not?

AP: Yes

HJ: What do you do with your free time?

AP: Playing soccer

HJ: What kind of media do you use for communication with your friends? (cyworld, myspace, msn etc)

AP: Cell phone

HJ: Do you have more Korean/Asian friends or American friends?

AP: Korean friends

HJ: Who do you want to get close to? Americans or Koreans?

AP: I like to hang out with Korean friends..but I also want to hang out with American friends, because I want to improve my English Speaking.

IV. Future of CY – What do they like to do? Where do they like to be?

HJ: Do you have a specific vision or future plan?
AP: yes I have

HJ : Do you plan on living or working in the United States? Will you go back to Korea after graduation or will you stay in the States?

I wish I can get a job in state, but ultimately I will go back to Korea.

HJ:If someone asks you about CY life and if they are willing to be CY, what would you recommend? What is your suggestion to the future CY student?

Focus 1. Family Dynamics

HJ: Do you miss your family? When the most?

AP: Um.. when I'm sick?

HJ: How usually do you talk to your family?(either by email or phone)

AP: Um..about a twice a week?
HJ: How did the condition of your family change after your study abroad?

AP: I don't think it has been changed ..it's good as it did before
HJ: Do you think is it better to be apart from family than be with family? And why? And when do you miss them most?

AP: I think it depends ..when I miss them ..I really think it's bad for family to be apart, but I think the bond between my family and I have been stronger than it did before.
HJ: How do you feel when you go home and see your family during break?

AP: It's so good and I feel so comfortable being with them
HJ: Are you the only one who study abroad among your siblings?

AP: yes I am

Discuss: Chogi Yuhak was and is still a popular and controversy topic and issue in contemporary Korea’s society. Media always talks and discusses its
good and bad feature every year. Around the day where the government-sponsored scholastic aptitude test for university admission is taking a place, the media brings up the issue over CY. They sometimes discusses how horrible and tough the Korea’s education is and compare other country’s-mostly United States-education system, and how well those CY students are educated under excellent program. On the other hand, some other media will question about the fact that not all CY students are successful. They criticize those students who are with a strong support from their parent and how they just waste money on shopping, drinking and parties. They find how these young CY students fall in to underage drinking, smoking and sometimes drugs. It has always been discussed over and over what factors influences the life of CY students and determines their future. In my research, I wanted to know what the reality of CY life is and what determines their future and their success in CY life.

My first interviewee’s journey started when she was 14 years old. It wasn’t her decision to go to Canada at the fist stage, but after all, she agreed to experience the CY life. She understood about possible outcomes and ready to enter the new world. In her very first year in Canada, she had this tough period where she had to go through though and rough relationship with her host family. She was too young to accept all these bad treatments and her stress got bigger and bigger because there was no one to help her out. This “host family” issue is very well known topic in CY life. There always exist those students who are having such an excellent relationship with their host family while the other half is having horrible time with theirs. And there exist reasons for this dissonant. In my interviewee’s situation it was because the host family was not in good situation for taking care of young study abroad student. She was adequate to take care of young student and that’s where the struggle came out. It might not seem as that serious to people who did not go through this situation, but for the person concerned is very tough and hard. She just got out from her warm and charming family to where there’s no one who really takes care of her. And this experience really did build her world view. She mentioned that after all these experience she could not trust people easily and how she always take an attention on other’s face look and sign. Although she did not have a excellent condition, these experiences made her to be a stronger person. And she did good job in school. She actively participated in class, got a lot of friends and got good grades. Her friends and family was big adherent to support her. She continuously had a conversation with her family over the phone and e-mails. Her Family and her own decision to come to Canada did not break the family that much. When she goes back to home over the break, she felt couple days to adjust to her own family, but after all, she loved to go back to home to see her loved ones. Overall, she could make her journey into sucessful ending because of her strong will to sustain her CY life and because it was able for her to continue her relationship
with her family. Although she had a very tough period with her host family, she thought it was a good opportunity to strengthen her mind and thought.

My second interviewee was a parent who sent her daughter to America when she was 15 years old. It was her daughter's own decision to study abroad. She supported her daughter to study abroad, but her husband strongly disagreed with her idea. He thought his daughter was too young to study abroad and tried to change her daughter's mind. The interviewee said it took about 2 years to convince her husband. And they finally sent their children to America. She also mentioned how her daughter had difficulties and good things with her host family. Her daughter had 3 host families over all. Although there did exist little dissonance with them, they treated her daughter fairly, and she mentioned how they still have a good relationship with these host families. But she also mentioned when her daughter have a hardship with host family is when her daughter struggles most. The interviewee said she wasn't comfortable in the beginning of her daughter's CY life, but she was relieved because her daughter had this strong will and decision to prolong this CY life and to be successful in the future. However, her and her husband were aware of some risks due to the CY life. Therefore, they did prepare for study abroad over a year and sent her child. Because of the fact her husband and she thought it is more important to know the culture then to study, she decided to put her child on the exchange from called AYUSA. From that program, her child adjusted to the new world well, and did good in school. She also mentioned how expensive it was to send her daughter to Private school in United States, but she thought it was worth over all.

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Reflect: As one of the CY student, I always had some sort of desire to know how other CY student behave. I mean, I wanted to know how other CY student's life look like compare to my own. Through this interview process, I got a chance to figure out those things. I saw some similarities and differences between other CY student's life and mine. But the effect and the outcome from their own family through CY life had a lot in common.

Through interviewing a parent, I could feel their worries and expectations from his or her children. And this parent had a desire to give her children to have a better education the Korean society has. So, I think great increasing rate in CY student in USA might be caused by condition for Korean education system.