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Recognize and Accept Me:  
Consequences of the Drive for Social Identity Validation  
Eunice U. Choi

Claremont Graduate University

2022

UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

**Approval of the Dissertation Committee**

This dissertation has been duly read, reviewed, and critiqued by the Committee listed below, which hereby approves the manuscript of Eunice U. Choi as fulfilling the scope and quality requirements for meriting the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology.

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# UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

## **Abstract**

Recognize and Accept Me:

Consequences of the Drive for Social Identity Validation

By

Eunice U. Choi

Claremont Graduate University: 2022

According to uncertainty-identity theory (Hogg, 2021a) one of the benefits of group identification is uncertainty-reduction. To reap this benefit fully, it is posited that people also are motivated to have their identities validated, especially if the identity is one that is important to a person's sense of self. However, people receive various feedback about their identities, and feedback about one's identity does not come solely from one's ingroup. While past research has demonstrated that feedback and source of feedback are important factors in social identity validation processes (see Choi & Hogg, 2020b), the current research proposes that uncertainty also may be a key factor in these processes; specifically, those with greater self-uncertainty will have a greater desire for identity validation for identities that are central to their sense of self. Furthermore, such desires can have consequences for how individuals evaluate and interact with their ingroup as well as their outgroup. Three studies were conducted to examine this. Study 1 ( $N = 139$ ) showed that those with greater self-uncertainty and those whose identity is more central to their sense of self have a greater desire for identity validation. Study 2 ( $N = 142$ ) showed that there is less ingroup bias when individuals evaluate feedback sources after imagining receiving identity validation from an outgroup source, and self-uncertainty moderates the effect of the feedback source's group when evaluating the ingroup and outgroup as a whole. Study 3 ( $N = 142$ ) showed that those who receive ingroup invalidation have a greater desire for identity

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validation from the outgroup compared to those who receive ingroup validation. Implications for intra- and intergroup dynamics and future research are discussed.

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### **Dedication**

This dissertation is dedicated to my husband, my children, my parents, and my brother, who have supported and encouraged me to fulfill this dream. I would not be here without their sacrifices.

### **Acknowledgements**

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**Introduction: The Drive for Social Identity Validation**

On June 8, 2017, the NPR podcast CODE SWITCH covered a topic they called the “racial imposter syndrome” (Donnella, 2017). One of their followers had asked if there were others like her who felt like racial imposters. When the question was asked to the audience, 127 email responses came in. In one of the responses, a biracial woman whose mother is a Panamanian immigrant and whose father is White described how when one of her cousins mentioned that she was not “really Spanish” because of her dad’s race, it “gutted [her]” because she identifies as Latina. Another light-skinned biracial woman who is half-Black stated how she struggled especially with telling Black Americans of her racial background, because “they have more of a claim to ‘Blackness’ than [she] ever will and therefore have the power to tell [her she] doesn’t belong, [she’s not Black enough].” Because of this, she does not know which identities she can claim. Although it is evident that these individuals, especially the latter, feel some level of self-uncertainty about their identities, not everyone feels such self-uncertainty. In an interview about the show #blackAF, Rashida Jones briefly discussed being biracial. As a celebrity with parents who also are celebrities, her ethnically ambiguous looks and racial background have been discussed numerous times (e.g., Blay, 2020; Lin, 2015; Weller, 2005). While acknowledging the “weird thing” about being biracial where biracial individuals may not be fully accepted by any group, she mentioned that she has “never questioned [her] connection with [her Black side of the family]” (Netflix, 2020).

Like these examples, people receive feedback, both real and imagined, about their identities. Social identity validation refers to receiving recognition and acceptance as a member of one’s ingroup. Research has shown that such feedback regarding people’s identities can

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impact not only how individuals feel about their identities, but also how they evaluate those who give them such feedback (Choi & Hogg, 2020b). However, as seen in the examples presented, people may respond differently, depending on their level of self-uncertainty. How does uncertainty affect social identity validation processes, and what are the consequences of receiving feedback about one's identities?

According to uncertainty-identity theory (Hogg, 2021a), one of the benefits of group identification is uncertainty-reduction and thus, people are motivated to identify with groups. To achieve such benefits of group identification, especially for identities that are important to people's sense of self, people would want such identities validated. The drive for group identification has been shown to lead to extreme intra- and intergroup behaviors (Hogg, 2021b). Similarly, it is likely that the drive for social identity validation has not only consequences that affect how individuals feel about themselves, but also consequences for how individuals feel about and interact with ingroup and outgroup members.

It is proposed that people have a drive for social identity validation, and that the need to have this drive met has consequences for intra- and intergroup processes, especially under conditions of uncertainty. More specifically, under conditions of high uncertainty, typical favorable ingroup evaluations should not be as evident when individuals receive identity validation from an outgroup member.

### **Social Identities and Group Identification**

#### **Social Identity Theory**

There are many ways in which people understand and define themselves. According to social identity theory (Tajfel & Turner, 1986; Turner et al., 1987; also see Abrams & Hogg, 2010; Hogg, 2018b; Hogg et al., 2017), one of the ways in which people derive their sense of self

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is through social identities and group memberships (e.g., political affiliation, gender, race). When an individual identifies with a group, a depersonalization process occurs, where one redefines oneself in terms of the group membership. This redefining of the self results in individuals no longer thinking, acting, or feeling based on the personal self, but rather, based on the group's prototype, which refers to characteristics, behaviors, and attitudes that seemingly defines the group, and differentiates the group from other groups. Each member is evaluated based on how prototypical they are compared to others in their group (Hogg, 2018b). Because this categorization process is applied to everyone, it helps people make better sense of their world. They not only know how they are supposed to think, act and feel, but have an expectation for how others will think, act, and feel based on the prototype of the groups that each person seems to belong to. Thus, such categorization is a natural cognitive process that is extremely useful, which then also motivates individuals to identify with groups.

### **Motivations for Group Identification**

Although there are many reasons why people are motivated to join groups, the current review focuses on those that underpin social identity processes and phenomena, in particular self-enhancement and uncertainty reduction.

#### ***Self-Enhancement***

Most social identity research has focused on self-enhancement as the motivation for identifying with groups. Self-enhancement refers to the motivation of people to enhance their sense of self/self-esteem (Sedikides & Strube, 1995, 1997). Because individuals derive a significant part of their sense of self from their groups, a high status or successful group allows one to have a positive self-concept. Examples of this can be seen in basking in reflected glory (BIRG), where individuals publicize their associations with successful individuals or groups

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(Cialdini et al., 1976). In Cialdini and colleagues' (1976) classic study on BIRG, they found that individuals were more likely to wear university-identifying apparel and use the term "we" to describe the "association" with their school's successful football team. Creating such associations makes one feel as if the success of the group is their success as well, thus enhancing their self-esteem.

The defining of the self through the group and the drive for self-enhancement can lead to various intragroup and intergroup behaviors as outlined in social identity theory (Tajfel & Turner, 1986; see also Abrams & Hogg, 1988; Hogg & Abrams, 1988). Such behaviors are used to maintain and enhance one's positive sense of self. This positive sense of self is best achieved when one's ingroup is not only of high status, but also positively distinct from relevant outgroups. Depending on the factors of permeability of group boundaries and stability of group status, an individual will engage in different strategies for maintaining a positive sense of self (Ellemers, 1993; Jackson et al., 1996; Tajfel & Turner, 1986).

In the case of permeable boundaries, when a group's positive status is threatened, individuals might leave or disassociate from the group. When group boundaries are impermeable, other ways in which individuals try to maintain a positive sense of self is through social creativity or social competition. Social creativity typically occurs in low status groups when the status of the group is relatively stable. An individual or group of individuals in such groups might still find ways to maintain a positive sense of self. An example of this is when individuals change the originally negative value associated with the characteristics of the group to a positive one.

Finally, social competition typically occurs when the status of the group is unstable. A group will seek out direct competition with another group on a dimension that is considered



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valuable by all groups. Much of the research in social identity theory has examined this particular strategy in making sure that one's group is positively distinct from outgroups. In minimal group experiments, not surprisingly, there was a clear bias in favor of the ingroup, where participants maximized ingroup profit (see Brewer, 1979; Mullen et al., 1992). However, more interestingly, participants not only maximized ingroup profit, but they also maximized the differential profit between the ingroup and outgroup, even if it meant their overall profit was not as great. These experiments highlighted the importance of the ingroup's relative position as a motivator for behavior, specifically to enhance one's positive sense of self.

Social identity theory and the research surrounding the theory show how the motivation for self-enhancement is achieved through groups, in particular striving for positive intergroup distinctiveness. However, the focus of this has mostly been on explaining the motivations behind intergroup behavior, rather than group identification.

### *Uncertainty Reduction*

More recently, uncertainty-identity theory (Hogg, 2000, 2007, 2012, 2015, 2021a) has argued that another motivation for group identification is subjective uncertainty reduction. Uncertainty is especially motivating if it relates to some aspect of the self. Not only do people find uncertainty displeasing and uncomfortable (Brown et al., 2021; Jonas et al., 2014), but more specifically, self-related uncertainty is maladaptive because the self is a functional guide that allows people to make sense of their world (see Swann & Bosson, 2010). Therefore, self-uncertainty motivates behaviors that will reduce the uncertainty.

A main prediction of uncertainty identity theory is that self-uncertainty will lead individuals to identify more strongly with a self-inclusive group, or to find a group with which to identify. According to uncertainty-identity theory, group identification is especially effective at

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reducing uncertainty because as discussed earlier in self-categorization theory, the group prescribes how people should act, think, and feel (Turner et al., 1987); the self is now viewed through the lens of group membership. Research has supported this by showing that people identify more strongly with groups under conditions of uncertainty (Grieve & Hogg, 1999; Mullin & Hogg, 1999) and also, identifying more strongly with groups can reduce self-uncertainty (Hogg & Grieve, 1999; see also Choi & Hogg, 2020a for recent meta-analysis).

Groups with high entitativity are particularly effective at reducing self-uncertainty. This is because entitative groups can provide a clear and distinctive social identity through clear intergroup boundaries and internal structure. Research has supported this by showing that under conditions of uncertainty, people identify more strongly with entitative groups (e.g., Hogg et al., 2007) and also disassociate from groups that lack entitativity (e.g., Wagoner & Hogg, 2016). Uncertainty identity theory has thus been used to explain various extreme behaviors such as radicalization and populism (e.g., Hogg, 2014, 2021b). Because radical groups are highly entitative, they are especially effective at reducing self-uncertainty for those who do not have a clear sense of who they are. Uncertainty reduction, in particular, self-uncertainty reduction, is thus a powerful motivation for group identification.

### **Motivation for Identity Validation**

As noted, people are motivated to reduce self-uncertainty, and one effective method of self-uncertainty reduction is group identification (Choi & Hogg, 2020a; Hogg, 2000, 2007, 2012, 2015, 2021a). However, people's identities can be validated or invalidated by various sources. If a central identity is not validated by one's ingroup, group identification through self-categorization would not be effective at reducing self-uncertainty, and self-uncertainty may be perpetuated or even be accentuated. Thus, given that the identity is central to a person's sense of

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self, and the person cannot or does not want to disassociate from or leave the group, it is proposed that people are also motivated to validate their social identities, especially under conditions of high uncertainty.

### **Identity Validation vs. Self-Evaluation Motivations**

It might seem that the motivation for social identity validation is a rephrasing of other self-evaluation motives, in particular, self-enhancement or self-verification; however, as noted by Choi and Hogg (2020b), the motivation for identity validation is separate from these self-evaluation motives.

### ***Identity Validation vs. Self Enhancement***

Social identity validation is concerned with confirmation of one's sense of self, specifically in regard to group membership. One receives identity validation when one is recognized and accepted as a member of one's group.

Self-enhancement is concerned with maintaining and increasing one's positive sense of self (Sedikides & Strube, 1995, 1997). This means protecting oneself from negative feedback that could threaten one's positive sense of self. When threatened, an individual will engage in behaviors that will either compensate or distract from such feedback (Sherman & Cohen, 2006). This applies to people's identities as well, as discussed in social identity theory (Tajfel & Turner, 1986).

In regard to identity validation, there are no other possible processes that can compensate for or distract from one's need for identity validation; one needs identity validating feedback. The need is to be accepted, not necessarily to maintain a positive sense of self. Therefore, identity validation and self-enhancement are distinct motives.

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### *Identity Validation vs. Self-Verification*

Self-verification is when one seeks consistency between one's current self-conceptions and new self-relevant information (Sedikides et al., 2021; Sedikides & Strube, 1995, 1997). Such consistency is functional in that it guides behavior and allows people to make sense of their world (Swann, 1983, 2011). Because of this, people will then seek out information that is consistent with one's view of oneself, even if that view is negative.

Self-verification focuses largely on the personal self (e.g., Swann, 2011; Swann et al., 2003; Swann et al., 1992) though more recent research does address collective self-verification (e.g., Chen et al., 2004; Gomez et al., 2009). Social identity validation, on the other hand, focuses exclusively on social identity.

Self-verification assumes that there is an already established sense of self that people desire to be verified; however, this assumption is not necessary in identity validation processes. Self-uncertainty, including identity uncertainty, motivates validation through group identification (see Choi & Hogg, 2020b). Even if a person is unsure of their status, they would desire to be recognized and accepted as a member of one's group. Thus, identity validation and self-verification are distinct motives.

### **Implications of Social Identity Validation**

People can engage in extreme behaviors to have their identities validated, and this is likely the case when individuals feel more self-uncertain. Research has indirectly supported this by showing that peripheral members of a group are more likely to have stronger intentions to engage in extreme behaviors against the outgroup in order to be accepted by their ingroup (Goldman & Hogg, 2016). Other research has shown that marginal or peripheral members of a group, and those who are less prototypical of their group, feel more uncertain about themselves

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(Hohman et al., 2017; Wagoner et al., 2017). While this may suggest that those who desire identity validation may behave more antagonistically toward the outgroup, this may not be the case. People can receive feedback about their ingroup identities not just from their ingroup, but from outgroup members as well. Given that individuals are motivated to have their ingroup identities validated, the source of identity validation and invalidation can have various intra- and intergroup implications.

### **Sources of Identity Validation/Invalidation**

Although there is little research that examines identity validation processes directly, research from the social identity theory of leadership has indicated that individuals look to prototypical members or leaders of their ingroup to understand what it means to be a member of their group (Hogg, 2001, 2018a; Hogg & Van Knippenberg, 2003; Hogg et al., 2012). This happens because groups not only distinguish themselves from other groups, but they also are internally differentiated by prototypicality; each member is evaluated against the prototype of the group, and those who are considered highly prototypical are seen as more true and central members of their group. Because of their status, such members are seen as reliable sources of information. Given this, it follows that individuals would seek validation from ingroup prototypical sources. However, the evidence for this is somewhat lacking (discussed below).

Social identity research has examined various intergroup processes, but very little research has directly examined how individuals might look beyond the ingroup for identity validation. Social identity research has clearly shown that people have a clear preference for their ingroup even in minimal group situations (Brewer, 1979; Mullen et al., 1992), and outgroup members are typically considered unreliable and treated with suspicion (Mackie et al., 1990). However, if a person cannot receive identity validation from their ingroup, or may even receive

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*invalidation* from their ingroup, they might look for identity validation wherever they can, even from an outgroup member. This possibility, however, has yet to be examined.

The conditions under which identity validation from an outgroup fulfills a person's need for identity validation is especially important to consider given the implications for intra- and intergroup processes. If an individual receives outgroup identity validation, they might (even if temporarily) feel validated as a member of their ingroup. If the individual were to relay that feedback to the ingroup, this could affect how the individual will be perceived by their ingroup; the individual might be considered deviant and lacking loyalty (Marques, Abrams, Paez, & Hogg, 2001; Marques & Paez, 1994). Furthermore, if an individual continuously receives validation from the outgroup (and more so if they receive continuous invalidation from the ingroup), this could lead to more positive attitudes toward and evaluations of the outgroup. This is consistent with intergroup contact theory, which suggests that positive contact between individuals of different groups can better intergroup relations (Allport, 1954; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006). Research on intergroup contact theory has shown that even imagining positive intergroup contact can lead to such improvements (Crisp & Husnu, 2011; Stathi & Crisp, 2008; Stathi et al., 2011; Turner et al., 2007; Turner & West, 2012). Consistent with such research, Choi and Hogg (2020b; discussed further below) also found that this might occur, with participants evaluating an outgroup source as well as the outgroup more positively when receiving identity validation.

### **Uncertainty as a Moderator**

Uncertainty is likely a key factor and possibly a moderator for social identity validation processes. As noted earlier, marginal members and those who are less prototypical tend to experience greater self-uncertainty (Hohman et al., 2017; Wagoner et al., 2017), and peripheral members are more likely to engage in extreme intergroup behaviors to be accepted by their

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ingroup (Goldman & Hogg, 2016). Given this, people with more self-uncertainty are more likely than people with less self-uncertainty to desire social identity validation and to respond more favorably to those who give them identity validation, even if the source of identity validation is an outgroup member.

### **Empirical Research**

Choi and Hogg (2020b) examined the effects of participants' identity centrality, feedback (validation vs. invalidation), feedback source (ingroup vs. outgroup), and feedback source's group prototypicality (low vs. high) on participants' feelings of validation, the evaluation of the feedback source, and feedback source's group. Participants rated their identity centrality and were presented with a prompt where they had to imagine receiving invalidating or validating feedback from an ingroup or outgroup source who was either prototypical or not prototypical of their group. Participants then rated how validated they felt as a member of their ingroup and evaluated the feedback source as well as the feedback source's group.

As one would expect, and consistent with the hypothesis, participants felt more validated when they were validated than when they were invalidated. Further analysis indicated that participants felt more validated by ingroup sources than outgroup sources, and that when they were invalidated, they felt less invalidated by an outgroup source than an ingroup source, indicating not only a preference for ingroup validation, but that invalidation from the ingroup is much more impactful. These results were consistent with past social identity theory and research that show a preference and bias for one's ingroup.

Choi and Hogg's (2020b) research also revealed the impact of validating feedback on how the feedback source as well as the feedback source's group is evaluated. Results showed that participants evaluated the source more positively when they were validated than invalidated.

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This effect generalized to the feedback source's group, especially among participants who indicated that the relevant identity was more central to their self-concept. Again, while there was a clear ingroup bias with participants evaluating an ingroup source more favorably than an outgroup source, there seems to be some evidence that individuals from the outgroup, and even the outgroup as a whole, can be perceived more positively by validating a person's ingroup identity.

Prototypicality did not influence how much participants felt validated as a member of their ingroup, or on their evaluation of the source who gave them feedback. When evaluating the feedback source's group (ingroup vs. outgroup), there was a four-way interaction between the four predictor variables. However, when examining these interactions, the effect of prototypicality was still unclear. Participants rated the ingroup more favorably than the outgroup regardless of feedback when they received feedback from highly prototypical members. When validated by less prototypical members, participants evaluated the ingroup more favorably, but when invalidated by less prototypical members, there was no difference in evaluation between the ingroup and outgroup. These results again indicate a clear bias for the ingroup but the role of prototypicality remains unclear. It was noted that the prototypicality manipulation was weak given the many variables that were manipulated, and likely got lost in the information presented. It may also be possible that in the drive for social identity validation, prototypicality of the source is not as important as other factors.

### **Current Research**

Social identity validation and invalidation are common phenomena; like those who responded to the CODE SWITCH podcast on racial imposter syndrome (i.e., Donnell, 2017) and Rashida Jones, people receive both real and imagined feedback about their identities.



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However, given the relative paucity of research directly examining identity validation processes, there is a need and many opportunities for future research. It is proposed that social identity validation is another motivation in social identity processes that has consequences for how individuals evaluate and interact with their ingroup and outgroup, and that self-uncertainty is a key factor and moderator of such processes. The main overarching hypothesis is that people are motivated to have identities that are central to their sense of self validated, especially when they experience greater self-uncertainty. This drive can have consequences of less ingroup bias when receiving validation as an ingroup member from the outgroup, as well as a greater desire to interact with the outgroup when one does not receive validation from one's ingroup.

To empirically examine this, three experimental studies were conducted. Study 1 examined the main hypothesis that those whose identity is central to their sense of self have a greater desire to have their identity validated, especially if they are in a state of high self-uncertainty. Studies 2 and 3 then addressed what happens when one receives feedback about one's identities and examined the potential intra- and intergroup consequences of receiving identity validating or invalidating feedback under varying levels of uncertainty. Study 2 compared the effects of identity feedback and feedback sources on evaluation of the ingroup and outgroup under varying levels of self-uncertainty, while Study 3 examined how ingroup feedback affects people's desire for feedback and validation from the outgroup under varying levels of self-uncertainty. Data for all studies were collected via online survey. In latter studies, participants were given a hypothetical situation in which they received feedback about their identities. All studies were conducted in the context of Korean national identity.

**Study 1**

Given that self-uncertainty is a key motivation for group identification, and identification effectively reduces self-uncertainty (Hogg, 2000, 2007, 2012, 2015, 2021a), it was proposed that people experiencing elevated self-uncertainty would have a greater desire for identity validation if the identity was central to their sense of self (Choi & Hogg, 2020b). To test this hypothesis empirically, Study 1 measured identity centrality then primed self-uncertainty (high vs. low) and examined whether participants indicated a greater desire for identity validation under conditions of higher uncertainty. Furthermore, to address, at least within the ingroup, whether prototypicality has an effect in social identity validation processes, participants were asked about their preference to be validated by a prototypical group member and a non-prototypical group member. The study also explored whether self-uncertainty and identity centrality may have effects on such preferences.

The hypotheses were as follows:

H1. There will be a main effect of self-uncertainty; participants primed with high self-uncertainty will indicate a greater desire for identity validation compared to those primed with low self-uncertainty.

H2. The above effect would be moderated by identity centrality; the effect will be stronger for those with high identity centrality than those with low identity centrality.

H3. There will be a main effect of prototypicality; participants will indicate a greater desire for identity validation from prototypical ingroup members than non-prototypical ingroup members.

## Method

### Participants and Design

Participants were recruited from universities in Korea. A total of 139 participants (67.63% female;  $M_{\text{age}} = 26.49$ ,  $SD = 10.58$ ) completed the study via Qualtrics. All participants were ethnically Korean. A power analysis using G\*Power (Faul et al., 2009) indicated that in order to detect a small to medium effect for a regression ( $f^2 = .10$ ; 80% chance) as significant at the 5% level, a sample of 114 participants would be needed. Upon completion, participants were given a ₩5000 e-gift card to Starbucks as compensation for their participation.

The research was presented as a study of Korean identity. The study had two predictors: (1) participants' identity centrality was measured, and (2) self-uncertainty was primed (high vs. low). There were three criterion variables: (1) an overall desire for identity validation, (2) desire for validation from a prototypical ingroup member, and (3) desire for validation from a non-prototypical ingroup member.

### Procedure

Participants were told that the study was investigating how people feel about their Korean identity. All instructions and measures were presented in Korean (see Appendix A for Study 1 measures and materials). Upon consent, participants were randomly assigned to one of the two self-uncertainty conditions. They first completed a measure of Korean identity centrality. Participants then completed a task to prime high or low self-uncertainty, followed by a manipulation check. Afterwards, participants completed a measure of desire for identity validation. Additionally, they were asked how much they desired validation from a prototypical group member and a non-prototypical group member; the two measures were counterbalanced. They were also asked, if they had to choose, which group member they would prefer to be

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validated by. Finally, demographics were obtained (e.g. gender, age, ethnicity), and participants were debriefed.

### Measures

Original English measures and materials were translated into Korean by a fluent speaker of Korean and English, and then back-translated to English by another fluent speaker of Korean and English to ensure proper translation.

#### *Identity Centrality*

A 4-item measure adapted from social identity research was used to measure identity centrality (Hains et al., 1997; Hogg & Hains, 1996; Hogg et al., 1998; Hogg et al., 2007).

Participants were asked about: (1) how important being a Korean is to them, (2) how central being a Korean is to their sense of who they are, (3) how often they are aware of being a Korean, and (4) how much they feel they identify as a Korean; 1 *Not Very Much*, 9 *Very Much*,  $\alpha = .86$ .

#### *Self-Uncertainty Prime*

A self-uncertainty prime modified from past uncertainty-identity theory research was used to prime low (or high) uncertainty (e.g., Hogg et al., 2007; Wagoner & Hogg, 2016).

Participants were asked the following: “We would like you to reflect and elaborate on some aspects of your life that are related to your sense of who you are. How **(UN)CERTAIN** do you feel about who you are? Take a few moments to think about how you may feel **(UN)CERTAIN** about your place in society, at work, among your friends, or within your family. You may be **(UN)SURE** about what you should think and feel and do, about your life goals and ambitions, and about your future. Now choose one of these areas of your life that make you feel most **(UN)CERTAIN** about yourself and who you are, and tell us a little about it in the box below.”

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### *Self-Uncertainty Manipulation Check*

To examine whether the prime was successful, and to reinforce the prime, participants were asked a single-item question<sup>1</sup>: “With respect to the self-reflection task you have just completed, how uncertain do you feel **right now** about who you are?”; 1 *Not Very Uncertain*, 9 *Very Uncertain*.

### *Desire for Identity Validation*

A 3-item measure was developed to measure participants’ desire for identity validation. Participants were asked: (1) how much they want their identity as a Korean to be validated, (2) how much they want to be recognized as a true Korean, and (3) how much they want to be accepted as a true Korean; 1 *Not Very Much*, 9 *Very Much*,  $\alpha = .95$ .

### *Prototypicality*

To assess the effects of prototypicality (high vs. low), participants were asked about their desire for identity validation once more (see above) by a **TYPICAL** ( $\alpha = .98$ ) and **NONTYPICAL** Korean ( $\alpha = .97$ ); 1 *Not Very Much*, 9 *Very Much*.

Participants were also asked a single-item question about who they would prefer to be validated by (prototypical vs. non-prototypical).

### *Demographics and Debriefing*

Participants’ age, sex, and racial/ethnic background were measured before they were debriefed about the true nature of the study, including experimental primes.

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<sup>1</sup> Given that numerous studies have shown the self-uncertainty prime to be successful based on single-item or multi-item scales (e.g. Grant & Hogg, 2012; Hohman et al., 2017; Rast et al., 2012), a single-item question was used for this study.

### Results

Given the good internal consistency of the measures, each scale was averaged into a single score. Each predictor was regressed onto the demographic variables to see if any of the demographic variables covaried with any of the predictors. There were no significant covariates. For reliability statistics, means, *SDs*, and intercorrelations of the key variables, see Table 1.

Table 1. Reliabilities, means, *SDs*, and intercorrelation of all key variables for Study 1

Variable	$\alpha$	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	2	3	4	5	6
1. Identity centrality (4 items)	.85	6.52	1.73	-.01	-.10	.58**	.55**	.48**
2. Self-uncertainty (prime)	-	0.58	.50	-	.24**	.04	.01	-.01
3. Self-uncertainty manipulation check	-	3.84	2.11		-	.14	.11	.11
4. Desire for identity validation (3 items)	.95	5.06	2.27			-	.79**	.73**
5. Desire for validation from prototypical source (3 items)	.98	4.71	2.36				-	.79**
6. Desire for validation from non-prototypical source (3 items)	.97	4.41	2.31					-

*Note:* Means take values between 1 and 9, with 9 indicating more of the feature described. Self-uncertainty (prime) was a binary variable with value of 0 (low self-uncertainty) and 1 (high self-uncertainty).

\*  $p < .05$ ; \*\*  $p < .01$

### Manipulation Check

To examine whether the self-uncertainty prime was successful, an independent samples *t*-test was conducted with uncertainty as the independent variable and the self-uncertainty manipulation measure as the dependent variable. Those in the low uncertainty condition ( $n = 59$ ) reported feeling significantly less uncertain ( $M = 3.25$ ,  $SD = 2.19$ ) than those in the high

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uncertainty condition ( $n = 79$ ;  $M = 4.29$ ,  $SD = 1.96$ ),  $t(136) = -2.89$ ,  $p = .004$ , 95% CI [-1.73, -0.32],  $d = 2.06$ .

### **Desire for Identity Validation**

To test the hypotheses, based on Aiken and West (1991), predictor variables were mean centered and used to compute interaction terms. A two-step hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with desire for identity validation as the criterion. The predictors of identity centrality and self-uncertainty were entered at Step 1, and the two-way interaction between identity centrality and uncertainty were entered at Step 2.

Results revealed that while the regression was significant at both Step 1 and Step 2, Step 2 ( $R^2 = .33$ ;  $F(3, 134) = 22.17$ ,  $p < .001$ ) did not explain a significant amount of variance beyond Step 1 ( $R^2 = .33$ ;  $F(2, 135) = 33.48$ ,  $p < .001$ ),  $\Delta R^2 = .00$ ,  $p = .840$ . At Step 1, only identity centrality was a significant predictor of desire for identity validation,  $\beta = .58$ ,  $SE = .09$ ,  $t = 8.17$ ,  $p < .001$ ; those whose identity was more central to their sense of self reported a greater desire for identity validation. Self-uncertainty was not a significant predictor,  $\beta = .03$ ,  $SE = .32$ ,  $t = 0.43$ ,  $p = .669$ .

Since the self-uncertainty prime was limited in capturing variability due to being manipulated, to still examine the plausibility of the hypotheses, the self-uncertainty manipulation check was entered as a predictor in place of the self-uncertainty prime in the two-step hierarchical multiple regression. The regression was significant at both Step 1 and Step 2; however, Step 2 ( $R^2 = .37$ ;  $F(3, 134) = 26.39$ ,  $p < .001$ ) did not explain significant variance beyond Step 1 ( $R^2 = .37$ ;  $F(2, 135) = 39.32$ ,  $p < .001$ ),  $\Delta R^2 = .00$ ,  $p = .404$ . At Step 1, identity centrality was a significant predictor,  $\beta = .59$ ,  $SE = .09$ ,  $t = 8.63$ ,  $p < .001$ ; those whose identity was more central to their sense of self reported a greater desire for identity validation.

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Additionally, self-uncertainty was a significant predictor,  $\beta = .19$ ,  $SE = .07$ ,  $t = 2.83$ ,  $p = .005$ ; those who felt more self-related uncertainty reported a greater desire for identity validation.

### **Desire for Identity Validation from Prototypical Ingroup Members**

Like the analyses that examined overall desire for identity validation as the criterion, the self-uncertainty prime predictor did not yield significant results when examining desire for identity validation from prototypical members as the criterion; only identity centrality was a significant predictor. Those whose identity was more central to their sense of self indicated a greater desire for identity validation from prototypical ingroup members. Thus, the self-uncertainty prime measure was used to examine the plausibility of hypotheses.

Results from a two-step hierarchical multiple regression indicated that the regression was significant at both Step 1 and Step 2; however, Step 2 ( $R^2 = .33$ ;  $F(3, 133) = 21.74$ ,  $p < .001$ ) did not explain a significant amount of variance beyond Step 1 ( $R^2 = .33$ ;  $F(2, 134) = 32.45$ ,  $p < .001$ ),  $\Delta R^2 = .00$ ,  $p = .465$ . At Step 1, self-uncertainty significantly predicted desire for identity validation from a prototypical member,  $\beta = .17$ ,  $SE = .08$ ,  $t = 2.43$ ,  $p = .017$ , such that those who reported more self-uncertainty reported a greater desire for identity validation from a prototypical ingroup member. Identity centrality was also a significant predictor,  $\beta = .56$ ,  $SE = .10$ ,  $t = 7.90$ ,  $p < .001$ , such that those whose identity was more central to their sense of self reported a greater desire for identity validation from a prototypical ingroup member.

### **Desire for Identity Validation from Non-prototypical Ingroup Members**

Like the previous analyses, the self-uncertainty prime predictor did not yield significant results when examining desire for identity validation from a non-prototypical ingroup member as the criterion; like previous analyses, only identity centrality was a significant predictor, with those whose identity was more central to their sense of self reporting a greater desire for identity



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validation from a non-prototypical ingroup member. Thus, the self-uncertainty prime measure was once again used to examine the plausibility of hypotheses.

The two-step hierarchical regression revealed that though significant, Step 2 ( $R^2 = .27$ ;  $F(3, 132) = 15.95$ ,  $p < .001$ ) did not explain a significant amount of variance beyond Step 1 ( $R^2 = .26$ ;  $F(2, 134) = 32.45$ ,  $p < .001$ ),  $\Delta R^2 = .00$ ,  $p = .465$ . At Step 1, self-uncertainty was a significant predictor,  $\beta = .16$ ,  $SE = .08$ ,  $t = 2.14$ ,  $p = .034$ , such that those with greater self-related uncertainty reported a greater desire for identity validation from a non-prototypical ingroup member. Identity centrality was also a significant predictor,  $\beta = .50$ ,  $SE = .10$ ,  $t = 6.59$ ,  $p < .001$ , such that those whose identity was more central to their sense of self reported a greater desire for identity validation from a non-prototypical ingroup member.

### **Prototypical vs. Non-prototypical**

A two-step hierarchical logistic regression was conducted to examine the effects of participants' self-uncertainty and identity centrality on participants' preference to be validated by a prototypical or non-prototypical ingroup member. The two predictors were entered in at Step 1, and the two-way interaction was entered in Step 2. The criterion was the single-item choice between identity validation from a non-prototypical vs. prototypical ingroup member. However, results revealed that neither model 1 ( $X^2(2) = 5.66$ ,  $p = .059$ ) nor model 2 ( $X^2(3) = 6.06$ ,  $p = .109$ ) were significant.

## **Discussion**

Building off uncertainty-identity theory (Hogg, 2000, 2007, 2012, 2015, 2021a), it was proposed that people with more self-uncertainty would have a greater desire for identity validation, especially if the identity was central to their self-concept. The purpose of Study 1 was to test his proposition.

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The results of Study 1 partially supported the hypotheses. While the self-uncertainty prime was technically successful, there seemed to be a relatively small difference in means between those in the low ( $M = 3.25, SD = 2.19$ ) and high ( $M = 4.29, SD = 1.96$ ) conditions. Thus, the continuous self-uncertainty manipulation check measure was used as the predictor. When doing so, consistent with H1, those with greater self-uncertainty indicated a greater desire to have their ingroup identity validated. While there was no significant two-way interaction between self-uncertainty and identity centrality (H2), there was a significant effect of identity centrality, such that those whose identity was more central to their sense of self had a greater desire for identity validation. This was consistent with Choi and Hogg's (2020b) findings that identity centrality is a key factor in social identity validation processes.

An exploration of ingroup prototypicality found that participants did not seem to have a preference between prototypical and non-prototypical sources of validation. Given the absence of a significant effect also in Choi & Hogg's (2020b) study, prototypicality may not be a significant factor in social identity validation processes.

**Study 2**

It was proposed that social identity validation is another motivation in social identity processes that have consequences for how people interact with and evaluate their ingroup and outgroup, and that self-uncertainty is a key factor in the processes. Thus, the overall goal of Study 2 was to examine how participants respond when receiving feedback about their identities; in particular, how they evaluate the ingroup or outgroup after receiving identity feedback under varying levels of self-uncertainty. The research by Choi and Hogg (2020b) provided a baseline for how participants respond to identity validating and invalidating feedback from various sources. As one would expect, and consistent with the hypothesis, participants felt more validated when they were validated than when they were invalidated. Further analysis indicated that participants felt more validated by ingroup sources than outgroup sources, and when they were invalidated, they felt less invalidated by an outgroup source than an ingroup source, indicating not only a preference for ingroup validation, but that invalidation from the ingroup is much more impactful. These results were consistent with past social identity theory and research that show a preference and bias for one's ingroup.

Choi and Hogg's (2020b) research also revealed the impact of validating feedback on how the feedback source as well as the feedback source's group is evaluated. Results showed that participants evaluated the source more positively when they were validated than invalidated. This effect generalized to the feedback source's group, especially among participants who indicated that the relevant identity was more central to their self-concept. Again, while there was a clear ingroup bias with participants evaluating an ingroup source more favorably than an

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outgroup source, the evidence suggested that individuals from the outgroup, and even the outgroup as a whole, can be perceived more positively by validating a person's ingroup identity.

Study 1 showed that those with greater self-uncertainty have a greater desire for identity validation. Given this, Study 2 aimed to examine the implications for intra- and intergroup relations by examining what happens when people receive feedback about their identities. Specifically, Study 2 examined how self-uncertainty moderates the effects of source and feedback on evaluations of the source and the source's group for those whose identity is central to their sense of self.

Given the minimal differences between the low and high self-uncertainty conditions when priming self-uncertainty in Study 1, Study 2 measured, rather than manipulated, self-uncertainty.

Based on previous research, the hypotheses are as follows:

H1. There will be a main effect of feedback source; ingroup sources and the ingroup will be evaluated more positively than outgroup sources and the outgroup.

H2. The above effect will be moderated by feedback; participants who receive validating feedback from an ingroup source will evaluate the source and the source's group most positively.

H3. The above effect will be further moderated by uncertainty; under conditions of high self-uncertainty, the effect will be smaller than under conditions of low self-uncertainty.

## **Method**

### **Participants and Design**

Since those whose identity is more central to their sense of self have a greater desire for identity validation, high identity centrality was a boundary condition and inclusion criteria for

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the study. The study had three predictors: (1) self-uncertainty was measured, (2) feedback was manipulated (validation vs. invalidation), and (3) feedback source (ingroup vs. outgroup) was manipulated. Evaluations of the source and evaluations of the source's group were the criterion variables.

Like Study 1, Study 2 was conducted in the context of Korean national identity, with a Japanese person and the Japanese as the outgroup. The Japanese were chosen as the outgroup for historical reasons (e.g., Japanese colonization); polls in Korea have shown that people tend to have negative attitudes toward Japan (Kim et al., 2014). Participants were recruited at universities in Korea. Data collection occurred via Qualtrics, with participants who identify as Korean. An a priori power analysis using G\*Power for a regression ( $f^2 = .15$ , 80% chance, significant at the 5% level, seven predictors) noted that a sample size of 103 would be needed to detect a medium effect size. One hundred sixty-eight participants (77.38% female;  $M_{age} = 25.84$ ,  $SD = 8.57$ ) completed the study and received a ₩5000 e-gift card to Starbucks as compensation for their participation.

### **Procedure**

Participants were told that the study was investigating people's experiences as a Korean. All instructions and measures were presented in Korean (see Appendix B for Study 2 measures and materials). Upon consent, participants were randomly assigned to one of the four conditions. They first completed a measure of Korean identity centrality to ensure the boundary condition was met, followed by a measure of self-uncertainty. Then participants were told to imagine receiving certain feedback (validating vs. invalidating) from a particular source (ingroup vs. outgroup). Participants then complete a manipulation check and measures to evaluate the source and the source's group. Demographics were obtained, and finally, participants were debriefed.

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### **Measures**

Original English measures and materials were translated into Korean by a fluent speaker of Korean and English, and then back-translated to English by another fluent speaker of Korean and English to ensure proper translation.

#### ***Identity Centrality***

A 4-item measure adapted from social identity research was used to measure identity centrality (Hains et al., 1997; Hogg & Hains, 1996; Hogg et al., 1998; Hogg et al., 2007;  $\alpha = .83$ ). The measure was identical to the identity centrality measure in Study 1.

#### ***Self-Uncertainty***

A 6-item measure was developed based on previous measures and manipulations of self-uncertainty. Participants were asked how uncertain they felt about (1) who they are as an individual, (2) who they are as a member of society, (3) who they are in their relationships, (4) their future, (5) their personality, and (6) their identity in society; 1 *Not Very Uncertain*, 9 *Very Uncertain*,  $\alpha = .91$ .

#### ***Manipulation Check***

As a manipulation check, participants completed a single-item measure that asked how much they felt that the Korean (Japanese) person (in)validated their identity as a Korean; 1 *Invalidated*, 9 *Validated*.

#### ***Evaluation of the Source and Source's Group***

Evaluation of the source was measured using Choi and Hogg's (2020b) measure of social identity validation. The measure consisted of 2 items that assessed likability of the source, 4 items that assessed warmth, and 4 items that assessed competence ( $\alpha = .96$ ). The same items

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were modified to assess evaluations of the source's group ( $\alpha = .97$ ). All items were measured on a 9-point Likert scale; 1 *Not Very Much*, 9 *Very Much*.

### *Demographics and Debriefing*

Participants' age, sex, and ethnic background were measured before they were debriefed about the true nature of the study, including experimental primes.

### **Results**

Given the good internal consistency of the measures, each scale was averaged into a single score. For reliability statistics, means, *SDs*, and intercorrelation of the key variables, see Table 2.

Table 2. Reliabilities, means, *SDs*, and intercorrelation of all key variables for Study 2

Variable	$\alpha$	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Identity centrality (4 items)	.83	7.27	1.19	-.43**	.05	-.05	.13	.20*	.14	.15
2. Self-uncertainty (6 items)	.91	3.46	1.67	-	.01	.01	-.06	-.26**	-.22**	-.27**
3. Feedback	-	.48	.50		-	.03	.66**	.37**	.32**	.06
4. Feedback source	-	.49	.50			-	.12	.31**	.41**	-.08
5. Manipulation check	-	5.67	2.64				-	.58**	.43**	.08
6. Evaluation of source (10 items)	.96	5.11	1.71					-	.82**	-.01
7. Evaluation of source's group (10 items)	.97	5.11	1.77						-	-.06
8. Age	-	26.11	9.10							-

*Note:* Means take values between 1 and 9, with 9 indicating more of the feature described. Feedback, feedback source were binary variables with values of 0 (invalidation; outgroup) and 1 (validation; ingroup).

\*  $p < .05$ ; \*\*  $p < .01$

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Since the interpretation of results depends on the boundary condition of high identity centrality, participants who had an average score below five ( $n = 26$ ) on the overall identity centrality measure were removed from the analyses. Three predictors: one continuous (self-uncertainty), and two categorical (feedback, feedback source) were analyzed using hierarchical multiple regression. The two criterion variables were evaluation of the feedback source and evaluation of the feedback source's group. Regression of the predictors onto the demographic variables of age and gender found that age significantly covaried with self-uncertainty, such that those who were older felt significantly less self-related uncertainty,  $\beta = -.27$ ,  $SE = .45$ ,  $t = -3.30$ ,  $p = .001$ . Thus, age was included as a covariate in all analyses.

### **Manipulation Check**

To examine whether the manipulation was successful, an independent samples  $t$ -test was conducted with identity feedback as the independent variable and the manipulation check as the dependent variable. The manipulation was successful; those who imagined receiving identity validation feedback ( $n = 68$ ) felt that they were more validated ( $M = 7.47$ ,  $SD = 1.39$ ) than those who imagined receiving invalidating feedback ( $n = 74$ ;  $M = 4.01$ ,  $SD = 2.42$ ),  $t(140) = -10.33$ ,  $p < .001$ , 95% CI [-4.12, -2.80],  $d = 1.99$ .

### **Evaluation of the Feedback Source**

A four-step hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with the covariate entered at Step 1, the three predictors at Step 2, the three two-way interactions at Step 3, and the three-way interaction at Step 4. At Step 3, the two-way interactions ( $R^2 = .37$ ;  $F(7, 131) = 10.85$ ,  $p < .001$ ) explained a significant amount of variance beyond Step 2 with the three predictors ( $R^2 = .31$ ;  $F(4, 134) = 14.76$ ,  $p < .001$ ),  $\Delta R^2 = .06$ ,  $p = .007$ . However, Step 4 with the three-way interaction



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( $R^2 = .37$ ;  $F(8, 130) = 9.43$ ,  $p < .001$ ) did not explain a significant amount of variance beyond Step 3,  $\Delta R^2 = .00$ ,  $p = .905$ .

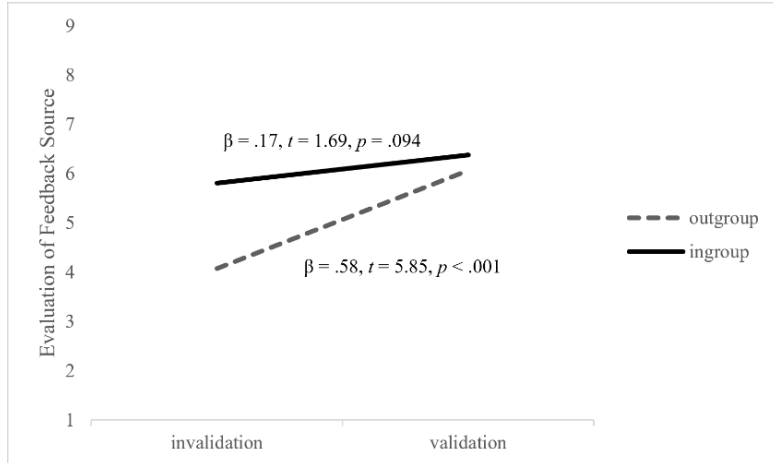
At Step 3, the significant predictors were self-uncertainty ( $\beta = -.30$ ,  $SE = .08$ ,  $t = -4.16$ ,  $p < .001$ ), feedback ( $\beta = .37$ ,  $SE = .24$ ,  $t = 5.27$ ,  $p < .001$ ), feedback source ( $\beta = .29$ ,  $SE = .08$ ,  $t = 4.21$ ,  $p < .001$ ), and the two-way interaction between feedback and feedback source ( $\beta = -.21$ ,  $SE = .48$ ,  $t = -2.95$ ,  $p = .004$ ). Those who felt more self-related uncertainty evaluated the person who gave them identity feedback less positively. Participants evaluated the person who gave them identity feedback more positively when they were validated than invalidated, and they also evaluated ingroup sources more positively than outgroup sources.

To analyze the two-way interaction between feedback and feedback source, simple slopes analyses were conducted. Among those that received feedback from an outgroup source, those that received validation evaluated the source much more positively than those who received invalidation,  $\beta = .58$ ,  $t = 5.85$ ,  $p < .001$ ; however, evaluation of the ingroup source did not significantly differ between participants who received ingroup validation or invalidation,  $\beta = .17$ ,  $t = 1.69$ ,  $p = .094$  (see Figure 1 Panel A). Evaluation of the ingroup and outgroup source did not differ between those who received validation,  $\beta = .09$ ,  $t = 0.91$ ,  $p = .363$ ; however, when receiving invalidation, participants evaluated an ingroup source significantly more positively than an outgroup source,  $\beta = .50$ ,  $t = 5.08$ ,  $p < .001$  (see Figure 1 Panel B).

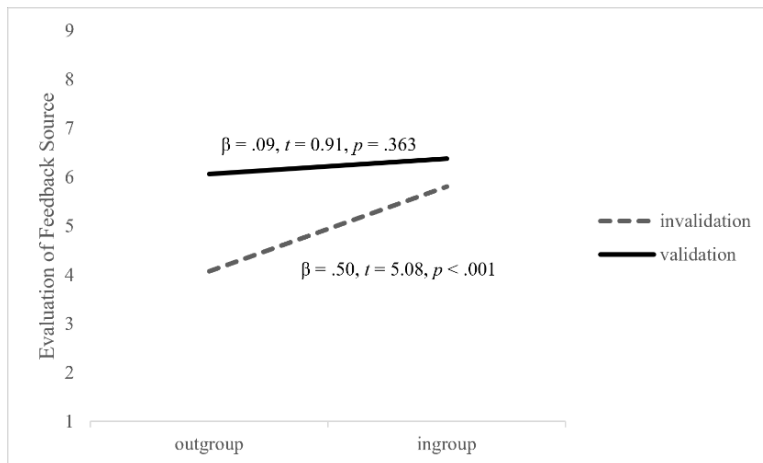
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Figure 1. Evaluation of the feedback source as a function of feedback and feedback source's group

Panel A: The effect of feedback on evaluation of the feedback source moderated by feedback source's group



Panel B: The effect of feedback source's group on evaluation of the feedback source moderated by feedback



### Evaluation of the Feedback Source's Group

A four-step hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with evaluation of the feedback source's group as the criterion. At Step 3, the two-way interactions ( $R^2 = .35$ ;  $F(7, 131) = 10.26$ ,  $p < .001$ ) explained a significant amount of variance beyond Step 2 with the three predictors ( $R^2 = .31$ ;  $F(4, 134) = 15.02$ ,  $p < .001$ ),  $\Delta R^2 = .05$ ,  $p = .032$ . However, Step 4 with the

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three-way interaction ( $R^2 = .36$ ;  $F(8, 130) = 9.29$ ,  $p < .001$ ) did not explain a significant amount of variance beyond Step 3,  $\Delta R^2 = .01$ ,  $p = .162$ .

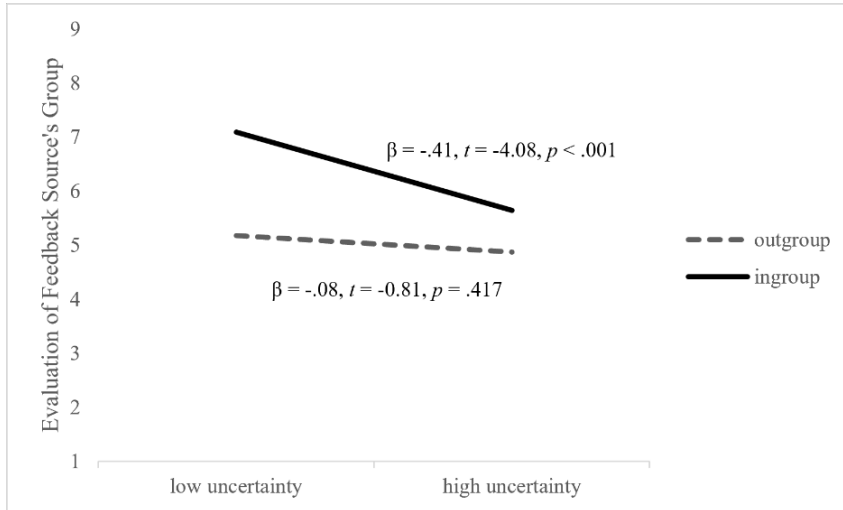
At Step 3, the significant predictors were self-uncertainty ( $\beta = -.12$ ,  $SE = .08$ ,  $t = -3.40$ ,  $p < .001$ ), feedback, ( $\beta = .31$ ,  $SE = .25$ ,  $t = 4.38$ ,  $p < .001$ ), feedback source ( $\beta = .38$ ,  $SE = .25$ ,  $t = 5.43$ ,  $p < .001$ ), and the two-way interaction between self-uncertainty and feedback source, ( $\beta = -.16$ ,  $SE = .15$ ,  $t = -2.32$ ,  $p = .022$ ). Similar to when evaluating the feedback source, participants who reported more self-uncertainty evaluated the source's group more negatively. Participants evaluated the source's group more positively when receiving validating feedback and evaluated the ingroup more positively than the outgroup.

Simple slope analyses revealed that the ingroup is evaluated more negatively among those that have more self-uncertainty than those who have less self-uncertainty,  $\beta = -.41$ ,  $t = -4.08$ ,  $p < .001$ ; however, evaluations of the outgroup did not differ between those with more or less self-uncertainty,  $\beta = -.08$ ,  $t = -0.81$ ,  $p = .417$  (see Figure 2 Panel A). Among those with less self-uncertainty, the ingroup was evaluated significantly more positively than the outgroup,  $\beta = .54$ ,  $t = 5.43$ ,  $p < .001$ . While this was also the case for those with high uncertainty, the effect was not as strong,  $\beta = .22$ ,  $t = 2.17$ ,  $p = .032$  (see Figure 2 Panel B).

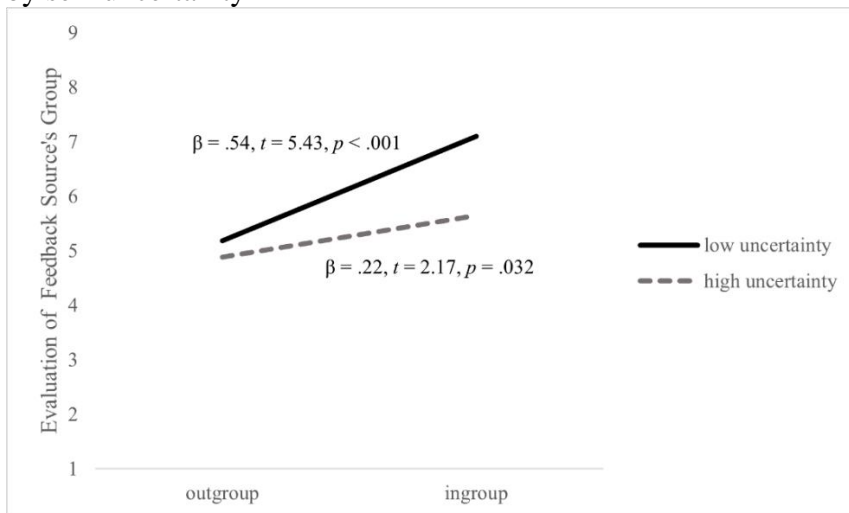
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Figure 2. Evaluation of the feedback source's group as a function of self-uncertainty and feedback source

Panel A: The effect of self-uncertainty on evaluation of the feedback source's group moderated by feedback source



Panel B: The effect of feedback source on evaluation of the feedback source's group moderated by self-uncertainty



## Discussion

Choi and Hogg's (2020) research provided a baseline for how people responded to those that gave them identity feedback, and Study 1 showed that self-uncertainty may be a key factor in identity validation processes. Given this, the goal of Study 2 was to examine how self-

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uncertainty may moderate the effects of the feedback and feedback source on evaluations of the source and the source's group.

When evaluating just the feedback source, consistent with H1, there was an effect of feedback, such that participants evaluated the source more positively when they were validated than invalidated. Furthermore, consistent with H2, this effect was moderated by the feedback source. There were no differences in evaluation of an ingroup source, regardless of feedback (validation vs. in validation); however, the outgroup source was evaluated much more positively when participants received validation compared to invalidation. Though the ingroup source was evaluated more positively than the outgroup source when participants received invalidation, there was no difference in evaluation between the ingroup and outgroup source when participants received validation. This suggests that consistent with social identity research and Choi and Hogg's (2020) findings, there is still ingroup bias, however, individuals from the outgroup can be evaluated just as positively as ingroup members if they validate a person's ingroup identity. Inconsistent with H3, self-uncertainty did not moderate these effects, however, there was a significant effect of self-uncertainty, such that those with greater self-uncertainty evaluated their feedback source more negatively.

When evaluating the feedback source's group, consistent with H1, there was a significant effect of feedback, such that participants evaluated the source's group more positively when they imagined receiving validating feedback (vs. invalidating feedback). The feedback source did not moderate this effect (H2); however, there was a significant effect of the feedback source, such that the ingroup was evaluated more positively than the outgroup. H3 was partially supported; self-uncertainty moderated the effect of feedback source: the ingroup was evaluated significantly more negatively when participants felt more self-uncertain, but there were no differences in

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evaluations of the outgroup under varying levels of self-uncertainty. This difference in effects of feedback source across varying levels of self-uncertainty may be because individuals belong to and derive their sense of self from their ingroups. While outgroups provide contrast, individuals do not define themselves in terms of their outgroups. Thus, one's feelings of self-uncertainty may impact evaluations of one's ingroup, but not have an effect on evaluations of the outgroup.

The ingroup was evaluated much more positively than the outgroup when participants had less self-uncertainty. While this was also the case among participants who felt more self-uncertain, the effect was not as strong. These results suggest that there is ingroup bias when evaluating ingroups and outgroups overall; however, there is less drastic ingroup bias when one feels more self-uncertain.

**Study 3**

To examine the potential intra- and intergroup consequences of self-uncertainty in social identity validation processes, similar to Study 2, the purpose of Study 3 was to examine how people respond to feedback about their identities. While Study 2 examined how identity feedback from ingroup and outgroup sources among those with varying levels of self-uncertainty affected evaluations of the feedback sources and the ingroup and outgroup, the focus of Study 3 was to examine the conditions in which people are more likely to desire validation from the outgroup. Study 2 found that participants who received validation showed less ingroup bias, suggesting that outgroups may be effective in satisfying people's desire for identity validation; Choi and Hogg (2020b) found that people feel most validated when validated by the ingroup, and most invalidated when invalidated by the ingroup. Thus, under conditions of no feedback from the ingroup, and especially ingroup invalidation, people may have a greater desire to receive validation from elsewhere, even the outgroup, especially if the identity is central to their sense of self. Study 1 suggested that those with more self-uncertainty have a greater desire for identity validation for identities central to their sense of self. If participants experience more self-uncertainty, they will have a greater desire for identity validation, making them more likely to desire and seek outgroup validation. The hypotheses were as follows:

H1. There will be an effect of feedback: those who receive ingroup invalidation will have a greater desire to seek feedback from the outgroup than 1) those who receive ingroup validation and 2) those that do not receive ingroup feedback.

H2. The above effect will be moderated by uncertainty; those with higher self-uncertainty will have even greater desire to seek feedback from the outgroup.

## Method

### Participants and Design

As in Study 2, high identity centrality was set as a boundary condition. There were two predictor variables: (1) self-uncertainty was measured and (2) ingroup feedback was manipulated (invalidation vs. no feedback vs. validation). Overall desire for social identity validation and desire to receive outgroup social identity validation were the criterion variables.

The study was also in the context of Korean national identity with the Japanese as the outgroup. Participants were recruited from universities in Korea and data were collected via Qualtrics. One hundred sixty-two participants completed the study (82.72% female;  $M_{\text{age}} = 28.14$ ,  $SD = 10.57$ ). An a priori power analysis using G\*Power ( $f^2 = .10$ , 80% chance, significant at the 5% level, five predictors) noted that a sample size of 134 would be needed to detect a small to medium effect size. Participants were given a ₩5000 e-gift card to Starbucks as compensation for their participation.

### Procedure

Participants were told that the study is investigating Korean identity and social interactions. All instructions and measures were presented in Korean (see Appendix C for Study 3 measures and materials). Upon consent, participants were randomly assigned to one of the three ingroup feedback conditions. They first completed a measure of Korean identity centrality to ensure the boundary condition was met. Participants then completed a measure of self-uncertainty. Then, participants were asked to imagine a particular scenario in which they received feedback from their ingroup regarding their Korean identity (validated vs. invalidated vs. no feedback). Finally, participants completed measures overall desire for identity validation, desire for outgroup identity validation, and demographics before being debriefed.



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### **Measures**

Original English measures and materials were translated into Korean by a fluent speaker of Korean and English, and then back-translated to English by another fluent speaker of Korean and English to ensure proper translation.

#### ***Identity Centrality***

A 4-item measure adapted from social identity research was used to measure identity centrality (Hains et al., 1997; Hogg & Hains, 1996; Hogg et al., 1998; Hogg et al., 2007;  $\alpha = .85$ ). The measure was identical to the identity centrality measure in Studies 1 and 2.

#### ***Self-Uncertainty***

A 6-item measure was developed based on previous measures and manipulations of self-uncertainty. This measure was identical to the self-uncertainty measure in Study 2,  $\alpha = .89$ .

#### ***Desire for Identity Validation***

A 3-item measure identical to Study 1 was used to measure participants' overall desire for identity validation,  $\alpha = .93$ .

#### ***Desire for Outgroup Validation***

A 3-item measure adapted from Study 1 was used to measure participants' desire for identity validation from an outgroup member. Participants were asked to imagine talking with a Japanese person from the earlier scenario, and (1) how much they would like the Japanese person to convey to them that the Japanese person considers them a true Korean, (2) how important it is to them that the Japanese person conveys to them that the Japanese person considers them a true Korean, and (3) how much they want the Japanese person to convey to them that the Japanese person considers them a true Korean; 1 *Not Very Much*, 9 *Very Much*,  $\alpha = .92$ .

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### *Demographics and Debriefing*

Participants' age, sex, and ethnic background were measured before they were debriefed about the true nature of the study, including experimental primes.

### **Results**

Based on the good internal consistency of each measure, the items were averaged into a single score. For reliability statistics, means, *SDs*, and intercorrelation of the key variables, see Table 3.

Table 3. Reliabilities, means, *SDs*, and intercorrelation of all key variables for Study 3

Variable	$\alpha$	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	2	3	4	5
1. Identity centrality (4 items)	.85	7.36	1.21	-.39**	.04	.47**	.33**
2. Self-uncertainty (6 items)	.89	3.41	1.69	-	.06	-.21*	-.22*
3. Feedback	-	0.00	0.83		-	-.11	-.23**
4. Desire for identity validation (3 items)	.93	6.52	1.81			-	.67**
5. Desire for outgroup validation (3 items)	.92	6.46	2.14				-

*Note:* Means take values between 1 and 9, with 9 indicating more of the feature described. Feedback was a categorical variable coded as -1 (invalidation), 0 (no feedback), and 1 (validation).  
\*  $p < .05$ ; \*\*  $p < .01$

Since the interpretation of results depends on the boundary condition of high identity centrality, participants who had an average score below five ( $n = 19$ ) on the overall identity centrality measure were removed from the analyses. Regressions and chi-square analyses showed that there were no significant covariates.

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### **Manipulation Pilot**

To ensure the manipulation was successful, a separate study was conducted. Like the main study, participants were told that the study was investigating Korean identity in social situations. A convenience sample was recruited online. Twenty-three participants (85.00% female;  $M_{age} = 36.00$ ,  $SD = 5.06$ ) who were all ethnically Korean completed the survey. Participants were randomly assigned to one of the 3 ingroup feedback conditions. After reading the ingroup feedback scenario, participants were asked a single-item question of how much they felt their ingroup *invalidated* (1) or *validated* (9) their Korean identity. A one-way analysis of variance was conducted with the ingroup feedback as the independent variable and the feelings of validation as the dependent variable. There was a main effect of feedback,  $F(2, 20) = 22.55$ ,  $p < .001$ . A post hoc Tukey HSD test revealed that those who imagined receiving validation ( $n = 8$ ;  $M = 8.25$ ,  $SD = 1.17$ ) felt significantly more validated than those who imagined receiving invalidation ( $n = 6$ ;  $M = 2.67$ ,  $SD = 1.63$ ),  $p < .001$ , and those who imagined receiving no feedback ( $n = 9$ ;  $M = 4.67$ ,  $SD = 1.87$ ),  $p < .001$ . There was a marginal but nonsignificant difference in feelings of validation between those that imagined receiving invalidation and no feedback,  $p = .067$ .

### **Overall Desire for Identity Validation**

To examine the effects of self-uncertainty and ingroup feedback and the interaction between these two variables on overall desire for identity validation, a two-step hierarchical regression was conducted. Two dummy variables were created for invalidation and no feedback, with validation as the reference level. Two-way interactions were created by multiplying self-uncertainty scores with the dummy variables. Self-uncertainty and the two dummy variables were entered at Step 1, and the two-way interactions were entered at Step 2. Results revealed that

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only Step 1 was significant,  $F(3, 139) = 3.24, p = .024$ . At Step 1, the only significant predictor was self-uncertainty,  $\beta = -.21, SE = .09, t = -2.57, p = .011$ . Inconsistent with hypotheses, those with less self-uncertainty indicated a greater desire for overall identity validation.

### **Desire for Outgroup Validation**

To examine the effects of self-uncertainty and ingroup feedback, and the interaction of these variables, on desire for outgroup validation, a two-step hierarchical regression was conducted. The same dummy variables and interactions were used. Similar to desire for overall identity validation, only Step 1 was significant,  $F(3, 139) = 4.74, p = .004$ . At Step 1, self-uncertainty was significant ( $\beta = -.20, SE = .10, t = -2.51, p = .013$ ); inconsistent with H2, those with less self-uncertainty indicated a greater desire for outgroup validation. Consistent with H1, invalidation was significant ( $\beta = .25, SE = .42, t = 2.64, p = .009$ ), indicating that compared to those who imagined receiving validation from their ingroup, those who imagined receiving invalidation indicated a greater desire for outgroup validation. There was no significant difference in desire for outgroup validation between those who imagined receiving ingroup validation and no feedback ( $\beta = .09, SE = .43, t = 0.96, p = .341$ ).

## **Discussion**

To explore the conditions in which individuals are likely to desire identity validation from the outgroup, Study 3 examined the effects of self-uncertainty and ingroup feedback on desire for identity validation. For overall general desire for identity validation, inconsistent with H1, there was no effect of ingroup feedback. However, there was a significant effect of self-uncertainty; greater self-uncertainty predicted less desire for identity validation.

For desire for identity validation from the outgroup, consistent with H1, there was an effect of ingroup feedback, such that participants indicated a greater desire for outgroup

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validation when they imagined receiving invalidation from their ingroup compared to validation; however, no other differences were found. Self-uncertainty did not moderate this effect (H2), but similar to overall desire for identity validation, greater self-uncertainty predicted less desire for identity validation.

While seemingly questionable at first glance, the negative relationship between self-uncertainty and desire for identity validation may be explained by design – to ensure the boundary condition of high identity centrality was met, identity centrality was measured at the beginning of the survey, right before self-uncertainty was measured. Study 1 found a significant positive relationship between identity centrality and desire for identity validation. It may be possible that participants' identity centrality was primed as they completed the identity centrality measure. The priming of identity centrality could have then led to lower self-uncertainty and a greater desire for identity validation. The significant correlations between identity centrality and the key variables (see Table 3) support this explanation.

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### CHAPTER FIVE

#### **General Discussion**

Social identity validation (and invalidation) is commonly observed phenomena where people receive feedback about their identities. However, given the relative paucity of research directly examining identity validation processes, there is a need and many opportunities for future research. It was proposed that social identity validation is another motivation in social identity processes that can play an important role not only for individuals' sense of identity, but also for intra- and intergroup processes. Given the implications for how individuals interact with their ingroup and outgroups, it is important to consider the factors that impact social identity validation processes. Based on uncertainty-identity theory (Hogg, 2000, 2007, 2012, 2015, 2021a), it was argued that self-uncertainty is a key factor in social identity validation processes and how individuals respond to identity feedback. The research in this dissertation examined these propositions.

Study 1 supported the main proposition that those with greater self-uncertainty have a greater desire for identity validation. Furthermore, there was an additive effect of identity centrality, such that those whose identity is central to their sense of self reported a greater desire for identity validation. By establishing self-uncertainty as a key variable in social identity validation processes, Studies 2 and 3 examined the role of self-uncertainty in how individuals respond to the ingroup and outgroup when receiving feedback about their identities. While social identity research has shown that people have a clear ingroup bias and typically consider the outgroup and outgroup members unreliable or suspicious, (Mackie et al., 1990), it was argued that when people desire identity validation, those who validate an individual's ingroup identity, even outgroup members, can be evaluated more favorably. Study 2 supported this; though there

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seemed to be ingroup bias, when the feedback source gave identity validation feedback, there were no differences in evaluations between the ingroup and outgroup source. This finding not only suggests that outgroup social identity validation may be effective in satisfying a person's desire for identity validation, but also suggests that, in turn, outgroup social identity validation can impact individuals' attitudes toward the outgroup. This is consistent with intergroup contact theory (Allport, 1954; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006) and research that has found that promoting positive affect reduces prejudice (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008; Tausch & Hewstone, 2010). Because people are motivated to have their identities validated, receiving identity validation even from outgroup members can create positive affect, which in turn can lead to more positive evaluations.

While it was argued that self-uncertainty would further moderate the effects of identity feedback and feedback source since those with more self-uncertainty have a greater desire for identity validation, self-uncertainty was not a moderator when it came to evaluations of the feedback source. Still, there was a main effect of self-uncertainty; those with more self-uncertainty evaluated feedback source less favorably. One possible explanation for the less positive evaluations could be that the evaluations are a reflection of more self-uncertainty; individuals with more self-uncertainty may also be more uncertain regarding their evaluation of the feedback source, thus reporting lower scores. However, this explanation would require further investigation.

When examining evaluations of the feedback source's group, uncertainty did moderate the effects the feedback source's group. Once again, there was a bias for one's ingroup with the ingroup being evaluated more positively than the outgroup; however, among those with more self-uncertainty, this effect was not as strong. Furthermore, while there were no differences in evaluation of the outgroup between those with more or less self-uncertainty, those with more

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self-uncertainty evaluated the ingroup much less favorably than those with less self-uncertainty. This could suggest that those with greater self-uncertainty may be more open to identity validation from sources other than their ingroup, especially under conditions in which they do not receive validation or receive invalidation from their ingroup.

Study 3 examined the conditions in which people may desire identity validation from an outgroup source. While the effect of self-uncertainty was in the opposite of the hypothesized direction, it was likely due to identity centrality being primed. Assuming that what was examined was the effect of identity centrality, those with greater identity centrality had a greater overall desire for identity validation, as well as a greater desire for identity validation from an outgroup source. There were no differences in overall desire for identity validation between the ingroup feedback conditions (invalidation vs. no feedback vs. validation); however, those who were invalidated by their ingroup were more likely to desire validation from an outgroup source than those who received validation from the ingroup. These results could suggest that if an identity is central a person's sense of self, and they are invalidated by their ingroup, they may even be more willing to interact with outgroup members.

Given that those who receive outgroup validation show less ingroup bias (Study 2), if an individual continuously receives validation as an ingroup member, this could lead to more positive attitudes toward and evaluations of the outgroup. This would be consistent with intergroup contact theory, which suggest that positive contact between those from different groups can lead to better relations between groups (Allport, 1954; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006). However, something to consider in these dynamics is ingroup feedback. As seen in Study 3, those who received invalidation from their ingroup were more likely to desire outgroup validation. While Study 2 showed that there were no differences in ingroup members'



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evaluations between those that received ingroup validation or ingroup invalidation, this may change with continual ingroup invalidation. If an individual is continually invalidated by their ingroup but validated by an outgroup, in such cases, ingroup loyalty may degrade while bettering attitudes toward the outgroup.

### **Limitations and Future Research**

One of the limitations of the current research are the methodological issues noted with the self-uncertainty prime in Study 1, and the order of the measures in Study 3. To reiterate, the self-uncertainty prime, though technically successful, yielded very small differences in feelings of self-uncertainty between those in the low and high self-uncertainty conditions. The manipulation of the variable was limited in capturing variability, and did not yield any significant effects, while the measured self-uncertainty manipulation check did. In Study 3, it seems that by having participants complete the identity centrality right before completing the self-uncertainty measure, participants were primed with identity centrality, thus leading to less self-uncertainty and a greater desire for identity validation. This should be investigated and noted in future research that use similar measures

Another limitation of current work is that the data were collected via survey. The experimental realism may have been limited since participants had to imagine receiving feedback in Studies 2 and 3 instead of actually receiving feedback. Despite this, there were still significant effects of feedback. Additionally, the current work was done in the context of national and ethnic groups. While Choi and Hogg's (2020b) research using university identification yielded similar results, since the research on intergroup contact has found that the positive effects of contact can vary depending on the nature of the groups (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006), it is possible that these results will not generalize to other contexts.

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Given the lack of research examining social identity processes, there is much potential for future research. While the current research measures focused on attitudes toward people and groups and desire for validation, future research could consider whether such attitudes and desires would carry over to more behavioral measures or intentions. While an individual may have a greater desire for validation from an outgroup member or outgroup, seeking outgroup interaction and validation may have consequences for how the individual is perceived and treated by their ingroup. The situation and contexts in which an individual is more likely to seek outgroup validation is another area that can be further explored.

The type of feedback that one receives from both ingroup and outgroup sources has been shown to have an effect; however, one other key factor is likely the frequency of the feedback. Continual lack of validation from the ingroup may make validation from the outgroup much more impactful, having more significant consequences for how an individual perceives and feels about their ingroup and outgroup.

Another avenue of research to consider is to examine the role of self-uncertainty and social identity validation motivations in extremism. People have been shown to engage in extreme behaviors in order to be accepted by their ingroup (e.g., Goldman & Hogg, 2016). While the current research has shown that the desire for identity validation does not always lead to more antagonistic attitudes or behaviors toward the outgroup, the conditions that lead to such varied outcomes should be examined in future research.

### **Implications**

The current research found that self-uncertainty plays an important role in social identity validation processes; feelings of self-uncertainty can not only predict how much an individual desires identity validation, but also has implications for how the individual perceives and feels

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about their ingroup and outgroup. Individuals who receive identity validation from outgroup members not only feel more positively toward those outgroup members, but the outgroup as a whole as well. While the effect of more positive attitudes toward the outgroup might seem quite small when one focuses on a single individual in a group, the effect could become quite significant if multiple ingroup members have their identities validated by the same outgroup. This then would not only have interpersonal consequences, but potentially consequences for intra- and intergroup dynamics.

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Appendices

Study 1 Materials

Consent Form



**AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN KOREAN IDENTITY STUDY**  
(IRB # 4064)

한국인 정체성에 대한 연구 참여 동의서

You are invited to volunteer for a research project. Volunteering will not benefit you directly, but you will be helping us understand how Koreans feel about their Korean identity. If you volunteer, you will be asked about your experiences and feelings as a Korean. This will take about 10 minutes of your time. Volunteering for this study involves no more risk than what a typical person experiences on a regular day. Your involvement is entirely up to you. You may withdraw at any time for any reason. Please continue reading for more information about the study.

본 설문조사에 귀하를 초대합니다. 본 설문조사에 자원하여 참여함으로써 직접적인 혜택이 주어지는 않지만, 한국인들이 한국인 정체성에 대해 어떻게 느끼는지에 대한 연구 결과를 도출하는 데에 도움이 될 것입니다. 이 설문은 귀하가 한국인으로서 느끼는 것과 경험하는 것들에 관해 질문할 것입니다. 설문 소요 시간은 약 10 분입니다. 본 연구에 참여함으로써 일상적인 생활에서 겪는 피해보다 더 많은 피해를 겪지는 않을 것입니다. 참여 여부는 전적으로 귀하에게 달려 있습니다. 어떤 이유로든 언제든지 참여를 중단할 수 있습니다. 설문조사의 대한 더 자세한 내용을 위해 다음을 계속 읽으세요.

**STUDY LEADERSHIP:** This research study is led by the principal investigator Eunice Choi (doctoral student of psychology at Claremont Graduate University). She is supervised by Dr. Michael Hogg (professor of psychology at Claremont Graduate University).

**연구진:** 본 연구의 수석 연구원은 클레어몬트대학원의 박사과정에 수학 중인 이은비 (Eunice Choi)이며, 현재 같은 대학원의 심리학 교수이신 마이클 호그 (Michael Hogg) 박사님의 지도를 받고 있습니다.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the study is to examine how Koreans feel about their Korean identity.

**연구 목적:** 한국인들이 한국인 정체성에 대해 어떻게 느끼는지 조사하는 것이 본 연구의 목적입니다.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be in this study, you must identify as a Korean and be 18 years of age or older.

**참가자 자원 조건:** 만 18 세 이상이며 자신을 한국인으로 생각하는 분들만 참여 가능합니다.

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

**PARTICIPATION:** During the study, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire that will take about 10 minutes to complete, asking about your identity as a Korean.

**참여:** 본 연구에 참여하시면 귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대한 설문을 완성하게 됩니다. 설문조사는 약 10 분 정도 소요됩니다.

**RISKS OF PARTICIPATION:** The risks that you run by taking part in this study are minimal. You might feel some discomfort when answering some questions.

**참여의 위험:** 설문조사 참여 도중에 느끼실 수 있는 피해는 미미합니다. 설문 조사 질문에 답할 때 조금의 불편함을 느낄 수도 있습니다.

**BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION:** We do not expect the study to benefit you personally. This study will benefit the researcher through possible publication of the results in a scientific journal.

**참여 혜택:** 본 연구로부터 귀하가 개인적으로 얻을 혜택은 아마 없을 것입니다. 본 연구의 결과들은 과학 저널에 출판될 가능성이 있으므로 연구원들에게는 이익이 될 수 있습니다.

**COMPENSATION:** The first 114 participants will be given an e-gift card worth 5000 won to Starbucks for participating in this study.

**사례/보상:** 본 연구에 참여해 주심에 대한 보상으로 선착순 114 명에게 5,000 원 스타벅스 카드 (e-Gift Card)가 제공됩니다.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION:** Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may stop or withdraw from the study at any time or refuse to answer any particular question for any reason without it being held against you. Your decision whether or not to participate will have no effect on your current or future connection with anyone at CGU.

**자발적 참여:** 본 연구의 참여는 전적으로 자발적입니다. 귀하는 언제든지 설문조사를 중단하거나 질문에 답변을 거부할 수 있습니다. 참여 여부에 대한 귀하의 결정은 귀하와 클레어몬트대학원에 있는 그 누구와의 관계에도 전혀 영향을 미치지 않을 것입니다.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** Your data is confidential. Your individual privacy will be protected in all papers, books, talks, posts, or stories resulting from this study. We may share the data we collect with other researchers, but we will not reveal your identity with it. In order to protect the confidentiality of your responses, we will keep the data in secured, password-protected files.

**기밀성:** 귀하의 답변은 비밀로 취급됩니다. 본 연구를 통해 산출되는 모든 논문, 저서, 강연, 게시물, 또는 이야기에서 귀하의 개인 정보는 보호될 것입니다. 수집한 데이터를 다른 연구원과 공유할 수 있지만, 귀하의 신원은 공개되지 않습니다. 귀하의 답변의 기밀성을 보호하기 위해 연구 데이터는 비밀번호로 보호된 안전한 파일에 보관될 것입니다.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** If you have any questions or would like additional information about this study, please contact the principal investigator, Eunice Choi ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu), 909-741-6134). You may also contact the supervisor, Dr. Michael Hogg ([michael.hogg@cgu.edu](mailto:michael.hogg@cgu.edu), 909-607-0897). The CGU Institutional Review Board has certified this project as exempt. If you

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

have any ethical concerns about this project or about your rights as a human subject in research, you may contact the CGU IRB at (909) 607-9406 or at [irb@cgu.edu](mailto:irb@cgu.edu). You may print and keep a copy of this consent form.

**추가 정보:** 본 연구에 대해 질문이 있거나 추가 정보를 원하실 경우 수석 연구원 이은비 (Eunice Choi)에게 이메일을 통해 문의하시거나 ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu), +1 909-741-6134), 마이클 호그 박사님에게 연락하실 수 있습니다 ([michael.hogg@cgu.edu](mailto:michael.hogg@cgu.edu), +1 909-607-0897). 클레어몬트대학원 기관 검토위원회는 본 연구를 검토한 후 심의면제로 인증하였습니다. 본 연구에서 인간 피험자의 권리에 대한 윤리적 우려가 있으실 경우 클레어몬트대학원 기관 검토 위원 회에 연락하실 수 있습니다 ([irb@cgu.edu](mailto:irb@cgu.edu); +1 (909) 607-9406). 귀하는 본 동의서를 인쇄하여 보관하실 수 있습니다.

**CONSENT:** Clicking “Yes” to continue means that you understand the information on this form, that someone has answered any and all questions you may have about this study, and you voluntarily agree to participate in it.

**동의:** 계속하여 “예”를 클릭하면 귀하는 본 동의서의 정보를 이해했고, 본 연구에 대해 귀하가 가진 모든 의문점이 해결되었고, 귀하가 본 연구에 자발적으로 참여하는 것에 대해 동의하였음을 의미합니다.

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Identity Centrality 정체성 중심성

Please read the following questions about your identity as a Korean, and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하의 한국 정체성에 관한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1 에서 9 까지 숫자 중 질문에 해당되는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.



How important is being a Korean to you?

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라는 정체성이 자신한테 얼마나 중요합니까?  
(1 별로 중요하지 않다; 9 매우 중요하다)

How central do you feel being a Korean is to your sense of who you are?

귀하의 자아개념에 한국인 정체성은 얼마만큼 중요합니까?  
(1 별로 중요하지 않다; 9 매우 중요하다)

How often are you aware of being a Korean?

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라는 것을 얼마나 자주 의식합니까?  
(1 별로 의식하지 않는다; 9 매우 자주 의식한다)

How much do you feel you identify as a Korean?

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라고 느끼는 정도가 얼마나 크다고 느끼니까?  
(1 별로 느끼지 않다; 9 매우 강하게 느낀다)

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Self-Uncertainty Prime

Instructions: Please read the following prompt and respond accordingly.

다음 내용을 읽고 응답하십시오.

#### **High Uncertainty Condition**

We would like you to reflect and elaborate on some aspects of your life that are related to your sense of who you are. How **UNCERTAIN** do you feel about who you are? Take a few moments to think about how you may feel **UNCERTAIN** about your place in society, at work, among your friends, or within your family. You may be **UNSURE** about what you should think and feel and do, about your life goals and ambitions, and about your future. Now choose one of these areas of your life that make you feel most **UNCERTAIN** about yourself and who you are, and tell us a little about it in the box below.

귀하의 자아개념과 관련된 삶의 측면들을 자세히 검토해 보고자 합니다. 귀하 자신이 누구인지에 대해 얼마나 **불확실**하다고 느끼십니까? 사회, 직장, 친구 사이 또는 가족 내에서 자신의 위치가 **불확실**하다고 느껴지는 부분들을 잠시 생각해 보세요. 무엇을 생각하고 느끼고 행동해야 하는지, 삶의 목표와 야망, 자신의 미래에 대해 **확신하지 않을 수 있습니다**. 이제 자신과 자신에 대해 가장 **불확실**하게 느껴지는 삶의 부분을 하나 선택해서 아래에 적어주세요.

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#### **Low Uncertainty Condition**

We would like you to reflect and elaborate on some aspects of your life that are related to your sense of who you are. How **CERTAIN** do you feel about who you are? Take a few moments to think about how you may feel **CERTAIN** about your place in society, at work, among your friends, or within your family. You may be **SURE** about what you should think and feel and do, about your life goals and ambitions, and about your future. Now choose one of these areas of your life that make you feel most **CERTAIN** about yourself and who you are, and tell us a little about it in the box below.

귀하의 자아개념과 관련된 삶의 측면들을 자세히 검토해 보고자 합니다. 귀하 자신이 누구인지에 대해 얼마나 **확신**합니까? 사회, 직장, 친구 사이 또는 가족 내에서 자신의 위치가 **확실**하다고 느껴지는 부분들을 잠시 동안 생각해 보세요. 무엇을 생각하고



## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

느끼고 행동해야 하는지, 삶의 목표와 야망, 미래에 대해 **확신**할 수 있습니다. 이제 자신과 자신에 대해 가장 **확신**이 느껴지는 삶의 부분을 하나 선택해서 아래에 적어주세요.

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## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Self-Uncertainty Manipulation Check

With respect to the self-reflection task you have just completed, how uncertain do you feel **right now** about who you are?

방금 자신에 관한 성찰에 대해 답을 하였습니다. 이제 답변을 마친 후인 현재 시점에 귀하는 자신이 누구인지에 대해 얼마나 불확실하게 느끼니까?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Not Very								Very
Uncertain								Uncertain
별로 불확실하지 않다								매우 불확실하다

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### Desire for Identity Validation

Please read the following questions about your Korean identity and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하 자신의 한국인 정체성에 관한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1(별로 원하지 않는다)에서 9(매우 원한다)까지 숫자 중 해당되는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.

Not Very Much								Very Much
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**How much do you want your identity as a Korean to be validated?**

귀하는 자신의 한국인 정체성이 입증되기를 원하는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

**How much do you want to be recognized as a true Korean?**

귀하는 다른 사람이 귀하 자신을 진정한 한국인이라고 생각해 주기를 바라는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

**How much do you want to be accepted as a true Korean?**

귀하는 다른 사람이 귀하 자신을 진정한 한국인이라고 인정하고 받아들여 주기를 바라는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?



## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

귀하가 **비전형적인 한국인(한국인답지 않은 한국인)**이라고 생각하는 사람들에게 대해 잠시 생각해 보세요. 다음 질문을 읽고 1(별로 원하지 않는다)에서 9(매우 원한다)까지 숫자 중 귀하의 느낌을 표시하는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.



How much do you want your identity as a Korean to be validated by someone you consider a nontypical Korean person?

귀하는 귀하가 생각하는 비전형적인 한국인으로부터 귀하 자신의 한국인 정체성을 얼마나 확증받고 싶습니까?

How much do you want to be recognized as a true Korean by someone you consider a nontypical Korean person?

귀하는 귀하가 생각하는 비전형적인 한국인이 귀하를 진정한 한국인이라고 생각해 주기를 바라는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

How much do you want to be accepted as a true Korean by someone you consider a nontypical Korean person?

귀하는 귀하가 생각하는 비전형적인 한국인이 귀하를 진정한 한국인이라고 인정하고 받아들여 주기를 바라는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

### **Binary Outcome**

If you had to choose, which person would you prefer to receive feedback about your Korean identity from?

다음 중 하나만 선택해야 한다면 귀하는 자신의 한국인 정체성에 대해 누구로부터 피드백을 받고 싶습니까?

- Typical Korean person 전형적인 한국 사람
- Nontypical Korean person 비전형적인 한국 사람

UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

Demographics

How old are you? (please write in a number):

귀하는 현재 나이가 몇 세입니까?

만 \_\_\_\_세

Please indicate your gender (please select one):

다음 중 성별을 하나 지정해 주세요:

Male 남성

Female 여성

Other/Nonbinary 기타/논바이너리

Please indicate your race/ethnicity:

다음 중 인종/민족을 지정해 주세요:

Korean 한민족

Mixed ethnicity 혼혈

If "Mixed" selected, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

“혼혈”을 선택한 경우 조금 더 상세히 기록해 주세요: \_\_\_\_\_

Other 기타

If "Other" selected, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

“기타”를 선택한 경우 조금 더 상세히 기록해 주세요: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Debriefing 조사 후 설명과 안내

Thank you very much for your participation in this study.  
본 연구에 참여해 주셔서 대단히 감사합니다.

The purpose of this study was to see if whether people who have greater self-uncertainty have a greater desire to have their identities validated. You were asked to think about how you felt either certain or uncertain about yourself and future. Be aware that the thoughts and feelings that you had and experienced throughout the study about yourself were purposefully influenced. The researchers did not wish to influence any thoughts or feelings about yourself beyond the scope of this study.

본 설문조사는 자신에 대한 불확실성이 클수록 자신의 정체성을 타인에게서 확인받고자 하는 욕구도 더 커지는지를 연구하는 것이 목적이었습니다. 본 설문조사 질문 중 귀하는 자신의 미래에 대해 확실하거나 불확실한 부분들을 생각해 보라는 요청을 받았습니다. 본 연구는 자신에 대한 생각과 느낌들이 영향을 미치도록 의도적으로 계획한 것이었음을 주지해 주시기 바랍니다. 연구자들은 귀하가 본 연구 목적에서 벗어난 생각이나 감정에까지 영향을 미치고자 하는 의도는 없었습니다.

Your answers will be kept completely confidential, and the survey contained no identifying items.

귀하의 답변들은 완전히 비밀로 관리되며 설문조사에 개인 식별 정보는 포함되지 않습니다.

If you have any complaints, concerns, or questions about this research, please feel free to contact Eunice U. Choi by emailing her at [eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu). Again, thank you for your completion of this study.

본 연구에 대한 불만, 우려 또는 질문이 있는 경우 이은비에게 이메일로 ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu)) 언제든지 연락하세요. 본 설문조사를 완료해 주셔서 다시 한번 감사드립니다.

If you would like to receive the e-gift card as compensation for your participation, please select “yes” and click the next button below. It will direct you to a separate survey asking for your contact information so that we can text you the e-gift card. Your personal information will not be linked to your responses in the current survey. Make sure to complete this next survey right away; you will not be able to access this survey link at a later time.

참여 보상 e-gift card 를 받으시려면, “예”를 선택하시고 다음 버튼을 클릭하세요. e-gift card 를 보낼 수 있도록 연락처 정보를 묻는 별도의 설문조사로 연결됩니다. 귀하의 개인 정보는 본 설문조사의 답변들과 연결되지 않습니다. 다음 설문조사를 꼭 바로 완료하세요. 이후에는 링크를 액세스할 수 없습니다.

Study 2 Materials

Consent Form



**AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN KOREAN IDENTITY STUDY**  
(IRB # 4064)

You are invited to volunteer for a research project. Volunteering will not benefit you directly, but you will be helping us understand people's experience as a Korean. Please participate only if you strongly identify as a Korean. If you volunteer, you will be asked about your experiences and feelings as a Korean. This will take about 10 minutes of your time. Volunteering for this study involves no more risk than what a typical person experiences on a regular day. Your involvement is entirely up to you. You may withdraw at any time for any reason. Please continue reading for more information about the study.

본 설문조사에 귀하를 초대합니다. 본 설문조사에 자원하여 참여함으로써 직접적인 혜택이 주어지는 않지만, 한국인들이 한국인으로서의 경험들에 대한 연구 결과를 도출하는 데에 도움이 될 것입니다. 한국인이라고 강하게 느끼시는 분들만 참여해주세요. 이 설문은 귀하가 한국인으로서 느끼는 것과 경험하는 것들에 관해 질문할 것입니다. 설문 소요 시간은 약 10 분입니다. 본 연구에 참여함으로써 일상적인 생활에서 겪는 피해보다 더 많은 피해를 겪지는 않을 것입니다. 참여 여부는 전적으로 귀하에게 달려 있습니다. 어떤 이유로든 언제든지 참여를 중단할 수 있습니다. 설문조사의 대한 더 자세한 내용을 위해 다음을 계속 읽으세요.

**STUDY LEADERSHIP:** This research study is led by the principal investigator Eunice Choi (doctoral student of psychology at Claremont Graduate University). She is supervised by Dr. Michael Hogg (professor of psychology at Claremont Graduate University).

**연구진:** 본 연구의 수석 연구원은 클레어몬트대학원의 박사과정에 수학 중인 이은비 (Eunice Choi)이며, 현재 같은 대학원의 심리학 교수이신 마이클 호그 (Michael Hogg) 박사님의 지도를 받고 있습니다.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the study is to examine people's experiences as a Korean.

**연구 목적:** 한국인들의 경험들을 조사하는 것이 본 연구의 목적입니다.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be in this study, you must strongly identify as a Korean and be 18 years of age or older.

**참가자 자원 조건:** 만 18 세 이상이며 자신이 한국인이라고 강하게 느끼시는 분들만 참여 가능합니다.

**PARTICIPATION:** During the study, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire that will take about 10 minutes to complete, asking about your identity as a Korean.

**참여:** 본 연구에 참여하시면 귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대한 설문을 완성하게 됩니다. 설문조사는 약 10 분 정도 소요됩니다.



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**RISKS OF PARTICIPATION:** The risks that you run by taking part in this study are minimal. You might feel some discomfort when answering some questions.

**참여의 위험:** 설문조사 참여 도중에 느끼실 수 있는 피해는 미미합니다. 설문 조사 질문에 답할 때 조금의 불편함을 느낄 수도 있습니다.

**BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION:** We do not expect the study to benefit you personally. This study will benefit the researcher through possible publication of the results in a scientific journal.

**참여 혜택:** 본 연구로부터 귀하가 개인적으로 얻을 혜택은 아마 없을 것입니다. 본 연구의 결과들은 과학 저널에 출판될 가능성이 있으므로 연구원들에게는 이익이 될 수 있습니다.

**COMPENSATION:** The first 128 participants will be given an e-gift card worth 5000 won to Starbucks for participating in this study.

**사례/보상:** 본 연구에 참여해 주심에 대한 보상으로 선착순 128 명에게 5,000 원 스타벅스 카드 (e-Gift Card)가 제공됩니다.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION:** Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may stop or withdraw from the study at any time or refuse to answer any particular question for any reason without it being held against you. Your decision whether or not to participate will have no effect on your current or future connection with anyone at CGU.

**자발적 참여:** 본 연구의 참여는 전적으로 자발적입니다. 귀하는 언제든지 설문조사를 중단하거나 질문에 답변을 거부할 수 있습니다. 참여 여부에 대한 귀하의 결정은 귀하와 클레어몬트대학원에 있는 그 누구와의 관계에도 전혀 영향을 미치지 않을 것입니다.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** Your data is confidential. Your individual privacy will be protected in all papers, books, talks, posts, or stories resulting from this study. We may share the data we collect with other researchers, but we will not reveal your identity with it. In order to protect the confidentiality of your responses, we will keep the data in secured, password-protected files.

**기밀성:** 귀하의 답변은 비밀로 취급됩니다. 본 연구를 통해 산출되는 모든 논문, 저서, 강연, 게시물, 또는 이야기에서 귀하의 개인 정보는 보호될 것입니다. 수집한 데이터를 다른 연구원과 공유할 수 있지만, 귀하의 신원은 공개되지 않습니다. 귀하의 답변의 기밀성을 보호하기 위해 연구 데이터는 비밀번호로 보호된 안전한 파일에 보관될 것입니다.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** If you have any questions or would like additional information about this study, please contact the principal investigator, Eunice Choi ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu), 909-741-6134). You may also contact the supervisor, Dr. Michael Hogg ([michael.hogg@cgu.edu](mailto:michael.hogg@cgu.edu), 909-607-0897). The CGU Institutional Review Board has certified this project as exempt. If you have any ethical concerns about this project or about your rights as a human subject in research, you may contact the CGU IRB at (909) 607-9406 or at [irb@cgu.edu](mailto:irb@cgu.edu). You may print and keep a copy of this consent form.

**추가 정보:** 본 연구에 대해 질문이 있거나 추가 정보를 원하실 경우 수석 연구원 이은비 (Eunice Choi)에게 이메일을 통해 문의하시거나 ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu), +1 909-

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

741-6134), 마이클 호그 박사님에게 연락하실 수 있습니다 ([michael.hogg@cgu.edu](mailto:michael.hogg@cgu.edu), +1 909-607-0897). 클레어몬트대학원 기관 검토위원회는 본 연구를 검토한 후 심의면제로 인증하였습니다. 본 연구에서 인간 피험자의 권리에 대한 윤리적 우려가 있으실 경우 클레어몬트대학원 기관 검토 위원 회에 연락하실 수 있습니다 ([irb@cgu.edu](mailto:irb@cgu.edu); +1 (909) 607-9406). 귀하는 본 동의서를 인쇄하여 보관하실 수 있습니다.

**CONSENT:** Clicking “Yes” to continue means that you understand the information on this form, that someone has answered any and all questions you may have about this study, and you voluntarily agree to participate in it.

**동의:** 계속하여 “예”를 클릭하면 귀하는 본 동의서의 정보를 이해했고, 본 연구에 대해 귀하가 가진 모든 의문점이 해결되었고, 귀하가 본 연구에 자발적으로 참여하는 것에 대해 동의하였음을 의미합니다.

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Identity Centrality 정체성 중심성

Please read the following questions about your identity as a Korean, and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하의 한국 정체성에 관한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1 에서 9 까지 숫자 중 질문에 해당되는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.

Not Very Much

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Very Much

**How important is being a Korean to you?**

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라는 정체성이 자신한테 얼마나 중요합니까?  
(1 별로 중요하지 않다; 9 매우 중요하다)

**How central do you feel being a Korean is to your sense of who you are?**

귀하의 자아개념에 한국인 정체성은 얼마만큼 중요합니까?  
(1 별로 중요하지 않다; 9 매우 중요하다)

**How often are you aware of being a Korean?**

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라는 것을 얼마나 자주 의식합니까?  
(1 별로 의식하지 않는다; 9 매우 자주 의식한다)

**How much do you feel you identify as a Korean?**

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라고 느끼는 정도가 얼마나 크다고 느낍니까?  
(1 별로 느끼지 않다; 9 매우 강하게 느낀다)

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Self-Uncertainty Measure

People differ in how much confidence they have that they truly know who they are. Please answer the following 6 questions based on how uncertain, overall, you feel about yourself.

사람들은 자신이 진정 누구인지에 대해 얼마나 확신하는 정도가 다릅니다. 귀하가 자신에 대해 전반적으로 얼마나 불확실하다고 느끼는지에 따라 다음 6 개에 질문에 답해 주세요.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Not Very								Very
Uncertain								Uncertain
별로 불확실하지 않다								매우 불확실하다

1. How *uncertain* do you feel about who you are as an individual?

귀하는 자신이 한 개인으로서 누군지에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

2. How *uncertain* do you feel about who you are as a member of society?

귀하는 자신이 사회 구성원으로서 누군지에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

3. How *uncertain* do you feel about who you are in your relationships?

귀하의 여러 관계들 속에서 자신이 누군지에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

4. How *uncertain* do you feel about your future?

귀하는 자신의 미래에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

5. How *uncertain* do you feel about your personality?

귀하는 자신의 성격에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

6. How *uncertain* do you feel about your identity in society?

귀하는 자신의 사회적 정체성에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Scenario

There have likely been some moments in your life where people have made comments about your identity. Please spend some time thinking about the following scenario which you may or may not have actually experienced about your Korean identity – you will be asked some questions based on your reactions to the scenario.

살아오면서 타인들로부터 당신의 정체성에 대한 의견이나 비평을 듣는 순간들이 있었을 것입니다. 귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대해 자신이 실제로 경험했을 수도 있고 하지 않았을 수도 있는 다음 시나리오를 잠시 생각해 보세요. 시나리오에 대한 귀하의 반응을 기반으로 몇 가지 질문을 하겠습니다.

**A Korean person tells you that they feel you aren't truly Korean.**

어떤 한국인이 귀하에게 귀하는 진정한 한국인이 아니라고 느낀다고 말합니다.

The above scenario is for the ingroup validation condition. The other 3 scenarios will have the same stem but the following language:

**A Korean person tells you that they feel you are truly Korean.**

어떤 한국인이 귀하에게 귀하는 진정한 한국인이라고 느낀다고 말합니다.

**A Japanese person tells you that they feel you are truly Korean.**

어떤 일본인이 귀하에게 귀하는 진정한 한국인이라고 느낀다고 말합니다.

**A Japanese person tells you that they feel you aren't truly Korean.**

어떤 일본인이 귀하에게 귀하는 진정한 한국인이 아니라고 느낀다고 말합니다.

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Attention Check

Regarding the scenario you just read, how much do you feel that the Korean (Japanese) person (in)validated your identity as a Korean?

방금 읽은 시나리오와 관련하여, 그 한국인 (혹은 일본인)은 귀하의 한국인 정체성을 얼마나 인정 (혹은 부정)하였다고 느낍니까?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Invalidated								Validated
부정								인정

UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

Evaluation of the Source

Please read the following questions about the **Korean/Japanese** person who gave you feedback about your identity as a Korean, and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대해 자신의 생각을 표현한 **한국인 (혹은 일본인)**에 대한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1 에서 9 까지 숫자 중 귀하의 느낌을 표시하는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.

Not Very Much      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      Very Much

○      ○      ○      ○      ○      ○      ○      ○      ○

How much do you like this person?

이 사람을 얼마나 좋아합니까?

Overall, how likable is this person?

전반적으로 이 사람은 얼마나 좋아할 만한 사람입니까?

How warm do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 따뜻한 마음이 있는지 느끼십니까?

How friendly do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 친절하다고 느끼십니까?

How nice do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 착하다고 느끼십니까?

How sociable do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 사교적이라고 느끼십니까?

How competent do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 유능하다고 느끼십니까?

How intelligent do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 지적이라고 느끼십니까?

How confident do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 자신감 있는 사람이라고 느끼십니까?

How skillful do you feel this person is?

이 사람이 얼마나 재능이 있다고 느끼십니까?

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### Evaluation of the Source's Group

Please read the following questions about the **GROUP** (Koreans or Japanese) as a whole that the person who gave you feedback about your identity as a Korean belongs to. Evaluate the group as a whole and not the individual – indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대해 자신의 생각을 표현한 사람이 속한 집단 (한국인들/일본인들)에 대한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1 에서 9 까지 숫자 중 귀하의 느낌을 표시하는 숫자를 선택해 주세요. 개인인 아닌 집단 전체를 평가하세요.

Not Very Much Very Much

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9

How much do you like the people in this group?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들을 얼마나 좋아합니까?

Overall, how likable are people in this group?  
전반적으로 볼 때 이 집단에 속한 사람들은 얼마나 좋아할 만한 사람들입니까?

How warm do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 따뜻하다고 느끼십니까?

How friendly do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 친절하다고 느끼십니까?

How nice do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 착하다고 느끼십니까?

How sociable do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 사교적이라고 느끼십니까?

How competent do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 유능하다고 느끼십니까?

How intelligent do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 지적이라고 느끼십니까?

How confident do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 자신감 있는 사람들이라고 느끼십니까?

How skillful do you feel people in this group are?  
이 집단에 속한 사람들이 얼마나 재능이 있다고 느끼십니까?



# UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

## Demographics

How old are you? (please write in a number):

귀하는 현재 나이가 몇 세입니까?

만 \_\_\_\_세

Please indicate your gender (please select one):

다음 중 성별을 하나 지정해 주세요:

Male 남성

Female 여성

Other/Nonbinary 기타/논바이너리

Please indicate your race/ethnicity:

다음 중 인종/민족을 지정해 주세요:

Korean 한민족

Mixed ethnicity 혼혈

If "Mixed" selected, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

“혼혈”을 선택한 경우 조금 더 상세히 기록해 주세요: \_\_\_\_\_

Other 기타

If "Other" selected, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

“기타”를 선택한 경우 조금 더 상세히 기록해 주세요: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Debriefing 조사 후 설명과 안내

Thank you very much for your participation in this study.  
본 연구에 참여해 주셔서 대단히 감사합니다.

The purpose of this study was to see how people evaluate those who give them validating or invalidating feedback about their identities, and whether this differs depending on their level of self-uncertainty. You were asked to think about how you felt either certain or uncertain about yourself and future. You were also asked to imagine receiving validating or invalidating feedback about your Korean identity. Be aware that the thoughts and feelings that you had and experienced throughout the study about yourself were purposefully influenced. The researchers did not wish to influence any thoughts or feelings about yourself beyond the scope of this study.

본 설문조사는 사람들이 자신의 정체성을 인정 또는 부정하는 사람들을 어떻게 평가하는지, 그리고 그것이 자신의 불확실성 수준에 따라 다른지를 연구하는 것이 목적이었습니다. 본 설문조사 질문 중 귀하는 자신의 미래에 대해 확실하거나 불확실한 부분들을 생각해 보라는 요청을 받았습니다. 또는 귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대해 인정하거나 부정하는 피드백을 상상하라고 요청을 받았습니다. 본 연구는 자신에 대한 생각과 느낌들이 영향을 미치도록 의도적으로 계획한 것이었음을 주지해 주시기 바랍니다. 연구자들은 귀하가 본 연구 목적에서 벗어난 생각이나 감정에까지 영향을 미치고자 하는 의도는 없었습니다.

Your answers will be kept completely confidential and the survey contained no identifying items. 귀하의 답변들은 완전히 비밀로 관리되며 설문조사에 개인 식별 정보는 포함되지 않습니다.

If you have any complaints, concerns, or questions about this research, please feel free to contact Eunice U. Choi by emailing her at [eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu). Again, thank you for your completion of this study.

본 연구에 대한 불만, 우려 또는 질문이 있는 경우 이은비에게 이메일로 ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu)) 언제든지 연락하세요. 본 설문조사를 완료해 주셔서 다시 한번 감사드립니다.

If you would like to receive the e-gift card as compensation for your participation, please select “yes” and click the next button below. It will direct you to a separate survey asking for your contact information so that we can text you the e-gift card. Your personal information will not be linked to your responses in the current survey. Make sure to complete this next survey right away; you will not be able to access this survey link at a later time.

참여 보상 e-gift card 를 받으시려면, “예”를 선택하시고 다음 버튼을 클릭하세요. e-gift card 를 보낼 수 있도록 연락처 정보를 묻는 별도의 설문조사로 연결됩니다. 귀하의 개인 정보는 본 설문조사의 답변들과 연결되지 않습니다. 다음 설문조사를 꼭 바로 완료하세요. 이후에는 링크를 액세스할 수 없습니다.

### Study 3 Materials

#### Consent Form



#### AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN KOREAN IDENTITY STUDY (IRB # 4064)

You are invited to volunteer for a research project. Volunteering will not benefit you directly, but you will be helping us understand Korean identity in social interactions. If you volunteer, you will be asked to answer questions based on an imagined scenario. The study in total will take about 10 minutes of your time. Please participate only if you strongly identify as a Korean. Volunteering for this study involves no more risk than what a typical person experiences on a regular day. Your involvement is entirely up to you. You may withdraw at any time for any reason. Please continue reading for more information about the study.

본 설문조사에 귀하를 초대합니다. 본 설문조사에 자원하여 참여함으로써 직접적인 혜택이 주어지는 않지만, 사회적 교류에 한국인의 대한 연구 결과를 도출하는 데에 도움이 될 것입니다. 한국인이라고 강하게 느끼시는 분들만 참여해주세요. 이 설문은 어떤 시나리오에 대한 귀하의 반응을 기반으로 질문을 할 것입니다. 설문 소요 시간은 약 10 분입니다. 본 연구에 참여함으로써 일상적인 생활에서 겪는 피해보다 더 많은 피해를 겪지는 않을 것입니다. 참여 여부는 전적으로 귀하에게 달려 있습니다. 어떤 이유로든 언제든지 참여를 중단할 수 있습니다. 설문조사의 대한 더 자세한 내용을 위해 다음을 계속 읽으세요.

**STUDY LEADERSHIP:** This research study is led by the principal investigator Eunice Choi (doctoral student of psychology at Claremont Graduate University). She is supervised by Dr. Michael Hogg (professor of psychology at Claremont Graduate University).

**연구진:** 본 연구의 수석 연구원은 클레어몬트대학원의 박사과정에 수학 중인 이은비 (Eunice Choi)이며, 현재 같은 대학원의 심리학 교수이신 마이클 호그 (Michael Hogg) 박사님의 지도를 받고 있습니다.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the study is to examine Korean identity in social interactions.

**연구 목적:** 본 연구의 목적은 사회적 교류에서 한국인 정체성을 조사하는 것입니다.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be in this study, you must strongly identify as a Korean and be 18 years of age or older.

**참가자 자원 조건:** 만 18 세 이상이며 자신이 한국인이라고 강하게 느끼시는 분들만 참여 가능합니다.

**PARTICIPATION:** During the study, you will be asked to imagine being in a particular scenario and complete a questionnaire that will take about 10 minutes to complete.

**참여:** 본 연구에 참여하시면 귀하의 한국인 정체성에 대한 설문을 완성하게 됩니다. 설문조사는 약 10 분 정도 소요됩니다.

**RISKS OF PARTICIPATION:** The risks that you run by taking part in this study are minimal. You might feel some discomfort when answering some questions.

**참여의 위험:** 설문조사 참여 도중에 느끼실 수 있는 피해는 미미합니다. 설문 조사 질문에 답할 때 조금의 불편함을 느낄 수도 있습니다.

**BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION:** We do not expect the study to benefit you personally. This study will benefit the researcher through possible publication of the results in a scientific journal.

**참여 혜택:** 본 연구로부터 귀하가 개인적으로 얻을 혜택은 아마 없을 것입니다. 본 연구의 결과들은 과학 저널에 출판될 가능성이 있으므로 연구원들에게는 이익이 될 수 있습니다.

**COMPENSATION:** The first 158 participants will be given an e-gift card worth 5000 won to Starbucks for participating in this study.

**사례/보상:** 본 연구에 참여해 주심에 대한 보상으로 선착순 158 명에게 5,000 원 스타벅스 카드 (e-Gift Card)가 제공됩니다.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION:** Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may stop or withdraw from the study at any time or refuse to answer any particular question for any reason without it being held against you. Your decision whether or not to participate will have no effect on your current or future connection with anyone at CGU.

**자발적 참여:** 본 연구의 참여는 전적으로 자발적입니다. 귀하는 언제든지 설문조사를 중단하거나 질문에 답변을 거부할 수 있습니다. 참여 여부에 대한 귀하의 결정은 귀하와 클레어몬트대학원에 있는 그 누구와의 관계에도 전혀 영향을 미치지 않을 것입니다.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** Your data is confidential. Your individual privacy will be protected in all papers, books, talks, posts, or stories resulting from this study. We may share the data we collect with other researchers, but we will not reveal your identity with it. In order to protect the confidentiality of your responses, we will keep the data in secured, password-protected files.

**기밀성:** 귀하의 답변은 비밀로 취급됩니다. 본 연구를 통해 산출되는 모든 논문, 저서, 강연, 게시물, 또는 이야기에서 귀하의 개인 정보는 보호될 것입니다. 수집한 데이터를 다른 연구원과 공유할 수 있지만, 귀하의 신원은 공개되지 않습니다. 귀하의 답변의 기밀성을 보호하기 위해 연구 데이터는 비밀번호로 보호된 안전한 파일에 보관될 것입니다.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** If you have any questions or would like additional information about this study, please contact the principal investigator, Eunice Choi ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu), 909-741-6134). You may also contact the supervisor, Dr. Michael Hogg ([michael.hogg@cgu.edu](mailto:michael.hogg@cgu.edu), 909-607-0897). The CGU Institutional Review Board has certified this project as exempt. If you have any ethical concerns about this project or about your rights as a human subject in research, you may contact the CGU IRB at (909) 607-9406 or at [irb@cgu.edu](mailto:irb@cgu.edu). You may print and keep a copy of this consent form.

**추가 정보:** 본 연구에 대해 질문이 있거나 추가 정보를 원하실 경우 수석 연구원 이은비 (Eunice Choi)에게 이메일을 통해 문의하시거나 ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu), +1 909-

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

741-6134), 마이클 호그 박사님에게 연락하실 수 있습니다 ([michael.hogg@cgu.edu](mailto:michael.hogg@cgu.edu), +1 909-607-0897). 클레어몬트대학원 기관 검토위원회는 본 연구를 검토한 후 심의면제로 인증하였습니다. 본 연구에서 인간 피험자의 권리에 대한 윤리적 우려가 있으실 경우 클레어몬트대학원 기관 검토 위원 회에 연락하실 수 있습니다 ([irb@cgu.edu](mailto:irb@cgu.edu); +1 (909) 607-9406). 귀하는 본 동의서를 인쇄하여 보관하실 수 있습니다.

**CONSENT:** Clicking “Yes” to continue means that you understand the information on this form, that someone has answered any and all questions you may have about this study, and you voluntarily agree to participate in it.

**동의:** 계속하여 “예”를 클릭하면 귀하는 본 동의서의 정보를 이해했고, 본 연구에 대해 귀하가 가진 모든 의문점이 해결되었고, 귀하가 본 연구에 자발적으로 참여하는 것에 대해 동의하였음을 의미합니다.

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Identity Centrality 정체성 중심성

Please read the following questions about your identity as a Korean, and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하의 한국 정체성에 관한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1 에서 9 까지 숫자 중 질문에 해당되는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.



**How important is being a Korean to you?**

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라는 정체성이 자신한테 얼마나 중요합니까?  
(1 별로 중요하지 않다; 9 매우 중요하다)

**How central do you feel being a Korean is to your sense of who you are?**

귀하의 자아개념에 한국인 정체성은 얼마만큼 중요합니까?  
(1 별로 중요하지 않다; 9 매우 중요하다)

**How often are you aware of being a Korean?**

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라는 것을 얼마나 자주 의식합니까?  
(1 별로 의식하지 않는다; 9 매우 자주 의식한다)

**How much do you feel you identify as a Korean?**

귀하는 자신이 한국인이라고 느끼는 정도가 얼마나 크다고 느낌니까?  
(1 별로 느끼지 않다; 9 매우 강하게 느낀다)

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Self-Uncertainty Measure

People differ in how much confidence they have that they truly know who they are. Please answer the following 6 questions based on how uncertain, overall, you feel about yourself.

사람들은 자신이 진정 누구인지에 대해 얼마나 확신하는 정도가 다릅니다. 귀하가 자신에 대해 전반적으로 얼마나 불확실하다고 느끼는지에 따라 다음 6 개에 질문에 답해 주세요.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Not Very								Very
Uncertain								Uncertain
별로 불확실하지 않다								매우 불확실하다

1. How *uncertain* do you feel about who you are as an individual?

귀하는 자신이 한 개인으로서 누군지에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

2. How *uncertain* do you feel about who you are as a member of society?

귀하는 자신이 사회 구성원으로서 누군지에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

3. How *uncertain* do you feel about who you are in your relationships?

귀하의 여러 관계들 속에서 자신이 누군지에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

4. How *uncertain* do you feel about your future?

귀하는 자신의 미래에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

5. How *uncertain* do you feel about your personality?

귀하는 자신의 성격에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

6. How *uncertain* do you feel about your identity in society?

귀하는 자신의 사회적 정체성에 대해 얼마나 불확실합니까?

Feedback

Please spend some time thinking about the following scenario. You will be asked some questions based on your reactions to the scenario.

다음 시나리오를 잠시 생각해보세요. 이 시나리오에 대한 귀하의 반응을 기반으로 몇 가지 질문을 하겠습니다.

**Validation Condition:**

Imagine you are at a social gathering. You join a circle of several Korean and Japanese people discussing Korean identity and culture. You join in on the conversation, and as you talk about your Korean identity, **the other Koreans in the group respond by saying that you are truly Korean.**

귀하가 어느 사교 모임에 참여했다고 상상해보세요. 귀하는 한국인 정체성과 문화에 대해 토론하는 여러 한국인과 일본인들의 그룹에 합류합니다. 귀하가 대화에 참여하고 귀하 자신의 한국인 정체성에 대해 이야기하자 **그룹 내에 한국인들이 귀하는 진정한 한국인이라고 말합니다.**

**Invalidation Condition:**

Imagine you are at a social gathering. You join a circle of several Korean and Japanese people discussing Korean identity and culture. You join in on the conversation, and as you talk about your Korean identity, **the other Koreans in the group respond by saying that you are not truly Korean.**

귀하가 어느 사교 모임에 참여했다고 상상해보세요. 귀하는 한국인 정체성과 문화에 대해 토론하는 여러 한국인과 일본인들의 그룹에 합류합니다. 귀하가 대화에 참여하고 귀하 자신의 한국인 정체성에 대해 이야기하자 **그룹 내에 한국인들이 귀하는 진정한 한국인 아니라고 말합니다.**

**No Feedback Condition:**

Imagine you are at a social gathering. You join a circle of several Korean and Japanese people discussing Korean identity and culture. You join in on the conversation, and as you talk about your Korean identity, **the other Koreans in the group change the topic without commenting on your Korean identity.**

귀하가 어느 사교 모임에 참여했다고 상상해보세요. 귀하는 한국인 정체성과 문화에 대해 토론하는 여러 한국인과 일본인들의 그룹에 합류합니다. 귀하가 대화에 참여하고 귀하 자신의 한국인 정체성에 대해 이야기하자 **그룹 내에 한국인들이 귀하의 의견에 답변이나 아무 의견도 표현하지 않고 주제를 변경합니다.**



## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Desire for Identity Validation

Please read the following questions about your Korean identity and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

귀하 자신의 한국인 정체성에 관한 다음 질문들을 읽고, 1(별로 원하지 않는다)에서 9(매우 원한다)까지 숫자 중 해당되는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.

Not Very Much      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      Very Much  
                               

**How much do you want your identity as a Korean to be validated?**

귀하는 자신의 한국인 정체성이 입증되기를 원하는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

**How much do you want to be recognized as a true Korean?**

귀하는 다른 사람이 귀하 자신을 진정한 한국인이라고 생각해 주기를 바라는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

**How much do you want to be accepted as a true Korean?**

귀하는 다른 사람이 귀하 자신을 진정한 한국인이라고 인정하고 받아들여 주기를 바라는 정도가 얼마나 됩니까?

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Desire for Outgroup Validation

Imagine now that you are talking with a Japanese person from the earlier scenario. Please read the following questions and indicate how you feel by selecting a number from 1 (*Not Very Much*) to 9 (*Very Much*).

이전 시나리오에 언급된 그룹 멤버들 중 한 일본인과 이야기를 하고 있다고 상상해보세요. 다음 질문들을 읽고 1에서 9까지 숫자 중 귀하의 느낌을 표시하는 숫자를 선택해 주세요.



How much would you like the Japanese person to convey to you that they consider you a true Korean?

귀하는 그 일본인이 귀하를 진정한 한국인으로 생각한다고 말해 주면 얼마나 좋겠습니까?

How important is it to you that the Japanese person conveys to you that they consider you a true Korean?

그 일본인이 귀하를 진정한 한국인으로 생각한다고 자신의 생각을 귀하에게 표현해 주는 것이 얼마나 중요한 일로 느껴집니까?

How much would you want the Japanese person to convey to you that they consider you a true Korean?

귀하는 그 일본인이 귀하를 진정한 한국인으로 생각한다고 말해 주기를 얼마나 원합니까?

UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

Demographics

How old are you? (please write in a number):

귀하는 현재 나이가 몇 세입니까?

만 \_\_\_\_세

Please indicate your gender (please select one):

다음 중 성별을 하나 지정해 주세요:

Male 남성

Female 여성

Other/Nonbinary 기타/논바이너리

Please indicate your race/ethnicity:

다음 중 인종/민족을 지정해 주세요:

Korean 한민족

Mixed ethnicity 혼혈

If “Mixed” selected, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

“혼혈”을 선택한 경우 조금 더 상세히 기록해 주세요: \_\_\_\_\_

Other 기타

If “Other” selected, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

“기타”를 선택한 경우 조금 더 상세히 기록해 주세요: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

### Debriefing 조사 후 설명과 안내

Thank you very much for your participation in this study.  
본 연구에 참여해 주셔서 대단히 감사합니다.

The purpose of this study was to see if receiving no feedback or invalidation regarding one's identity from other ingroup members would lead to a greater desire to have the identity validated by an outgroup member, and whether this differs depending on one's level of self-uncertainty. You were asked to think about how you felt either certain or uncertain about yourself and future. You were asked to imagine feedback that was randomly assigned. Be aware that the thoughts and feelings that you had and experienced throughout the study about yourself were purposefully influenced. The researchers did not wish to influence any thoughts or feelings about yourself beyond the scope of this study.

본 연구의 목적은 사람들이 자신이 속한 집단의 누군가가 자신의 정체성에 대해 피드백을 안 주거나 부정하면, 집단에 소속되지 않은 사람한테서 인정을 받고 싶어 하는지, 또는 그것이 자신의 불확실성 수준에 따라 달라지는지를 조사하는 것이었습니다. 귀하는 자신의 미래에 대해 확실하거나 불확실한 부분들을 생각해 보라는 요청을 받았습시다. 또는 귀하는 자신의 정체성에 대한 무작위로 할당된 피드백을 상상하라고 요청을 받았습시다. 본 연구는 자신에 대한 생각과 느낌들이 영향을 미치도록 의도적으로 계획한 것이었음을 주지해 주시기 바랍니다. 연구자들은 귀하가 본 연구 목적에서 벗어난 생각이나 감정에까지 영향을 미치고자 하는 의도는 없었습니다.

Your answers will be kept completely confidential, and the survey contained no identifying items.

귀하의 답변들은 완전히 비밀로 관리되며 설문조사에 개인 식별 정보는 포함되지 않습니다.

If you have any complaints, concerns, or questions about this research, please feel free to contact Eunice U. Choi by emailing her at [eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu). Again, thank you for your completion of this study.

본 연구에 대한 불만, 우려 또는 질문이 있는 경우 이은비에게 이메일로 ([eunice.choi@cgu.edu](mailto:eunice.choi@cgu.edu)) 언제든지 연락하세요. 본 설문조사를 완료해 주셔서 다시 한번 감사드립니다.

If you would like to receive the e-gift card as compensation for your participation, please select "yes" and click the next button below. It will direct you to a separate survey asking for your contact information so that we can text you the e-gift card. Your personal information will not be linked to your responses in the current survey. Make sure to complete this next survey right away; you will not be able to access this survey link at a later time.

참여 보상 e-gift card 를 받으시려면, "예"를 선택하시고 다음 버튼을 클릭하세요. e-gift card 를 보낼 수 있도록 연락처 정보를 묻는 별도의 설문조사로 연결됩니다. 귀하의

## UNCERTAINTY IN IDENTITY VALIDATION PROCESSES

개인 정보는 본 설문조사의 답변들과 연결되지 않습니다. 다음 설문조사를 꼭 바로 완료하세요. 이후에는 링크를 액세스할 수 없습니다.