

## **A NEW LOOK AT VIETNAMESE FEMALE IMMIGRANT'S SOCIAL ADAPTATION: INTEGRATED VIETNAM CULTURE AND ART WITHIN SCHOOLS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

With advent of internationalization, among the new immigrant groups, new immigrant females in Taiwan show a new pattern called “innovative adapters” by this research. This research aims to discuss the issues relative to a new Vietnamese immigrant female in order to further understand the new immigrant females who leave their hometown due to marriage relationship, and who experience the cultural adaptation following another life career in the immigrant country. This research adopted case study method, and started with representing the case's life story through narrative method to focus on the issue for understanding her inner conflict in the process of cultural identity and social adaptation. Then, with guidance project supported by spiritual support from family members, activity design scaffold discussed by school teachers together, and resource assistance from juridical persons, the new immigrant female was encouraged to walk into the campus and classroom of her two children. She was also encouraged to share Vietnamese culture, art, music, and drama with children. In order to understand the activity process, problem solution strategy's drawing up and retrospection, this research tackled with the original data, applied to videos and recordings, collected each detailed record and unstructured interview carefully with participant observation. Data gathered in the study is qualitative, and the tools were used systematically and properly to collect data, including surveys, interviews, documentation review, observation, and the collection of children's art work. This research lasted for one year, and this Vietnamese new immigrant female entered the campus to lead the children proceed the cultural and artistic themed creative activities. It is found that as an innovative adapter, this new immigrant female had changed from “recipient observer” to instrumental adapter”, and “purposeful innovator”. Between the reality of “respecting” and “insisting” the children's education, it is found that she interacted with family members even more closely and substantially, raised her social adaptation, and gradually developed a sense of belonging to the living community.

**Keywords:** Vietnamese Immigrant Female, Social Adaptation, Innovative adapters, Culture.