

ABSTRACT

Elizabeth T Santosa

Acculturative stress on working values and coping strategies American foreign workers as teacher in Indonesia (Dra. Fransiska Iriani M.Si, dan Drs. Yohanes Budiarto, M.Si); Psychological Study Program, Strata One Graduate Program, Tarumanagara University. (140 pages, P1-P7. L1-L7)

The presence of foreign workers to Indonesia is a well-documented phenomenon in this era of globalization. While leaving abroad, these foreign workers experienced what we call a psychological acculturation. It's a change that affects individuals due to constant contact and exposure to new culture (Graves, quoted by Berry & Kim, 1998). This research is trying to portray the source of stress acculturation and the coping strategy used by American workers in Indonesia. American workers are chosen for this research due to the fact that they make up the majority of the western expatriate in Indonesia (Depnaker, 2002). Qualitative methods that include interviews and observation are used in this research. Four American teachers that lives in Indonesia ranging from six months to for and a half years are chosen for this research. Interviews were done in almost three months period (5th March-14th May 2006). The major stress issues are varied for all four subjects. Source of stresses came from the lack of openness and communication from Indonesian workers. Different dimensional values in American and Indonesian working culture are obviously appeared in their individualism and collectivism dimension between two completely different countries (Koentjaraningrat, quoted by Ruky, 2000).

Key word: Acculturative stress, working values, coping strategies, American foreign workers.