

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Cultural Socialization of Children's Anger and Shame
In Rural Nepal

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Friday, October 24, 2008
3:00 PM

Martin Colloquium Center
4127 Sennott Square

This presentation focuses on a series of studies that examined cultural influences in children's beliefs about how they feel and how they behave in emotionally evocative situations, in caregivers' responses to young children's expressions of anger and shame, and in adults' conceptions of child competence. The approach to the research is a culturally comparative approach. That is, the work compares two Nepali ethnic groups, Tamang and Brahmins, both of which can be characterized as living in a collectivist society and as construing the self as interdependent. Despite these overarching similarities, the findings reveal that anger and shame are valued differently in these two groups, raising questions about the sources of those differences. The presentation will summarize the findings from these studies, discuss the role of culture, religion, and minority status in interpreting the findings, and consider future steps to understanding the role of culture in the early socialization of emotion.

Reception to follow in Room 4125 Sennott Square