

## A COMPARISON OF THE CLASS STRUCTURES BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE UNITED STATES

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Following Wright's definition and operationalization of class, this paper compares the similarities and differences of the class structures between Taiwan and the United States. The major findings of this study are: (1) The working class is the largest class, both in Taiwan (64% of the total labor forces) and in the United States (55.8% in 1980). (2) The degree of proletarianization of the lower level white collars are very high in both countries, hence, the lower level white collars should be categorized into the working class, rather than into the middle class. (3) The degree of the proletarianization of the blacks are higher than that of the whites. This is especially true for the black females. (4) The native Taiwanese owns more means of production than the mainlanders. However, the mainlanders have more authority than the native Taiwanese. (5) The percentage of the managers is higher than that of the petty bourgeoisie in the American class structure; however, in Taiwan's class structure, the percentage of the managers is lower than that of the petty bourgeoisie. The fact perhaps reflects the different stages of development between these two societies.