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Elements in Psychology and Culture

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GENE–CULTURE INTERACTIONS

Toward an Explanatory Framework

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-46166-5 — Gene–Culture Interactions
Joni Y. Sasaki , Heewon Kwon
Frontmatter
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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108461665

DOI: 10.1017/9781108562140

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First published 2019

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-46166-5 Paperback

ISSN 2515-3986 (online)

ISSN 2515-3943 (print)

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First published online: February 2019

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Abstract: Examining the interconnections between genes and culture is crucial for a more complete understanding of psychological processes. Genetic predispositions may predict different outcomes depending on one's cultural context, and culture may predict different outcomes depending on genetic predispositions – that is, genes and culture interact. Less is understood, however, about how genes and culture interact, or the psychological mechanisms through which gene–culture interactions occur. In this Element, Heewon Kwon and Joni Y. Sasaki review key findings and theories in gene–culture interaction research. Next, they discuss current issues and future directions in gene–culture research that may illuminate the path toward an explanatory framework.

Keywords: behavior genetics, culture

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ISBNs: 9781108461665 (PB), 9781108562140 (OC)
ISSNs: 2515-3986 (online), 2515-3943 (print)

Contents

1 Introduction	1
2 Gene–Culture Interaction Review	2
3 Current Issues in Gene–Culture Research	20
4 Future Directions	32
References	34