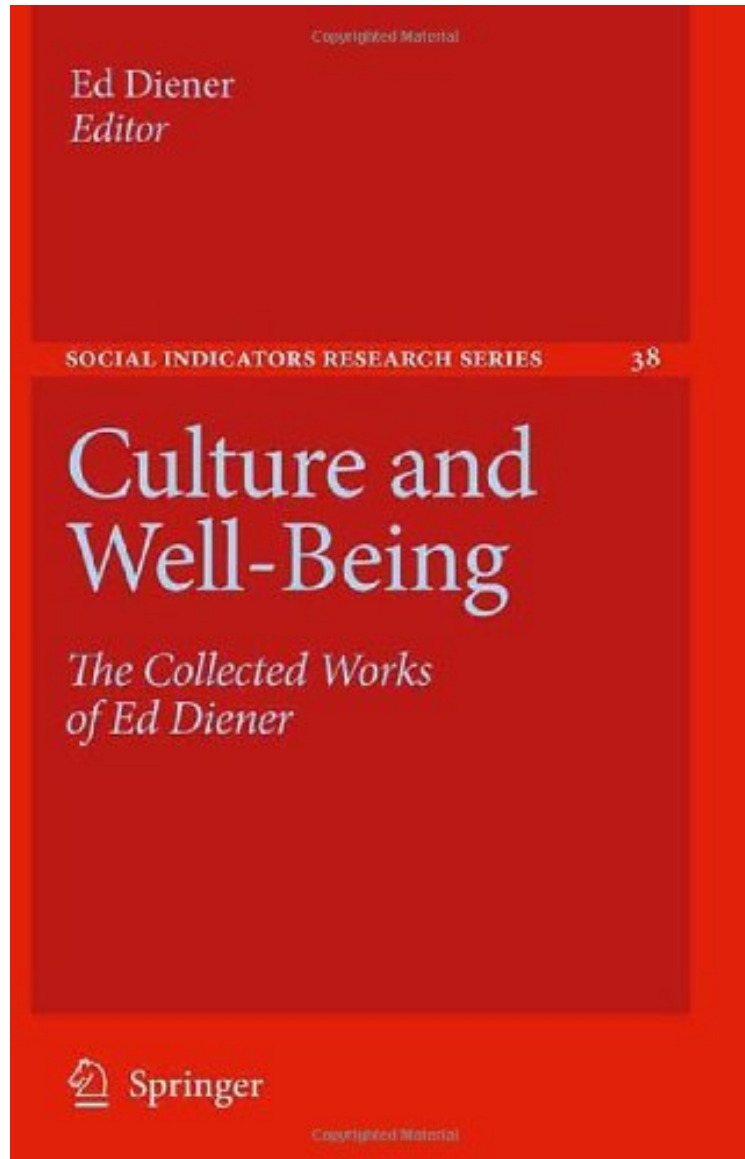


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## Culture and Well-Being: The Collected Works of Ed Diener: 38 (Social Indicators Research Series)

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material boundaries capture cultural effects? The articles contained in this volume offer initial answers to most of these questions. The culture and well-being questions are of fundamental importance to understanding in the entire field and to scientific knowledge in the behavioral sciences as a whole. Unless we understand what is universal and what is specific, we cannot hope to understand the processes governing well-being. Unfortunately, our scientific knowledge in most behavioral science fields, including the study of well-being, has been built on a narrow database drawn from westernized, industrialized nations. This means that we have only a little knowledge of whether our findings are generalizable to all peoples of the globe and to universal human psychological processes. Fortunately, during the last decade my students and I, as well as others working in this area, have rapidly expanded our knowledge of well-being vis-a-vis culture. The first attempt to summarize the findings in this area came in 1999 with *Culture and Subjective Well-Being*, a book edited by Eunkook Suh and Diener. The current volume represents a renewed effort to give a broad overview of major findings in this area and to point to the important directions for future research. Composition of This Volume I am very pleased with the articles presented in this volume because I believe that they represent true advances in our fundamental understanding of subjective well-being.