ABSTRACT

The 1905-06 anti-American boycott movement in China was the genesis of non-violent boycott movements against foreign aggression. This movement affected not only the Chinese population in China but also that in Singapore-Malaya. The existing research works on this boycott movement only look at China and Singapore-Malaya individually. Hence, the purpose of this thesis is to do a comparative study of the boycott movement in China and Singapore-Malaya individually. It also aims to examine how the different social environment affects the development of the boycott in both China and Singapore-Malaya respectively.

This thesis compares and contrasts the causes of the boycott, the composition of participants, the variety of propaganda techniques, mobilization strategies employed and the effects of the movement on the two Chinese societies in consideration.

My findings have shown that there is a distinct difference in the composition of participants which has in turn caused a difference in the scope and extent of the movement, as well as the variety of propaganda techniques adopted. The 1905-06 boycott has also set a role model for subsequent popular movements in the following decade and paved the way for the 1911 revolution in both China and Singapore-Malaya.