

The Weight of Human Life

How much does your life weigh? Some may say it's as light as feather, while others may say it's as heavy and big as a whale. The weight which I focus on in this work does not refer to the actual physical weight, but on the weight of life given to an individual. A human being is born with the minimum weight in life, then as they grow, they form many relationships in the society, establish and expand themselves. The life weight of an individual increases as he or she grows into a social being. Through my work, I express the invisible social and psychological weight of life which the individual feels in the society, such as the sense of responsibility, pressure and stress.

No one is free from this weight and most people live their lives, bearing his or her own weight. This weight is subjective, so it's difficult to compare it or swap it with others. Nor can someone else claim the weight of another even if they wanted to. Moreover, it's difficult to live with more burden as an outcome of excessive drive and boasting.

The East Asian idea of "Eop" signifies the individual's responsibilities of his own actions, and refers to a type of teaching which reflects on his wrongdoings. This idea believes that one is not controlled or dominated by someone else, but must develop him or herself through their own will and efforts. The scale of one's own "Eop", or the weight of his own life can increase or decrease.

While people's lives have become more convenient in this fast pace of contemporary society, the actual psychological burden and stress has increased. My work expresses the large weight of life of contemporary human beings through miniature renderings of everyday objects, tools that represent others' work, and other various objects that symbolize human status and rank, entangled with various human figures.