
Week 5 Assignment

1. How do you think your community influences your behaviour?

Answer:

The community influences my behavior for the reason that we live on the same location. Living on the same place builds the connection of how commonly the behaviors and traits shared with people and how I adopted and embraced the common behavior being shared and practiced. By means of regular exposure from my community that surrounds me and which I spend most of my time with, influences and shapes the way how I should act and behave.

2. Explain the meaning of culture and give examples.

Answer:

Culture is derived from Latin word “cultura” or “cultus” which means care or cultivation. Culture as cultivation simply implies that each of us is a potential member of our own social group. In this sense, every society here on earth has also cultivated its members and trying to make them more closely conform to the kind of people that culture wants them to be whilst giving them some kind of instruction or discipline. This can even take the form of directly modifying the bodies of people through cultural practices. Through this, we have developed the patterns of our learnings, shared behavior and beliefs of our particular social, ethnic, or age group.

Each community, ethnic or social group has its own culture. For instance, here in the Philippines, Filipinos practice *pagmamano* as a sign of respect to elders. “Mano po” is the term used by children or young people when greeting or saying goodbye to the elders by taking the right hand of the elder and place the back of the elder’s right hand lightly on their forehead. Another culture of the Filipinos are being known to be hospitable, family-oriented and religious. The annual calendar is packed with festivals and fiestas to celebrate a patron saint, many of which combine costumes and rituals from the nation’s pre-Christian past with the Catholic beliefs and ideology of present day.

3. Based on your experience, how does a family differ from other families in your place? List down these differences and compare it with your own.

Answer:

Based from my experience and from what I’ve observed, each families in our place differ in the number of members and also how they treat and value each other. Some family are

compassionate and some are irresponsible. Some respect each other while some families blame each other. When faced with problems, some families tend to yell at each other and just let someone look for a way to solve it meanwhile there are some families who solve the problem together. There are also a family with vices but there are also those who are responsible and religious. I've seen some broken families while there are also family-oriented ones. Some are happy while some are not. Some family are well off while there are some who faced poverty. Every family has its own circumstances to face and they differ on how they apprehend and face it. Compare to my family, we are just in a middle class but we are contented to what we have. We strive to meet the happiness that life has to offer and also for the betterment. We faced some problems and there are some times that we quarrel but at the end of the day, we still stick together. My family is not perfect but I'm lucky to have them.

4. Identify one advantage and one disadvantage of cultural relativism and explain.

Answer:

Advantage of cultural relativism:

→ ***It is a system which promotes cooperation.***

From my own understanding, each of us has its own unique aspects and perspectives which makes us different to others. So by having these differences, we were able to build humanity from the variety of potential of each person that turns out beneficial to all. There is no barriers or limitation as to what is the standard to the success of each individuals because of cultural relativism, and we were able to bring out our differences to highest potential and seeing the best of our abilities through cooperation that contributes to our society making it resilient and strong.

Disadvantage of cultural relativism:

→ ***It would create chaos.***

The concept of cultural relativism is based on an idea that there is no absolute standard of good or evil so it is individually decided in each society to the decision and judgement to what is right or wrong. Without the moral code set by group of people to rule a certain society often lead to an unsafe and unjust community where the powerful will oppress the weak, and it would create chaos and disorder because an individual will do what he sees fit based on his own moral code.

5. What makes Filipino culture different from another culture? Explain your answer.

Answer:

Filipino culture was developed over the time because of the influence of colonization, starting from the Malayo-Polynesian and Hispanic culture with the influence from Chinese, Indian Arabs, and other Asian culture who contributed to our customs and traditions that made

us different compared to other Asian countries. Filipino culture was made up of these qualities, customs, traditions, beliefs, and traits that made us, Filipinos, stand out among the rest. It can be seen how rich and blessed our culture was because it was applied in our daily lives. For example, the practice of *pagmamano*, having close family ties, the bayanihan, *harana* as a form of courtship, having strong devotion in our religion, superstitious beliefs, marriage and wedding customs, death rituals, having combined society, celebrating long Christmas season, fiestas are held to celebrate a patron saint, and lastly, living with parents until getting married.

6. As a student, how can you contribute to the propagation of Filipino culture? Values? List down your answer and explain.

Answer:

As a student, the least that I could do in order to propagate the Filipino culture that has been passed down from generations to generations are as follows:

- **Do not conform or just minimize to the involvement of current hype culture.**
 - Most of the people these days especially teenagers are more focused on the trends that mostly came from other countries which influences them in doing so. In order to preserve or maintain our own, I will be focusing more on the practice of our culture so that I will not lose my identity as a Filipino citizen.
- **Participate on events that could showcase our own culture**
 - I've noticed that some teenagers find our own culture as "baduy" which is why I would like to showcase our culture by participating to events that shows how amazing our own arts, dances, etc. as part of our culture.
- **Be an influencer that educate people to our very own culture and values.**
 - Since most of the people are most incline with technology nowadays, using social media platform would be one of the best option to show the community how I practiced our culture and values, and encourage them to do the same thing. Through this, I've become a role model to them that advocate the culture and values that has been passed down from generations after generations.