

Cultural Diversity

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Introduction

Cultural diversity is all around us whether we are at work, school or in a new place. Cultural diversity can be defined as a variety of cultures and the people within it as well as cultures practices being shared with others. Teaching cultural diversity in the classroom and workplace allows individuals to fully embrace who they are, personality and culture wise. Realizing all of these cultures have something different and unique to bring to the table. Having diversity around you as well as being culturally aware helps keep an open mind and opens up more creative ideas within yourself. I have personally benefited from being surrounded by people from a different culture than me in school when I am in group projects or just making new friends in the classroom or workplace.

Cultural imperialism correlates with diversity the most because it is extremely affected when imperialism takes place. Diversity can either get stronger or can be completely lost after occurring. Imperialism opens opportunities and chances for growth through diversity. From learning other cultures religions to understanding how or why they may dress a certain way. This theory can strengthen a nation in many ways like defense technologies, trading internationally, economic opportunities, and career opportunities.

Cultural imperialism frames the idea of cultural diversity in a broader spectrum than just the classroom or workplace. Although, education and career opportunities are at a huge advantage when it comes to imperialism and new curriculum and ways of teaching are possible through imperialism. When two nations unite, there defense is stronger and all have access to defense technology to give them advantage with the stronger nation. Cultural diversity is at risk when two nations come together when the dominant nation is pushing their way of life onto the

other because they think it is the best, the other culture can become lost, traditions and practices fade out, and those people no longer have their own cultural identity that they once had.

Literature Review

My first article is called “Cultural imperialism - sociology of culture”, it is a description with examples of cultural imperialism. It discusses imperialism and the effects of imperialism through nations. It also describes what can happen when a culture is lost through cultural imperialism. My second article is called “the 16 pros and cons of imperialism”, it lists the pros and cons of imperialism, including a stronger defense system, better healthcare and career opportunities for the weaker nations, culture can be lost through the imperialism process, there is no longer much diversity advancing these nations, and problems with the stronger nation believing their way of life is the only right way. My third article is called “empathy in the classroom.” It explains why students being empathetic towards others and their cultures is important to ensure they feel valued and heard.

My next article is called “the importance of cultural awareness” and discusses the benefits of diversity such as developing cognitive skills, enhancing creativity, promoting empathy, etc. My fifth article goes deeper into being empathetic towards others' cultures. This article is called “social media is an important news outlet for diversity.” It explains how social media allows people of color or other cultures to have a voice. Social media is where they are updated with news on their culture. My final article “How does trade influence culture” explains that when cultures trade and negotiate they are learning about one another’s practices and way of life.

Theory

Cultural imperialism has been practiced since nations started conflict and turned to war for solution. Imperialism is the idea of one's country or culture taking dominance over another

culture, one that is disadvantaged or weaker than others. This means pushing the dominant cultures beliefs and practices onto the non-dominant culture. The weaker nation or culture must adapt to that stronger culture's way of life in order to succeed, therefore, these nations will find other ways of expressing their true and prior culture. Cultural imperialism can also occur through global programs that help underdeveloped cultures

Imperialism may sound strictly beneficial and like a solid long-term solution for weak nations but there are just as many disadvantages as there are advantages to this theory. When I think about the idea of imperialism, I would think that two nations are joining in unity to benefit one another but cultural imperialism can easily cause disunity and conflict between the two. When the dominant nation is pushing their way of life onto the other because they think it is the best, the other culture can become lost and those people no longer have their own cultural identity. Discrimination is very common, when another culture enters another, people may not feel they need to listen to or acknowledge them.

Some advantages of imperialism are that it can still open people to new cultures and traditions.

This is where cultural diversity ties in a little, being exposed to new ideas and diverse cultures. Typically, weaker nations also have a weaker healthcare system. Healthcare for these nations can be drastically improved. Education and career opportunities are a huge advantage, new curriculum and ways of teaching are possible through imperialism. When two nations unite, they're defense is stronger and all have access to defense technology to give them advantage with the stronger nation.

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occurring. Imperialism opens opportunities and chances for growth through diversity. From learning other cultures religions to understand how or why they may dress a certain way. This theory can strengthen a nation in many ways like defense technologies, trading internationally, economic opportunities, and career opportunities.

Diversity is supported through cultural imperialism by teaching and learning a culture's education, religion, language, music, clothing, and more. When two nations unite, these things are shared and learned about creating more diversity throughout the world. Diversity would be brought into classrooms and the workplace when imperialism has taken place, giving students and workers opportunities to learn new things and vice versa. Having different ethnicities become a part of another culture can mean that culture becomes lost or fades out as time goes on but I don't see a way for that situation to be avoided.

Tools of International Communication

Language was not directly summarized throughout this article in the way It should have been in my opinion. Yes, students who were born and raised in America thrive off of diversity in the classroom, whether we know it or not, but do students of other ethnicities thrive as much or in the same ways? My answer would be no, the article talked about how important diversity is and what we can learn but how can those students apply their differences here? Language is also one of the top most important topics when discussing diversity in the classroom because it's a great starting point to the topic. Students must first understand the differences in language to understand where we differ and how misunderstandings happen if not knowledgeable.

Communication traffic control was not touched on in this topic, assuming they just weren't digging that deep into intercultural communication. I personally don't think this topic holds much importance to diversity in the classroom, it doesn't have much to do with students. It

is important students know why this is a debating topic and how communication between countries for certain reasons are vital.

Empathy is so important in the classroom, especially a more diverse classroom and resonates so well with the topic. Teaching students how empathy can be viewed and given out in different means depending on the county will help resolve issues that could present themselves later. Ensuring that everyone is culturally aware and understands the differences for each nationality.

Cultural imperialism was not talked about within this article. It also doesn't have much to do with diversity in the classroom. I wouldn't say there is a huge need for this topic in the article either. I did some research on how this can be explained/taught in a diverse classroom and couldn't find much information that made sense to me or that would be helpful in this article.

Culture shock is a necessary topic in an interculturally diverse classroom. Students could be personally experiencing it themselves. Culture shock is a way of keeping that diversity, it keeps the education going, although it can be scary and challenging. I would've added a paragraph to this article stating culture shock is very real yet shows us so many new things.

Message dissemination was lightly touched in this article, not directly. It summed up the idea that communicating with people who are ethically different from you can be challenging because we don't interpret messages the same way. Giving students the opportunity to communicate and learn what one thing might mean something in one country could mean something else in another culture.

In conclusion, my article doesn't seem to dig as deep into some of the major tools of intercultural communication, I think younger children and mothers perhaps are the target

audience of this article. All six topics are used in the classroom when discussing diversity and regardless of importance and help us out so much in certain intercultural situations

Elements of International Communication

Social media and trade can fit hand in hand together when it comes to having diversity in a region. Social media is an outlet for new industries and businesses as well as being an outlet to connect with other cultures. Trading between regions is constantly providing people with opportunities to view different cultures and the people that are a part of it. As life changing events seem to be happening everyday, cultures all over the world rely on social media to stay connected and up to date. We know that being in a culturally diverse classroom or workplace opens ideas and opportunities for everyone but think about the possibilities when social media becomes involved. From personal experience, being at PSU and in diverse classrooms with people from different regions, I can now connect with them on a deeper level with social media and technology.

Social media allows us to befriend our classmates or coworkers and to see who they are outside a classroom or work setting. Social media has brought us the opportunity to share experiences and parts of our unique and different lives. As for students from different countries, technology can keep them connected with family and friends back home.

Trading and making deals over other cultures influences our ideas, behaviors, and trading negotiations. People making business deals all over the world have ever changing views on culture and trade as they experience new ways of life. Before trading internationally, you have to be culturally aware of the differences and obstacles, you will face and with that you become knowledgeable about cultural diversity. Trading internationally also opens up opportunities by

meeting new people who may have connections with other cultures. Social media ties into trade and cultural diversity by making trade efficient and cost cutting.

Social media affects diversity right now more than ever. In my previous article explaining why cultural diversity matters most in the year 2022, social media plays a big role in that. If you think about all the life changing events going on in the world right now, we need social media the most. Every day we are updated on Ukraine and Russia, for example, by our cellphones and through our social media apps. When the Black Lives Matter protests were happening everywhere, we were updated by our social media apps. Without social media, we would have no way to stand up for other cultures, we would have no way to campaign and donate to the people suffering in Ukraine.

In my article I found, more than half of Hispanics and African Americans use social media to stay updated on issues dealing with their culture. I will admit, technology has done its damage to each of us in some way, but to stay connected and learn from diverse cultures and what's going on in other countries, we need social media.

Cultural diversity, social media, and trade can all go hand in hand and benefit the other. Social media proves to us every day that we use it to stay up to date on news around the world, to connect with family and friends of those from different countries, away from home. Trading has endless opportunities to connect with other cultures and gain skills from, vice versa. By sharing their lives and traditions on social media, others can become more culturally aware and educated, regardless if we are within the same culture or not.

Opinion

I stand very strongly for cultural diversity and cultural awareness as well as the need for it, especially where we are located. I feel so passionately about this topic because I have

personally seen its effect on my life at work and school. It is important to recognize others' practices and expressions of culture or be "culturally aware" wherever you are. I have noticed when we are put in situations to learn from another culture, we instead shy away because we aren't educated enough or don't feel comfortable because we don't know about that culture or their practices or how they express themselves.

Conclusion

Cultural imperialism has been practiced since nations started conflict and turned to war for solution. Imperialism is the idea of one's country or culture taking dominance over another culture, one that is disadvantaged or weaker than others. This means pushing the dominant cultures beliefs and practices onto the non dominant culture. The weaker nation or culture must adapt to that stronger culture's way of life in order to succeed, therefore, these nations will find other ways of expressing their true and prior culture. Cultural imperialism can also occur through global programs that help underdeveloped cultures.

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