

Cultural Immersion Experience

By Linnea Puckett

Four key elements learned from research

- Common attitudes, beliefs and values : “sense of community, respect for authority and elders, hard work, sacredness of human life, good human relations, hospitality, honesty, integrity, sense of time, and justice and fairness and sacredness of life; language and proverbs.” (Onyango).
- Prominent Customs, Practices and behaviors
- Attitudes or Practices toward spirituality and religion
- Key historical events and figures impacting the cultural group and societal perceptions of this group.

Historical/ Current Oppression

Minority Oppression:

Women- woman began their journey of freedom fighting in the 1990s, not long after Uganda was freed from UK rule. Women still suffer from having little control over their sexual relations, facing gender-based violence, and struggling with gender inequities. (Kamya & White, 2022)

LGBTQ- The oppression of the LGBTQ community among Ugandans did not start to take place until after the missionaries started to arrive and teach homosexuality as being wrong. British passed an anti-LGBTQ Bill.

Summary of two events and three key things learned

Vendor Fundraising- the sale of homemade goods by the women of Uganda and learning about the situation of teen mothers in Uganda.

Ugandan Dinner- A Ugandan meal with conversation about current oppression issues and cultural music.

Three things learned:

1. Injustice is International
2. Culture is ever-growing
3. Everyone's experience is different

Summary of agency/organization interview

- The purpose of the organization is to provide at-risk teenage mothers with multiple levels of support
- Services offered - Skill training, basic education, discipleship, and mentorship
- Population awareness of services - use of chairman, or leaders
- Areas of need- mostly sponsors or financial needs.
- Significant challenges- community beliefs of teenage mothers
- Social Justice- Holding community accountable

Summary of Individual Interview

- Background of interviewee - a. Earliest memories of Ugandan recognition.
B.cultural differences in values, c. School experience d. Career decision
- Key Cultural Events: A. discrimination faced by Ugandans, discrimination
faced by Americans. B. Cultural festivals and ceremonies

Summary of Summary section

- Comparison of research vs. interview
- Two most surprising facts
- Three ways of personal impact
- Three general insights

Specific and Practical Application to Counseling

Apply general insights into my multicultural counseling;

- Never to assume you know everything about a culture just because you have done your research or participated in a few cultural events
- To understand where someone is coming from, you need to understand their mindset on themselves, whether it relates to their culture or their individual experiences.
- Not everyone will be excited to share directly or be open to a woman.

Use Garcisim reading to in my personal presentation

- Modesty, honor, and consideration. (Chapters 5,7, and 9 of gracisim).

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