Nitza Hidalgo's Three Levels of Culture

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Q1: The Concrete: Concrete is the most visible and tangible of culture used to recognize individuals. It includes the most surface level of dimension such as music, food, clothes, and games. This type of culture is usually provides for multicultural celebration or festival. The concrete clear portrays an individual and makes it easy to identify someone’s culture just by a look. It follows us wherever we go and therefore, it is utilize to describe us. The concrete culture includes clothes, music, food and music. Globally people won different clothes and the type of clothes is defined an individual culture. For instance, traditional Islam from the Middle East has different clothes from the western world. This is the same with food and music and therefore, music, food, games and clothes are some of the list of concrete, which are used to identify people easily.

Q2: The Behavioral. The behavioral culture defines what we are through our social roles, the approach we have to non verbal communication and the language that we speak. It reflects the value of people and therefore, it is used to define a group of people in the society. Therefore, the list of behavioral culture gender roles, political affiliation, language and family structure. It is because these elements are used to provide descriptive understanding of a community or a person. Family structure differs based on culture of a people. The structure is important because it defines how the family is norms are set and therefore, family structure plays a critical role in cultural identity.

Q3: Symbolic. The symbolic culture is the beliefs and values of a group of people. It is defines based on how individuals define themselves. The symbolic culture includes the spirituality, worldview, customs and religion of people. The customs are beliefs of people or set methods of conduct, which guide a certain group of people. Worldwide people have customs are these customs are used to define people and understand them as well.

Q4: ***When you meet somebody, which of those items (under any of the categories) do you use to understand them culturally?***

When meeting someone for the first time, concrete is used to understand someone culturally. Concrete provide physical description of people based on food, clothes, music and games, which an individual plays or listen and therefore, based on these someone can understand a little bit of an individual culture (Welter & Abby, 2018). It is therefore, important to state that we often judge people we just meet on concrete level of culture. We usually do not them well so that we can perceive them based on behavioral and symbolic level of their culture. And therefore, concrete is the simply the physical look we can easily identify and them make an assumption.

Q5***: Is your attempt to understand others culturally consistent with how you want to be viewed and understood?*** Yes. People who understand you at the symbolic level have an idea of what is very important to you and therefore, symbolic cultural level is the best level of cultural, which everyone would want other people to, understand them. People who understand your food, clothes, music, and games do not know what you perceive as wrong or right and therefore, cannot provide a clearly description of whom you are. However, people who know your language understand your values and therefore, have much understand beyond concrete level (Welter & Abby, 2018). People who know you at behavior level of your culture therefore, understand about you more than concrete level but less than the symbolic level of culture. It is therefore, important to note that everyone would want to be known more than just concrete level of culture and therefore, best level is symbolic culture to have idea about your values, religion, worldview and customs for an individual to be sure of understanding your perspective,

Q6. ***What forces in our society might contribute to our simplification of others' cultures, even though we don't want to be defined simplistically ourselves?***

The customs and religious beliefs can contribute to simplification of other cultures in the society. It is therefore, essential to point that symbolic level of culture plays an essential role in description of people based on culture. In most cases, other cultures are defined based on religious practices, beliefs and customs and therefore, it symbolic is the key element, which are used to describe other cultures. Food, clothes, music and games cannot be used as forces for simplification because they barely reflect the outlook of people and it would be difficult to understand someone and use as judgment based on clothes or food. As stated by Macos (2015), behavioral and concrete provides details description of cultural practice of a group of people but not as detailed as symbolic and therefore, symbolic can be used to provide description of individual and therefore, it is a force, which can contribute to implication of culture in the society.

# References

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Welter, L., & Abby, L. (2018). *Fashion History: A Global View.* New York: Bloomsbury Publisher.