Catholic Identity Discussion

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Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a known Nigerian novelist reveals the dangers of a single story in one of her lectures. TED Global broadcasted her lecture with the title “The danger of a Single Story” where she shares her experiences where she misperceived and misunderstood many concepts and societies because they were told with the help of single stories. She reveals a single story of her houseboy Fiddly when she was 8. She tells that Fiddly had a pitiable picture in her mind and she used to think that he was born poor and cursed because he was born in a certain home on earth (Adichie, 2009). The reason behind this was that her mother had told her a single story about Fiddly that he was too poor because his parents were poor. Then she shares her experience when she had to live with White Americans and tells how that White Americans used to think that Africans are born with rough nature and unsophisticated minds. Adichie tells the reason that American's belief saying that it was based upon the story of an African. The use of stories to form beliefs and thought of people is a traditional human practice (Hewett, 2005). One of the provided sources is Catholic Social Teaching that reveals how beliefs and moral values are formed in Catholic social teachings and how they are taught and spread using single stories. Nevertheless, Adichie claims that whether right or wrong, when we rely on a single story to understand a culture or society, we risk our capability of understanding and we risk truth. I agree with Adichie's claim because the human being is vulnerable to ill beliefs and if a person attempts to understand a society or culture with the help of one single story, understanding of some aspects of that society is not guaranteed, but a misunderstanding about many other factors is guaranteed.

**References**

Adichie, C. N. (2009). The danger of a single story.

Hewett, H. (2005). Coming of age: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and the voice of the third generation. *English in Africa*, *32*(1), 73-97.