Culture Heritage and Traditions

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**US culture**

My culture and heritage are tied to the culture of the United States of America. The culture I belong to is diverse in its composition. The culture of the United States of America is predominantly known as western culture. It has its own cultural and social characteristics. Such characteristics can be widely observed in the language, literature, religion, socio-economic stratification, arts, fashion, cuisine and the lifestyles of people in the united states of America. The culture of the United States of America has its roots in European culture due to imperialistic and colonial historical influences. The culture is inclusive of both the conservative and liberal charateristics which are displayed predominantly in their political, religious, materialistic and family structures; deeply inherent throughout the geographical parameters of the country. Although with the advancement of popular culture the religious notions are diminishing, many Christian notions are vividly seen in the functioning of day to day lives such celebration of Christmas, births, deaths, and marriages. The gender roles are part of the US culture the dominant roles of sustenance and the inequalities are although less, however, men and women both, are still subject to stereotypes of sustenance, child bearing, and work and economic relations. The United States recognizes and gives liberty to people to have sexual orientation of their choice. Therefore the LGBT community is widely recognized and supported within my culture. The social stratification is prominently eminent in the culture as distinct lifestyles, patterns of economic spending and the consumption patterns are associated with different social groups acquiring social statuses at its center (Benhabib, 2002). Social status can be ascribed and achieved. It is deeply rooted in the economic depth of the individuals status. The education levels also play a great part in identifying and classifying the socio-economic status of an individual. The social strata are highly dependent on the income volatility in society. The underprivileged and the disabled are treated with the utmost respect and care. They are supported by initiatives of community and the state. US culture is by large dominated by exquisite, all-embracing and liberal set of norms and values.

**Discussion**

**Family Values and Structure**

The Americans are viewed widely as friendly, happy and generous by the other ethnicities. They are categorized as uncomplicated and standard bearing individuals who endorse the ideals of freedom and respect each other's rights and uphold human dignity. Although many races and ethnicities do not like the idea of the US as a superpower, therefore they envy it and criticize the American culture unrequitedly. Although this is the case and Americans are criticized for their way of life, they are widely appreciated for their effort and contribution in the global issues from human rights to sustainability is under developing countries.

**Pride in heritage and culture**

I'm extremely proud of my culture as it is all inclusive and endorses the spirit of equality and freedom. The freedoms reflect freedom of religion, choice, expression, and speech. The united states of America due to its historical background is known for its cultural diversity that creates one single culture known as the American culture. American culture welcomes all and is all-embracing. The American culture int5egrates all within it.

**Comparative analysis**

The American culture is very different from other cultures, for instance, the Mexican, Indian and Asian cultures which sub-exist with it. The difference in family values, genderroels, and socio-economic relations are very much evident in these cultures (Benhabib, 2002). The American culture is a strong proponent of liberal freedoms however, the Indian and Mexican cultures may not as accepting as the Amerian cultures are towards freedom of choice, decisions about marriage, sexual orientation and family structures i.e. extended families. The world views of American culture that of a melting pot, the liberties and opportunities attract people from various cultures to be part of it.

**Hollywood stereotyping American Culture**

The display of American culture through Hollywood can be seen around the world reach to the world. The media portrayal of American culture portrays that the stereotypical white supremacy, prejudices, and biases which later take depth in the development of the societal perceptions amongst its members (Decherney, 2005). The media, however, misrepresents the American culture distortedly portrays either imperfections or perfections in the society. Media, therefore, instills the spirit of divisibility amongst the union.

**Strategizing inclusion in the workplace despite media stereotypes.**

The inequalities represented by the media regarding the women as acquiring certain jobs , blonde as dumb, or cold when at high-end positions; people with diverse sexual orientation are looked down upon, while the indigenous groups are preferably underestimated due to their ethnicities rather than talents or skill acquired. The Asians and Indians are represented as nerds or geeks. Therefore, as a manager I would iniate, programs that enforce the mediums of equality, create awareness amongst the employs to eliminate their unconscious biases against their fellow co-workers by communicating with them.

**Conclusion**

The American culture is by far known for its diversity and upholding of the mediums of liberty. The liberties define the course of culture and functioning of individuals within it. The US has been identified as a primarily attracting force for all other cultures due to its inclusive features. This creates an environment of interdependence and co-existence amongst the nations. Hence it can be derived that American culture prides itself with individualism. It is for anyone and everyone. It does not complex and complicates the ideals of a culture adding value to those who are part of it.

**References**

Benhabib, S. (2002). *The Claims of Culture: Equality and Diversity in the Global Era.* Princeton University Press.

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