Name

Instructors’ Name

Course Title and Code

Date

Rites of Passage

Rites of passage are the ceremonies which are celebrated or practice to mark the transition of a person from one stage of life to another. The rites of passage specifically denote the change in the status of the individual and are found across the world. One of the most important purposes of the rite of passage is to remark the change in the status of an individual, while some cultures use it as the source of checking the bravery, passion, and persistence of the individual which makes the individual respectable in the society. Some of the examples of rites of passage include tattooing on the face of girls in West Africa to remark their entrance to womanhood and ready for getting married. Another example is boys get beaten at their back by some family member by the whip and getting incision or chest and applying medicine on them.

Some rites of passage include painful ordeals like cutting of the skin or tattooing on sensitive areas of the body in order to depict the courage and bravery of the individual. These rites show that the person is strong enough to take the responsibility as well as face any kind of difficulty or pain. It ensures the society that they would not betray their loved ones at the time of need. These rites are also practiced to check if the individual is strong and reliable enough to become a warrior, as well as support a family (Pfeiffer).

Although religious rites of passage are not so common in the United States of America, baptism and funeral rites are some of the examples. Apart from this no other painful rite of passage is practiced in the modern day united states of America. The graduation ceremony, wedding and retirement ceremonies are considered to be the modern rites of passage in the modern day united states of America (Pfeiffer).

Work Cited

Pfeiffer, Jill. Taboo Initiation. *Yotube.com*. 2014. Retrieved from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFR10aYDY\_A&feature=youtu.be