



Culture

A Powerful Tool for Diversity

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- “truth”

–is the dominant “stories” of a culture



Objectives Today

- Paradigms of tales
- Theoretical Grounding
- Practical Examples



Tales



Where are they?

- Now we tell them via books, television and movies...



These Stories....

- may be our science, morals, laws, social mores or other rules





These Stories....

- may be seen as
“*unacceptable*”,
“*primitive*” and or
“*backwards*”



A tale is a tale....

Cole, 1997



Which is more valid?

- Perspectives differ:
 - “scientific” story
 - “cultural” story

Cole, 1997



Which is more valid?

- How to predict weather?
 - Satellites, radar?
 - Animal behavior?

Cole, 1997



Which is more valid?

- Why do tides change?
 - Gravity, tidal forces?
 - Ancient gods, earth spirit?

Cole, 1997



“*stories*”, like scientific
theory change over time

Cole, 1997





Example....

- Old - earth **IS** flat
- Old – humans will **NEVER** travel faster than sound



Cultures

Varied Tales in a
Varied Land



Cultures

- Culture can be defined as:
 - A group of persons living by an agreed upon set of rules.
*(Adherence to rules is enforced,
violations are punished.)*



Cultures

- Culture can be defined as:
 - worldview of a like-minded group



Cultures

- Do you belong to a culture?



Cultures

- Examples of multiculturalism:
 - Geographic
 - Religion
 - Workplace

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Cultures

- Do you belong to more than one culture?



Various Cultural Images

“Slices” of Life



Cultural Language



How we talk....

- **INFORMAL STANDARD**
 - Usually spoken, regional differences
- **THE FORMAL STANDARD**
 - Usually written, “school English”

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EXAMPLE

- Dialects of:
 - urban minorities
 - Native Americans




Examples

SICK WID [WITH] IT	IMPASSIONED WITH SOMETHING GOOD
DIS	TO INSULT, PUT DOWN SOMEONE
411	DETAILS; GIVE ME THE DETAILS OR FACTS
BEASTIN'	YELLING AT SOMEONE; AN AUTHORITARIAN TEACHER

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Examples

DUMB	EXCELLENT; VERY SATISFYING
COP	BUY or GET
SCRED	SCARED
BOOK; SCRILL	MONEY



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Examples

Rez	reservation
brah	"brother."
coconut	brown on the outside, white on the inside
FBI	Full blooded Indian

<http://www.bluecomics.com/naslang.htm>






Misunderstandings...

- First class, first day!
- Please complete this homework assignment.



Student: "I wouldn't care to."

Me: "WHAT???"



Utilize Expertise

- Find and use "key informants" from the community!
- Some suggestions:
 - Local religious leaders
 - Civic leaders
 - Teachers
 - "fixtures"


Utilize Expertise


- Who are some key informants in your community?



Examples of Differences

- Rituals
 - Death
 - Birth
- Work
- Perception of Time









Scenario:
What so you do?



- The cultural history of the majority is everywhere!
- Where is the rest of the story?





- The cultural history of the majority is everywhere!
- Where is the rest of the story?



Is this always the order?

- His and hers
- Male and female
- Man and wife
- King and queen
- Men, women, and children


http://www.tolerance.org/teach/web/wfc/pdf/section_1/1_01_questioning_order.pdf



Is this always the order?

What does “order” say to students?

http://www.tolerance.org/teach/web/wfc/pdf/section_1/1_01_questioning_order.pdf



Resources

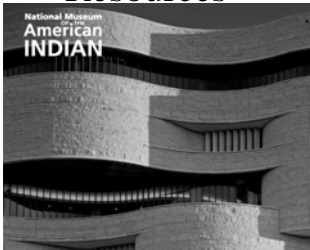
Southern Poverty Law Center

TOLERANCE.ORG 

<http://www.splcenter.org/>



Resources




<http://www.nmai.si.edu/>

Resources



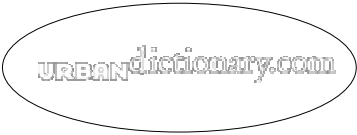
<http://www.nmfa.si.edu/>

Resources



<http://www.nameorg.org/index.html>

Resources



<http://www.urbandictionary.com/>