

Culture Vs Civilization

Dr. Ioannis Karras

Χρηματοδότηση

- Το παρόν εκπαιδευτικό υλικό έχει αναπτυχθεί στα πλαίσια του εκπαιδευτικού έργου του διδάσκοντα.
- Το έργο «**Ανοικτά Ακαδημαϊκά Μαθήματα στο Ιόνιο Πανεπιστήμιο**» έχει χρηματοδοτήσει μόνο τη αναδιαμόρφωση του εκπαιδευτικού υλικού.
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Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

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Culture is the way Civilizations live

Adapted from: <http://www.differencebetween.net/miscellaneous/difference-between-culture-and-civilization/>

- Firstly, civilization in theory is bigger than culture in which an entire civilization can encompass one single unit of culture. Civilization is a bigger unit than culture because it is a complex aggregate of the society that dwells within a certain area, along with its forms of government, norms, and even culture. Thus, culture is just a spec or a portion of an entire civilization. For example, the Egyptian civilization has an Egyptian culture in the same way as the Greek civilization has their Greek culture.

- A culture ordinarily exists within a civilization. In this regard, each civilization can contain not only one but several cultures. Comparing culture and civilization is like showing the difference between language and the country to which it is being used.

- Culture can exist in itself whereas civilization cannot be called a civilization if it does not possess a certain culture. It's just like asking how a nation can exist on its own without the use of a medium of communication. Hence, a civilization will become empty if it does not have its culture, no matter how little it is.

- Culture can be something that is tangible and it can also be something that isn't. Culture can become a physical material if it is a product of the beliefs, customs and practices of a certain people with a definite culture. But a civilization is something that can be seen as a whole and it is more or less tangible although its basic components, like culture, can be immaterial.

- Culture can be learned and in the same manner it can also be transmitted from one generation to the next. Using a medium of speech and communication, it is possible for a certain type of culture to evolve and even be inherited by another group of people. On the other hand, civilization cannot be transferred by mere language alone. Because of its complexity and magnitude, you need to transfer all of the raw aggregates of a civilization for it to be entirely passed on. It just grows, degrades and may eventually end if all its subunits will fail.

Summary

- 1.Culture is by definition smaller than a civilization.
- 2.Culture can grow and exist without residing in a formal civilization whereas a civilization will never grow and exist without the element of culture.
- 3.Culture can be tangible or intangible whereas civilization is something that is more tangible because it is what you see as a whole
- 4.Culture can be transmitted through symbols in the form of language whereas an entire civilization cannot be transmitted by mere language alone.

Defining Multicultural, Cross-cultural, and Intercultural

Adapted from: <http://www.united-church.ca/files/intercultural/multicultural-crosscultural-intercultural.pdf>

Multicultural:

- In **multicultural communities**, we live alongside one another.

Multicultural

We value tolerance, and celebrate one another's culturally distinctive cuisine, dress, music, dance, and related outward expressions of culture. It usually requires only superficial and polite social interaction.

A multicultural community can also mean that

- society allows and includes very distinct cultural groups, with equal status
- people from different cultural groups are understood as standing side-by-side, at
- times in isolation from one another
- often there is a superficial celebration of food, folk, and festivals without deep
- learning
- power differentials are not addressed; it does not allow for exchange between these
- cultural groups, and tends to only focus on representation.

Cross-cultural:

- In **cross-cultural communities**, there is some reaching across boundaries.

Cross-cultural:

We try to build bridges of relationship between our cultural communities by sharing, listening, learning, and being open to changing. It usually requires intentionality, and programs of education and community-building.

It also means that

- two or more cultures are considered or related to
- often cultures are compared or contrasted with one another, and one culture
- is deemed superior or inferior to another
- power differentials are still not addressed; it only allows for limited learning or
- exchange between cultural groups
- cultural differences may be understood or acknowledged, but are also
- managed in a way that does not allow for individual or collective transformation

Intercultural:

- In **intercultural communities**, there is comprehensive mutuality, reciprocity, and equality

Intercultural:

Our social structures and everyday interactions are defined by justice, mutuality, respect, equality, understanding, acceptance, freedom, diversity, peace-making, and celebration. Intercultural community hopes to take us deeper than multicultural or cross-cultural models of community.

It also means that

- there are mutually reciprocal relationships among and between cultures
- people from different cultural groups interact with one another, learn and grow together; build relationships and become transformed, shaped, and moulded
- from each other's experiences
- "intercultural" is not a substitute for "ethnic"!
- the focus is on relationship building (not survival), deep connections, interactions,
- mutual gifting, respect, and learning from one another
- no one is left unchanged in the intercultural process: some examine their own
- culture more deeply, some are changed through their interaction with others,
- many learn more about what it means to be in community together
- racial and cultural power imbalances are addressed; people are enabled to learn
- from each other and lead toward the transformation of all peoples