Introduction

An African proverb says, “A village is needed to raise a child.” This statement provides an affirmation of a common belief that a lot of people thrive and survive in different communal environments (societies, villages, and families). It is in these circles in which they relate to the feeling of mental, social, spiritual, and emotional support. Therefore, it becomes quite natural to think that among our most important responsibilities as human beings should be to take care and offer support to others. As we provide this support, it is also important that we keep the best interest of other people in mind. In other words, we should also extend our grace whenever possible as we introduce biases as little as possible.

Why Study Anthropology

The field of anthropology is essential to our society in general. From the very first time man walked on earth, there were a lot of challenges to their survival. He has developed different habits which allowed him to endure a lot of challenges and hardships. He has created places for shelters, protecting him from different elements. He also discovered the plants that were good for eating, and the ones that are deemed dangerous. He has also developed different ways on how to take advantage of the rich resources naturally offered by our planet. He has also created rituals and traditions to celebrate victories, good fortune and relationships. All of these experiences and knowledge were passed from one generation to another, guaranteeing survival, while reducing the burden of the succeeding generations. Anthropology refers to the science of studying all these things.
As times passed by, the field of Anthropology has enabled us to record our human diversity, helping is to examine comparatively the errors and trials involved in different societies, thus offering data regarding the “best practices”. This information is then available for strategic and analysis implementation, which further increases the chances that humanity will survive for the next generations.

By recording societal nuances within communities all throughout the world, various anthropological records can also give assurance that the diverse and rich cultures of the world will not be lost due to the constant changes happening in the world. It offers cross-cultural perspectives on which the future, as well as highly successful societies can further be built. As stated in Humanity Mirror, anthropology can determine any need for changes that local people understand, and work with people to culturally design socially and appropriate sensitive changes, protecting local people from risky projects and policies which may threaten them (King, 2007).

Anthropology also enables us to analyze and understand what other societies and cultures do. More importantly, this knowledge eventually leads to understanding, which further leads to highly functional relationships and trust. Functional relationships and trust lead to a healthy interdependency among societies. Another viable reason why we need to study anthropology is to understand how we can live our life more securely and fully, thus increasing our chances of living a safer, fuller and more content life.
Concepts and Topics

Worldview refers to a standard concept of reality that is shared by a specific group of people typically referred to as an ethnic group or culture. There is a commonality between the basic experiences of the world, with that of other people, as well as life events that we all share in common. There is also a variation among individual experiences, of experiences, interpretation and of the behavior according on knowledge that is gained from the experience (John, 2001).

Religious Practices and Beliefs

Religion is considered as culturally universal. Most societies find that a major part of their identity is founded on a spiritual belief and different customs. When societies or countries lose their identity because of foreign invasion, severe economic disaster, or pop culture, a certain cultural void is usually filled with religious fundamentalism (Havana, 2005).

Conclusion

The impact of the so-called imperialism in this world will turn out to be immense, partly because of the fact that when the political values of the USA are being embraced worldwide, so too, are the embraced values. When this happens, it is highly possible that a lot of cultures will be accepted and transformed into cultural American subsets, perhaps losing their own unique social identities and cultural richness.

References