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PLS DON'T ENFORCE YOUR CULTURAL VALUES ONTO MEE

Have you guys ever hated yourself because your race and just wanted to reconstruct and rebrand yourself? When I was younger, I constantly felt embarrassed because I was Asian and all my classmates were White. In school or even in my daily life, I struggled with the simplest task because of who I am. Fast forward a couple years later, I gained a deeper appreciation for my culture and found the root of the problem.

First, I want to give some background about establishing White Culture. Ever since forever, White people have consistently found new ways to forcefully assimilate People of Color and “Justify” it. A couple examples include when Europeans went to Africa and exploited their natural resources . Not only did they destroy their land, they stripped people from their homeland and brought them to America to be civilized, meaning assimilate them. To civilize someone by “educating” someone was systematically tactic as to why White culture has been so dominate. Present day examples include our school systems. Students from other countries go to school in America and have to take an eld class or some language course to help with english. Don't get me wrong, learning english is cool and all but why? The student learning english isn't going to automatically gain 10 iq points. There's this misconception about how people who don't speak English are dumb. IT ISN'T EVEN TRUE. Language doesn't correspond to how well someone can do something. It's just a language barrier. Additionally, students who are assimilated into white culture often see “foreigners” as strange because they are still with their culture.

Everyone eats food but no everyone eat the same thing. Every person of color can relate I think. But anyways, food is a big part of culture for a lot of people. You can't blame us if we want to bring queso, stinky tofu, kimchi or some other food that doesn't smell pleasant to you for lunch. We can't just live off of chicken noodle soup or a peanut butter sandwich Becky / John . Stop shaming us for eating food that are from our home countries. They bring us comfort and ground us in our roots. Also it's ironic how White people have been able to “Americanize” Latin, Asian, Soul food, etc. You can't just do that ! Food from our cultures were passed down from centuries and you trying to mimic it is complete disrespect. Also, I'd like to point out how all the Americanized food are idolized yet the true dishes are discouraged.

Lastly, THE FALSE PORTRAYALS OF POC. You know, the geeky asian, oversexualised latina, violent and super dangerous black man. The majority of these are made up by people who actually aren't asian, latina, black, etc. The negative perpetuation only creates negative stereotypes that dehumanize and degrade humans. NOT only have there been negative perpetuations. The Government had put sanctions on us too (Irish, Italian too but like ya know). We're not seen as people with these characteristics, we are seen as outsiders or even wild animals.

My personal experience (i'll have two bc i don't know if the first one really corresponds???) with the education system trying to force their whole opinion onto me was when this teacher actually made our whole class question if we were actually alive and existed and if we were worthy of living or not. Different cultures have various reasons as to why they exist and how they wont “exist ever”. Like for an example, in the Asian community, we don't think of death as this tragic event in one's life. We think that their body is still here but their spirit is with us but

mainly in the different realms of life. So for a teacher to try to tell us that our answers and beliefs are invalid is telling us that our whole belief system is invalid and that we don't actually know why I value life. (HE ACTUALLY SAID THIS BUT LIKE YOU KNOW) Also, you can't just tell me what death is like and joke about it . Like I had a very close individual that just passed away from cancer and all the teacher kept telling us was some really messed up things about people who passed away. This all started about a book we were reading and he literally wouldn't let us interpret the book ourselves because “ (we) You guys are too stupid to even read a simple book.” THIS IS ACTUALLY INGRAINING INFORMATION INTO OUR HEADS LIKE THANKS :/

My other experience with the whole education system was when I was in elementary school. I went to a predominantly asian populated school. Although I was the same race, there was this group of white children at my school. They were favored by everyone. They seemed to belong and everything was going well for them. I wanted to be like them because when i was growing up, I got stared at because I brought porridge to school. They didn't smell like herbs because when they got sick, they didn't rub anytype of oil onto themselves. These negative thoughts ate my self esteem up really well. Skip to middle school, everyone was in love with asian, african american and latin cultures. Little did I know they were just appropriating cultures. The fake asian accent, the stolen cultural styles of clothing and hair from African Culture from white people taking it as fashion and latin food being fused with their own tastes and rebranding it. Then to High School, I am able to realise disrespect when I see or hear it.