

blake

by Blake Blake

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Summary

East-west, home is always best. The author reemphasizes this in a broader dimension. The article begins with an example of families, especially the teenagers enjoying freedom and reconnection to their roots. Teenagers experience a connection with their homeland despite the migration by their parents. Such rituals strengthen transnational life from generation to generation. Within the same context, the author brings out the influence of transnational life on gender and masculine authority.

Additionally, the participation of New York in funding the projects back in Ticuan through donor organizations indicates that the hearts of the immigrant Ticuanenses are still home. Many of the Ticuanenses have adopted lives that reflect their host and home country too. Homogenization, advancement in communication, trade, and markets have enhanced transnational living and interconnections across the world. This brings in two terms that the author wishes to explain and differentiate, "globalization and transnationalism."

His explanation is rooted in various notable trends in the lives of immigrants. The first is the increased number of immigrants; second is the fact that most immigrants are keen on keeping ties with their homeland. Besides, children have been introduced to this culture and have a

crucial role in their home activities. This has severe implications on assimilation to the cultures in the host nations. Identity plays a significant role in the quest for Ticuanenses to connect to their homeland amidst assimilation.

Adolescence, a stage of discovering one's identity, is greatly affected by transnational life. This is a clear indicator that the ties are not about to end. There are many structures, such as governmental systems, integrations in different capacities and communication systems that have changed in the current era. All these affect the whole experience that immigrants have.

The author explains the facets of the transnational theory. Neither does he disagree nor fully agree with it, but he adds a few pointers. He discusses transnational life based on experiences, avoids the conventional idea of transnationalism and transmigrants, and interprets the concept of assimilation and the changes in the current era.

Reflection

Heritage, culture, and different practices define people. People have a desire to live a meaningful life. I particularly appreciate the use of the three vignettes by the author. Not only does it give the article authenticity and bring out the exact experience by immigrants. Generational transitions are accompanied by the loss of ties, adoption of new practices, and acquisition of new affiliations. Technological evolution, political waves play a significant role in promoting the continuity or the break of ties between immigrants and their motherland. The author writes from an informed point of view, having interacted with the Ticuanenses and even married from them. appreciation and reception of his work by the people explain how important it is to have a sense of "belonging." There is a disparity between life away from home and living at home, and so is the case for Ticuanenses immigrants in New York.

As an individual grows, the urge to obtain freedom and identity grows, but it can be deterred by the environment, political system, gender, economy, to mention but a few. Assimilation will always be there since an individual is a composition of the people around them, their beliefs, practices, and culture. However, the sense of identity still draws one back to their origin.

To sum up, we are in a digital era where the world has become a small village through technology, keeping contact is quite easy. All these transcend to one idea: transnational life. Further, there is a need for teenagers to establish connections to their roots to enjoy their freedom despite the migration of parents.

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