

the dimensions of Culture that Shape an Identity

n individual is defined and judged based on their appearance, personality and temperament. Delving deeper into this basic concept, it all comes down to their genes and environmental influences. One of the most evident and significant factors that is taken into consideration is culture. In accordance with Wendell Pierce, culture can be defined as "the intersection of people and life itself. It's how we deal with life, love, death, birth, disappointment... all of that is expressed in culture."

The way someone has grown up can tell others an indefinite amount of things regarding his habits. From a very young age, children pick up their parents' patterns and conventions. It is also to be expected that the first idols to children are their parents or even any older siblings that they may have. Culture is the precedent to these two components. It can be determined by such habits that a person possesses. These include table manners, hospitality, the expressions when one speaks, etc. An example is the difference with how French people eat their food and how Bengali people do. The French use cutlery while the Bengalis use their fingers.

Cultures can also be detected through the language that one speaks and by how one communicates with others around them. People pick up some socialisation skills from the environment they are exposed to - whether it would be home, school or somewhere else entirely. When it comes to conveying what they want to articulate to another individual or group, some cultures utilise more 'exaggerated' expressions and gestures than others. In order for culture to be successfully handed down, the one who is an influence to the people around him must be able to secure connections and understanding with others. The weight of this responsibility is outlined by Adora Svitak. "Any good teacher knows how