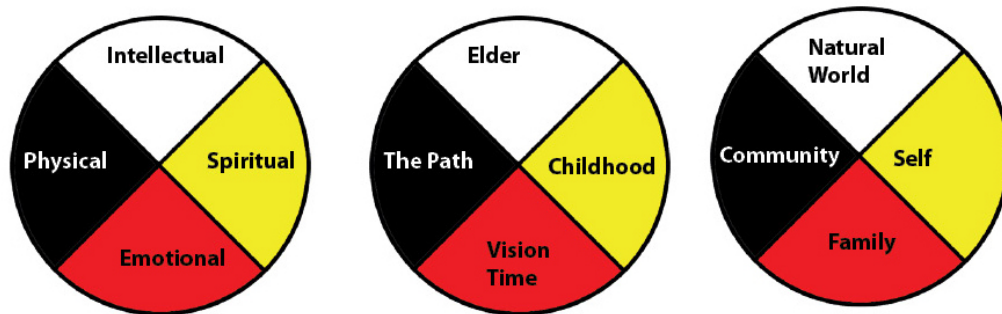




Native Teachings - Ethnocentrism



Teachers, before you start this unit, reflect on the following questions for yourself?

This unit focuses on the following topic:

- Ethnocentrism
- Cultural Relativism
- Stereotypes

Objectives of this unit:

- a. Awareness of ethnocentrism in the dominant culture
- b. Awareness of ethnocentrism in self
- c. Application of key terms using examples



Honesty, Humility, Respect,

Bravery, Love, Wisdom, Truth

Specific Expectations for NDA3MP

Current Aboriginal Issues in Canada

- CH3.02** assess the effectiveness of attempts to improve the relationships among Aboriginal peoples, the Canadian government, and Canadian society as a whole.
- ID3.04** demonstrate an understanding of the different perspectives of Aboriginal issues reflected in the media coverage from within Aboriginal communities and from mainstream society.
- RE2.05** demonstrate an understanding of the need to initiate and sustain cross-cultural dialogue among Aboriginal and Canadian students.

Specific Expectations for HSP3M

Society, Challenge & Change

- OR2.03** demonstrate an understanding of discrimination and exclusion in social relationships, from the perspectives of anthropology, psychology, and sociology;

LESSON NO. 2 ETHNOCENTRISM

Essential Questions for this Lesson

- How have I been shaped by ethnocentrism?
- How has mainstream society been shaped by ethnocentrism?
- Can ethnocentrism be unlearned?

Vocabulary Introduced in this Lesson: Ethnocentrism

Cultural Relativism

Prior Knowledge they need for this Lesson

- introduction to Cultural Anthropology & Social Institutions
- introduction to Social Science Inquiry Model
- Research Methods (i.e., Sample Surveys)

Resources that will be used:

- Self-Quiz & Scoring Chart (attached)
- Story/ies of ethnocentrism.
- Ethnocentric video portrayals of First Nations such as “Reel Injun”; or literary passages demonstrating ethnocentrism such as “White Man’s Burden” by Rudyard Kipling

Materials, supplies needed:

- DVD player if necessary



Minds On Activities (Feeling, Thinking, Questioning, Knowing, Experimenting, Planning)

1. Hook: Self-Quiz (see Appendix ?)
2. Debrief quiz and brainstorm definitions of ethnocentrism and cultural relativism. (see Appendix ?)
3. Circle Talk: How does ethnocentrism shape who we are? What social institutions perpetuate ethnocentrism? (ex. Media, families, peers, school)
4. Share a story that examines ethnocentrism. (Indigenous stereotypes are sensitive. Students should discuss these with parents or community members in a safe place. A sensitive but non-Indigenous example could be Hérouxville Quebec's Islamophobic municipal charter that forbade stoning of women in 2007. See Middle East Forum's <http://www.meforum.org/1799/will-quebec-decide-to-reasonably-accommodate-islam>. Current discussions on "reasonable accommodation" in Quebec highlight the problems between ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.)
5. What might be a hypothesis you could develop from examining ethnocentrism?
6. In addition to surveys and self-quizzes, what would be other methods of researching ethnocentrism? Consider using these discussions as part of student research or the summative.
7. Brainstorm historical and current examples of settler ethnocentrism.
8. Watch "Reel Injun" or other video portrayals of Indigenous people (a 70s Western). Gently discuss stereotypes that arise (ex. Noble savage vs. barbaric savage). Options are to read literary passages that fuel ethnocentrism. Additionally, skim school Canadian history textbooks to weigh the amount of powerful and positive influences of settler Canadians in history as compared to the Indigenous impact on Canadian history. The latter is also called the Indigenous narrative in Canadian history and students will see that this narrative is barely perceptible in mainstream history books. What impact could this have on all Canadians?
9. Can classroom resources be ethnocentric? Examine a wall map of the world. What is a Eurocentric world map look like? What is the difference between ethnocentrism and eurocentrism? Are there parts of Canada that think they are the centre? Is it Ontario and Quebec? Or is it Manitoba? Apply "-centrism" to other examples (ex. Toronto, Canada's south, urban, etc.)
10. Brainstorm historical and current examples of Aboriginal ethnocentrism. Can Aboriginal peoples be ethnocentric?
11. Journal Entry (below).

*Social Science Inquiry Model:

1. Identify a problem or question.
2. Develop a hypothesis.
3. Gather data.
4. Analyze the data.
5. Draw conclusions



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