

Alia Manning

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SW 331 01- HBSE: Large Systems

Professor Freeman

Application Reflection Paper

Cultural inventory is defined as a listing of a community's cultural assets or resources. It is usually used for resources primarily for schools and organizations to understand the community. My personal cultural inventory would be a black African American woman who attends a Historical Black College or University (HBCU) minor in art. My artwork is my cultural asset that is identified as the true meaning of what it means to be an African American living in poverty, racism, social injustice, and discrimination in the black community. My drawings don't just illustrate the tragedies we face, but shows how the black community comes together to fight against our struggles. My art, family, peers, religion, and educational institution is what I value. My values in life and at school would be my achievements, determination, health, and friendships.

I believe in consciousness, love, time, and self-evolution. We forget about actually living life to the fullest because we are obsessed with morality. We, the people, have a profound way of overlooking the little things that are entirely meaningful in life. My social norms would be an example of what is meaningful. My social norms are shaking hands when you meet someone. Make direct eye contact with the person you are speaking to and not interrupt someone while talking.

Using expressive symbols such as gestures and signs are ways I use to communicate with people. Even expressive language is another form of communication because I use English when

I speak, and I use proper vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structures. Being mindful is my daily practice. I start my day by waking up with a purpose to help the black community. An artifact that I treasure dearly would be an African jewelry piece. The reason why I say African jewelry is because African culture has influenced us greatly. In general, culture has influenced my thinking because it opened my mind to different aspects and opportunities in life. Culture influenced our learning processes, affecting our ability to collect additional data and make connections. Culture is an influence of behavior that takes "nurture." You start acting and behaving in ways that were considered appropriate to such a culture.

Culture influences others' behavior by viewing their social beliefs, laws, mores, practices, languages, and attitudes. My culture impacts the understandings I have about others, including the assumptions, stereotypes, and prejudice because other cultures did not go through half of what my culture went through. For example, white cops are scared of black African Americans, so they tend to kill our kind. An African American is petrified to get pulled over or even see a cop because they think their lives are at risk. Another example, other cultures believe all black people steal, so they walk around and spying to make sure African Americans do not steal anything that is stereotyping.