

DIPLOMACY

Diplomacy is most easily achieved when different cultures understand and respect the differences between others and themselves. It is better to acknowledge and appreciate differences, rather than ignoring differences under the guise of "seeing everyone the same way." Everyone is different; individuality should be encouraged, not avoided. A multicultural relationship is best formed through a mutual understanding and compassion for one another's cultures.

In terms of leadership, a leader can set an excellent example of diplomatic behaviors towards another culture. An honorable leader will encourage peaceful interactions with people from a multitude of ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. It is important for a nation's leader to be receptive to the cultures of other nations, and encourage the members of one's own nation to act the same. Using the method of leading by example, a leader can encourage a strategic and symbiotic relationship between two sets of people, simply by exemplifying respect and appreciation for another culture.

A multicultural relationship should not be created with the goal of changing the way another nation does something. The relationship should be formed with appreciation of the specific culture of another nation and the desire to help that nation prosper in the practice of that culture. This affiliation is mutually-beneficial in that both countries help each other achieve individual goals, in order to meet a larger goal. By helping each other prosper, both nations form a strong bond and can become allies.

Each partner in a multicultural relationship should seek to promote inclusivity among their people. A leader should emphasize the ideal of respect to the nation they serve. Forging a multicultural relationship is not about adopting the culture of another country, but rather encouraging said country to embrace their own culture, and celebrating one's own culture. The relationship should lift each country up and encourage the leaders of each country to protect the ideals of their people's culture.

Overall, forming multicultural ties between two groups develops a strong pattern of respect between the two assemblies. Without a doubt, reliable and principled leaders are needed to maintain a healthy bond between two parties. Diplomacy is not created overnight. Rather, it needs to be fostered over a substantial amount of time and effort. It is not easy to achieve diplomacy, but that does not mean it isn't necessary. In the words of the late President John F. Kennedy, "We choose to...do [these] things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard." Diplomacy should be achieved because it is difficult; it requires a strenuous effort. As a result of this effort, each nation or group involved comes out reinvigorated and better prepared for the future. It is in every nation's best interest to pursue multicultural diplomacy, in order to create global citizens and relationships.

Amanda Hagler
Third Place Essay
Chandler Sister Cities
2018 Young Artists and Authors Showcase
Grade 12, Hamilton High School