Discussion board

The politics of culture

There are different concepts of culture depending on the perspective. Most academic sources give a definition of culture as the customs and morals of a society. These include language, art, laws and religion. According to Antonio Gramsci, culture is a transmission of dominated class values that is done selectively (Christian, 1999). Culture often favors some interests in the society over others. Interestingly, cultural values follow a social string which is passed on from families and peers and other informal groups that are within the society (Christian, 1999). An example is given of a society that embraces slavery. Everyone in that society believes that the slaves are inferior which leads to hatred among tribes. However, long after the culture is abolished, the ethnic differences will be passed from one generation to the other. In conclusion, it is necessary for individuals to understand the negative effects of imperfect socialization of culture so that they can embrace diversity.

War between the United States and the Soviet Union had lasted long leading to massive loss of lives. (Naom )describes these wars as pretense because once the Soviet Union was dissolved, the rivalry did not end. Although Russia had posed many threats to the United States, the terrorist attacks were not the main reason that the US focused on strengthening their military every year (Naom). Instead, they viewed the entire Middle East as a threat including Iraq due to their clashing beliefs in religion: Most of the Middle East constitutes of Islam religion while the larger part of the United States embraces Christianity.

According to the article, Samuel Huntington’s article on the clash of ignorance became famous in as early as 1993. His aim was to educate people on the truth about politics after the second world war.

Christian Parenti, “Reflections on the Politics of Culture,” Monthly Review, 1999, Volume 50, Issue 09 (February). Retrieved from <http://monthlyreview.org/1999/02/01/reflections-on-the-politics-of-culture/>

Noam Chomsky, Clash of civilizations?*Seminar retrieved from* [http://www.indiaseminar.com/2002/509/509%20noam%20chomsky.htm](http://www.india-seminar.com/2002/509/509%20noam%20chomsky.htm)