

Crossing Cultures and Values Clash

Topic	White Middle Class USA Value	Internationals Value in General
Future	Goal-oriented, sense of personal control over destiny	Fate, predetermined and unchanging
Change	Positive, progress and growth oriented	Tradition, consistency
Family	Nuclear	Extended/Rooted
Relationships	Informal, concern for individual welfare, Direct in communications	Group oriented, great concern to avoid "losing face"
Status	Equality, suspicious of authority, status Earned through hard work	Hierarchy, obedient to authority
History	Having limited influence on decision Making (linear)	Strong influence on decision making (cyclical)
Age	Emphasis on youth and strength	Age is revered, elders respected
Business	Competitive, free market	Cooperative, emphasis on strategic Alliances
Time	Valued, measured, emphasis on efficiency, speed and productivity	Priority to develop and maintain relationships, slower pace
Privacy	Individual right, perceived as healthy and Necessary	Group oriented, of little value
Mobility	Transient society, shallow relational root	Stationary, deep roots in Community
Religion	Compartmentalized (church/state), Individual choice	Integrated, social conformity expected
Problem Solving	Self-reliance, innovative, new ways to solve old problems	Dependent on others, seek input of and approval from community

