

American, P. Rican & Guayanese: My Cross Cultural Experiences

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Background and goal of presentation

My name is Anil M., I am a blend of many cultures and ethnicities but my majors that I follow are American, Puerto Rican, and Guyanese. I grew up in New York city which influenced my American traditions but i do have many beliefs from both my other ethnicities such as believing in certain symbols or following certain traditions or religious beliefs. Now I do not follow religion 100%, my culture and life is influenced on some religious beliefs.

My goal of this assignment is to discuss some of my culture including popular norms and values i follow and compare and contrast them with a trip a had earlier this year discussing my cross cultural experiences and what i learned from both my culture and the culture from my trip to Put-In Bay Ohio.

My New York cultural experience

New York City is one of the most cultural diverse places in the world, I was able to learn and understand many different cultures and how different groups of people live their life based on their Norms and values. I did not grow up really following my traditional culture being Puerto Rican and Guyanese but loving in New York surround me with people of my ethnicities and made me who I am today based on my social interactions and my cross cultural experiences.

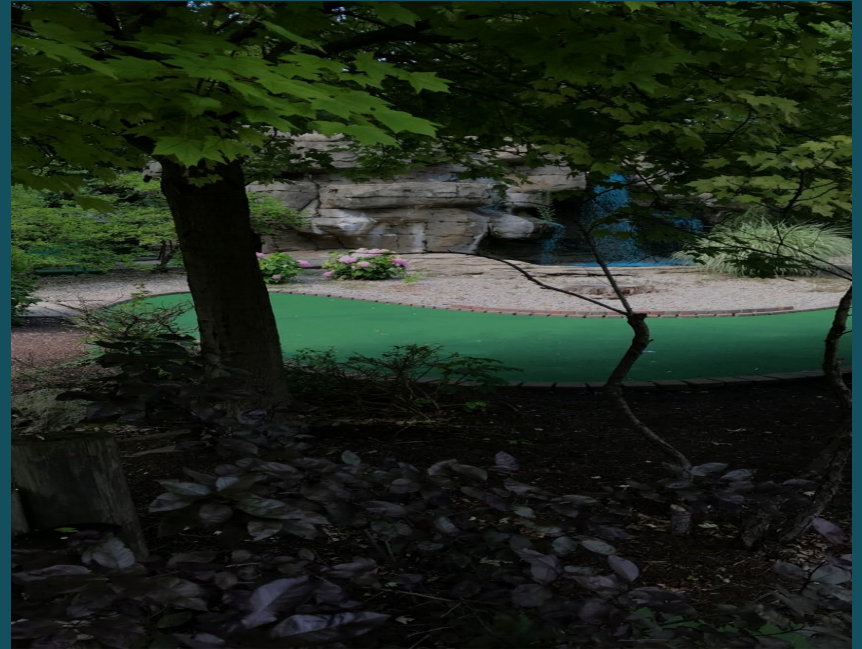


Welcome to Put-In Bay Ohio



Facts about Put -In Bay

Put-In Bay also known as South Bass Island located in Ohio, is a small island with the average population of 612. The Island's demographic population was 95.7% white. 2.5% African American and about 1.7% other races including Asian, etc. This island's main used language is English and it is an understatement to say this island is beautiful and full of many fun activities.



Norms and values

From my experience there on the island, the people of Put-In Bay all value love, peace, and respect. Everyone is greeted with such great pleasure making the island feel welcoming and comfortable. Their norms are not as extreme as some cultures I have encountered but they are great role models to show that it is important to respect and keep peace with the land and the people. They encourage people to learn more such as going on tours to learn about the history of the island and they demonstrate that it is important to have a good time which is presented also at Perry's cave which is home to fun activities such as mini golf, rock climbing, a maze and many more. Also because this is such a small island, most people do not own cars on the island or do not bring their vehicles when they visit so to get around, many people rent golf carts and you are allowed to drive a rented golf cart all around the island.

Cultural symbol - love fence in Put-In Bay

My girlfriend grew up visiting this island every year and based on what I learned from her and I experienced from people that live their or visit often, Put-In Bay is described to be an island of peace and love. One norm that the people of Put-In Bay or visitors of the island have is, when you are in love and with your partner, you should go to one of the public fences around the island and put a lock on the fence and every time you visit the island again, you can come and admire the sight of all the locks representing love. These locks with our initials is a cultural symbol that represents love.



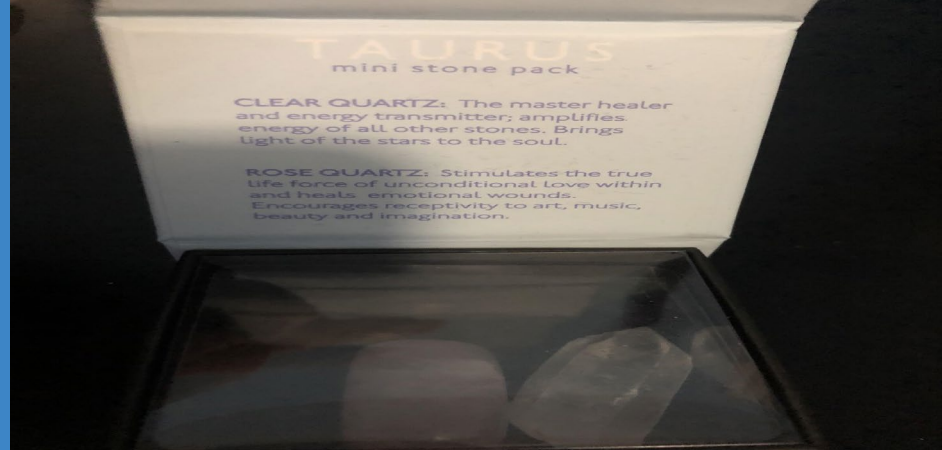
Socialization and communication in Put-In Bay



My experience with socialization in Put-In Bay allowed me to gain a better understanding of the island and the people who live here or visit often. As mentioned before, Put-In Bay's most used language is English. I was able to learn very quickly that the island is mostly between older retired people, people that just turned 21 and are looking for a party and drinks, and people that are there with their families enjoying all the good times and activities on this island. The picture on the left was from a video taken of my partner and I after being encouraged to dance together in a performance hall by a singer and friend of my partners family and all the people in attendance who were very encouraging and sweet.

Cultural artifact - Crystal Cave and mini zodiac stone pack

Crystal cave discovered in 1897 by miners digging for winery, Is the home of the world's largest geode in the world. Although this is not technically an artifact that i could not take home, I thought it was beautiful as an artifact of the land which was located by a friendly winery and gift shop. Tours were given \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. At this gift shop, I was able to learn about my astrology sign and I picked up a zodiac stone pack which was a nice little object I have to remember the island.



Race and ethnicity

As mentioned before, Put-In Bay has a much larger percentage of white, more specifically older white males and females than any other race. There is about 95% white, 2.5% African American, .85% Asian, and .85% other races and ethnicities. This is certainly a place where you can see stereotypes come alive such as the rich frat college students looking for drinks or older wealthy people enjoying retirement and looking for a good time.

How does gender play a role?



Put-In Bay has a gender ratio of about 47% female and 53% male. On this trip I was lucky to meet a lot of people which I learned quickly that all the men and the women of this island work extremely hard and are passionate in their career and making visitors of the island feel comfortable and at home. Many women run business like the winery and the hotels and restaurants while men would tend to be fishers looking for fresh fish for the restaurants and grape pickers who pick grapes for the winery to be able to make their wines and juices. Everyone works together with the best interest in mind to do what is best for the island.

Work cited -

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