Hispanic Culture and Relationships

What is Culture?

*Music
*Food
*Customs
*Traditions
*Values and Beliefs

Cultural Beliefs

Familismo — the belief that doing something for the family’s benefit is most important

Benevolent Machismo — the belief that the man is the head of the family and is responsible for protecting and providing for the needs of the family

Marianismo — the belief that women are expected to wait until after marriage to have sex and that they are expected to focus on becoming good mothers and faithful wives.
Cultural Beliefs

**Affiliation obedience** – the belief that children are expected to obey their parents in response to receiving their love and care.

Two Types of Culture

‘We’ and ‘Me’

A “**we**” culture is best described as: cooperative, group oriented, mutual

‘We’ and ‘Me’

A “**me**” culture is best described as: independent, secure and competitive

‘We’ and ‘Me’

How are “**we**” and “**me**” cultures reflected in:

- Relationships
- How we see ourselves
- How we act toward other people
- Love and marriage

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<th><strong>We</strong></th>
<th><strong>Me</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Relationship</strong> between parents and children is most important</td>
<td>Relationship between husband and wife is most important</td>
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<td><strong>How we see ourselves</strong> is based on rules and family commitments</td>
<td><strong>How we see ourselves</strong> is based on personal interests</td>
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<td><strong>People</strong> seek happiness in others</td>
<td><strong>People</strong> talk more about their own personal interests</td>
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<td><strong>Love</strong> is viewed in the context of family</td>
<td><strong>Love</strong> is more connected to meeting personal needs</td>
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How does culture become part of us?

**Socialization** – how we are raised

**Enculturation** – over time, growing familiar with and trying out a new culture’s beliefs and traditions

**Acculturation** – the blending of a new culture’s beliefs and traditions with our own

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**Levels of Acculturation**

**Juanito Díaz – “No Way”**
- Speaks only Spanish
- Prefers to stay within his own community
- Only celebrates Sept. 16, and ignores July 4

**Juanito Day – “Half Way”**
- Speaks both Spanish and English
- Recognizes multi-cultural environments
- Celebrates Sept. 16 and July 4
Phases of Acculturation
Johnny Day – “New Way”
- Loses ethnic roots and accepts new culture
- Ignores ethnic holidays and will celebrate July 4

ACTIVITY 1:
What Is Your Way?

ACTIVITY 2:
Family Crest

What Is Your Way?
- How have these levels of acculturation affected your relationship?
- What effect has another culture had on your marriage?
- Share some examples of how you have seen families balance various cultures.

Family Crest
Time to Share