

Working and Living Across Cultures

Living cross culturally

Can be lots of fun, but understanding differences can be challenging

How do I know?

- I lived cross culturally
- I've worked in 45 countries
- Our family adopted across cultures

Lived in Ukraine







Adoption Cross cultural adventure









Business in 45 countries

Traveled to all of those

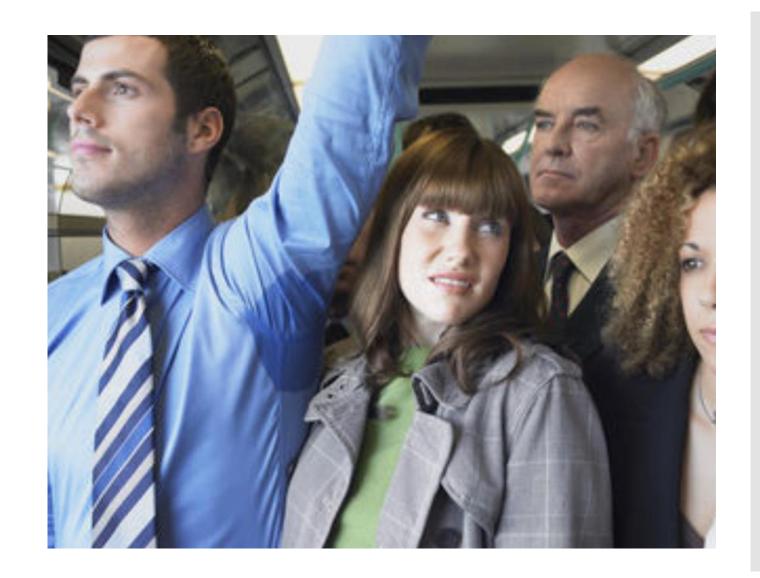


Differences can be fun

And confusing....

Cultural Differences

Personal Space Body odor



Cultural Differences

Things people talk about

How people express themselves



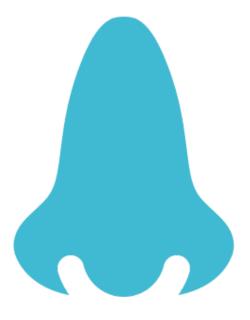
Cultural Differences

Cultural traditions How we celebrate



Cultural Norms in the US

Specific examples



Smells

Obsessed with minimizing smells!!







Like lots of personal space

Talk loudly and about ourselves



Follow the rules...for most things



Toilet Paper!! Toilet Paper!!







Where does it go?

Follow the rules/guidelines of the culture

Even if it's strange to you!!

Practical Suggestions
Go on Green Stop on Red!



Practical Suggestions

Put the toilet paper in toilet, not in the trash bin



STAGES of CULTURE SHOCK





Suggestions that can make it easier to fit into any culture

1

Be open to something new

2

Ask good questions

3

Choose to see the good

4

Engage across the differences

5

Assume the positive

6

Learn to adapt

Acceptance

Doesn't mean you have to agree with everything in the culture

STAGES of CULTURE SHOCK



Time, Effort, Intention

And you'll be successful!

STAGES of CULTURE SHOCK



Thank you

