

## Session 19 - Culture Share

### Materials:

- Agenda charted on the board or chart paper, or provided as a handout
- A meaningful talking piece
- A meaningful centerpiece
- A meaningful cultural item to share out
- Chart paper containing Community Agreements from Session 7
- Next Session Prep: Bobbie Harro's ["The Cycle of Socialization"](#)

**Facilitator/Circle Keeper Note:** Prior to holding this session, invite participants to find a tangible or intangible item that is significant or important to them, in that it represents or reflects an aspect of their personal, family, or social identity (think race, class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, and more). This "something" could be a tangible item or intangible. Examples include a photograph, a piece of art, an artifact, jewelry, fabric, a song, a recipe, etc. Invite participants to think deeply about the assignment and "bring" this item or artifact with them for this session. Explain that we'll share a brief story about what we bring, why we chose it, and why it is important to us.

### Opening Ceremony: Culture by Marcus Garvey

Invite participants to reflect on the following quote by Jamaican-born Black nationalist and leader of the pan-Africanism movement, Marcus Garvey:

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

Invite some participants to share out their thoughts in connection to the meaning of this quote as well the other tree imagery we've been using in the context of community and culture in our sessions so far.



## Talk Participants Through Today's Agenda

- Opening Ceremony: Marcus Garvey on Culture
- Check Agenda
- Cultural Share Go-Rounds
- Closing Ceremony: Cesar Chavez on Cultural Diversity

### Cultural Share\*

Remind participants of the assignment you gave them prior to this session: to “bring” a meaningful cultural item or artifact to share with the rest of the group today.

This activity is best done in the full group, preferably as a restorative circle, with a talking piece going from one person to the next as an invitation to share while everyone else practices mindful listening.

**Go-Round 1:** Start by sharing *your* cultural artifact and explain its personal significance. Pass the talking piece to the person next to you, inviting them to share their artifact and its personal meaning. Continue to pass the talking piece from one person to the next in order, around the circle, giving everyone the opportunity to share.

**Go-Round 2:** If time allows, send the talking piece around a second time for any positive connections, reflections or additions, based on what people heard during the first round.

\* *This is a variation on an activity developed by Tanya O. Williams called [Culture Chest Activity](#) © Readings for Diversity and Social Justice, Second Edition, Routledge, 2010*

**Note:** As you close today's session, re-emphasize the importance of culture and the power it has when acknowledged, honored, valued and celebrated.

### Closing Ceremony

Invite participants to reflect on the following quote by Mexican-American labor and civil rights activist, Cesar Chavez:

“We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community.”

Send a talking piece around to invite people's closing reflection as you connect what Cesar Chavez said to the activity they participated in today.

### Next Session Prep:



Here is the next article for the group to read independently: [The Cycle of Socialization](#). Encourage the group to take notes and write any thoughts and reflections they have in the margins. Encourage them to reread.