

Transforming Hearts Collective—Trans Inclusion in Congregations

UUFM Study Guide

Session 5: The Role of Culture in Trans Exclusion

Sunday, November 3, 2019 12:00-2:00

Reflection and discussion questions

1. How does what was covered in this session relate to your understanding of your congregation? What is your congregation's iceberg / culture?
2. What are some "under the surface" aspects of dominant culture that feel uncomfortable to you? What are some "under the surface" aspects that feel comfortable to you?
3. Think of a time in your congregation when you became aware that there were unspoken rules or norms that dictated "the way things are." How did this encounter feel? Would you say these rules/norms were intentionally created or unconscious? Were these rules/norms reflective of your faith's values or not?
4. Think back to a conflict or disagreement you had with someone who is different from you in a major way (e.g., race, gender, age, sexuality, class, ability, etc.), and consider whether an "under the surface" cultural difference might have been at play. What skills might have helped you in that situation?

Further Resources

1. "[Visualizing the Iceberg Model of Culture](http://opengecko.com/interculturalism/visualising-the-iceberg-model-of-culture/)" by James Penstone.
<http://opengecko.com/interculturalism/visualising-the-iceberg-model-of-culture/>
2. Three cultural icebergs by Alex and Mykal. (PDF)
3. *Introduction to Sociology* (Canadian version), [Chapter 3: Culture](https://opentextbc.ca/introductiontosociology/chapter/chapter3-culture/).
<https://opentextbc.ca/introductiontosociology/chapter/chapter3-culture/>
4. "[We Must Change](https://www.uuworld.org/articles/uu-must-change)" by Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt, *UU World*.
<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/uu-must-change>

Information about all sessions:

Trans Inclusion in Congregations, a six-session course - <https://uumankato.com/adult-and-youth-education-opportunitytrans-inclusion-in-congregations-a-six-session-course/>

Transgender Inclusion in Congregations

CULTURE ICEBERGS

