

Week 6 Discussion



Discussion Spark

Read the **Discussion Spark** topic/question or comment posted by your Instructor in the Discussion Thread on **Day 1**.

Post by Day 2 a 1- to 2-paragraph response to the **Discussion Spark**.

Note: The Discussion Spark and the weekly Discussion topic will be graded together. You will see one score in the My Grades area.

Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology: Immigration Policies and Practice

Psychology as an applied social and behavioral science is uniquely positioned to address some of the most prevalent issues in society. One such area of application is immigration. Consider these statistics from the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Immigration report, *Crossroads: The Psychology of Immigration in the New Century* (2012):

- Currently, one in five people living in the United States is a first-generation immigrant (born abroad to foreign-born parents) or a second-generation immigrant (born in the United States to a foreign-born parent or parents).
- Thirty percent of young adults between the ages of 18 and 34 are first- or second-generation immigrants.
- Immigrant-origin children have become the fastest growing segment of the child population with one in three children under 18 projected to be the child of an immigrant by 2020.

Psychology can advance scientific research into the immigrant experience, develop culturally appropriate services for mental health and acculturative stress, and inform public policies and practices that encourage optimal outcomes for the individual, family, and society. In this Discussion, you consider the ways cross-cultural psychology can inform appropriate immigration public policy and practices as an example of the application of principles of cross-cultural psychology in everyday life.

To prepare for this Discussion:

- Review the chapter, "Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology: Some Highlights" in your course text, *Cross-Cultural Psychology: Critical Thinking and Contemporary Applications* (5th ed.), focusing on the varied applications of cross-cultural psychology.
- Explore the website and the report of the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration, "Crossroads: The Psychology of Immigration in the New Century."
- Read the Executive Summary of the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration, "Crossroads: The Psychology of Immigration in the New Century."
- Consider how cross-cultural psychology can positively influence policies and practices regarding immigration.

Post by Day 4 your response to the following:

How can cross-cultural psychology positively influence policies and practices regarding immigration?

Provide specific examples from the report of the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration, "Crossroads: The Psychology of Immigration in the New Century," the Learning Resources, and any additional resources you researched.

Be sure to support your postings and responses with specific references to the Learning Resources and any additional resources you utilized.

Read a selection of your colleagues' postings.

Respond by Day 6 to a colleague whose position differs from your own, and offer a different perspective.

Be sure to provide counterexamples and specific references in support of your response.

Return to this Discussion in a few days to read the responses to your initial posting. Note what you have learned and/or any insights you have gained as a result of the comments your colleagues made.