

Research of the tingunee essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

After receiving this grant, I cannot wait to go study the people and culture of Tingunee. Before I embark on this journey to the Tingunee of the lower Quebin river valley though, there are some important things I must make sure I do first. There has been no known visitors to Tingunee or any research conducted on their culture, so I will need to take extra precaution with the basic stages I need to complete. Upon my return, I will hope to be the first person to have a basic understanding of the Tingunee culture. Cultural anthropology is the study of people within a particular culture and how those people react to global and local decisions.

Cultural anthropology requires that I research many factors before I plunge into what I will study in field research. I have been preparing for this field experience for almost a year now. Within that time I have received a grant and tried to educate myself on the background of the Tingunee culture as best I can, for a culture with no known information. As a safety precaution to myself and whomever I will encounter once I get to Quebin, I have been immunized and have been using the appropriate prophylactic medications.

I also thought it best to read up and teach myself languages that are around the area. To properly research the community, I will need to be able to speak to the community as well as government officials. One concern of mine is culture shock. Since nothing is known about Tingunee culture, I am preparing myself for as many scenarios as possible to what I may be entering. If I am not able to look or act comfortable in the culture, there could be a chance that the community will not accept me; in turn making my research impossible.

Presuming that things go accordingly, once I arrive I will implement my research design. Once I am there, one of my main goals in this study is to figure out why the Tingunee people have not been studied before. This makes me think that they could be a dangerous culture, a culture that is overlooked by anthropologists, or they simply do not want to be studied. I plan to answer questions about subjects including marriage, local government, gender roles, religion/ religious beliefs; more specifically the role females play.

I will be figuring these questions out by collecting data within the community and to do so properly, I will need to have an emic approach. An emic approach is how the Tingunee people think, perceive other people, how they behave, and how they imagine and explain things. I decided to take the emic approach over the etic approach because the etic approach would involve me emphasizing what I think is important about a culture after interpreting it and because the Tingunee people have not been studied before, I want other people to know their culture and thought processes without including my opinions.

An emic approach will allow me to be a part of the community while taking in information without bias. After being immersed in the community with my emic approach, I will be able to determine what distinct cultural characteristics separate this culture from the rest. I plan on interviewing individual people, both male and female, to get different perspectives on everyday life within the tribe and the roles each individual plays in the community.

Being a female myself will have advantages when talking to the females of the Tingunee tribe. I hope to sit in on birth rituals, ceremonies, and other female orientated situations without over stepping my boundaries as a woman. Sitting in on these rituals will allow me to relate and understand the role women play in this culture. After I have been a part of the Tingunee culture, I then will be able to further analyze and document what I have learned and give an account for my findings.