

Assignment #1



Answer Using Cultural skills for Cooperative Advantage' by Richard h Reeves Ellington and ' The Genocidal by Alex de Waal are the two articles that encompass vital issues that are intrinsic to the development of a nation. The first article specifically deals with the issue of the cross cultural values within the organizational culture for better performance outcome. The main issue of the second article is the festering hatred between the tribes in Rwanda, literally leading to genocide.

The issue of diversity in workforce and need for effective communication have become important part of fast changing dynamics of global business environment. The other major concern shown in the article are the more nefarious interests of the Western powers that deliberately foster hatred and doubt amongst the people of poor countries like Rwanda so as to weaken their power and use them for their own vested interests. Waal has just shown the vicious side of the powerful countries who do not hesitate to become the root cause of genocide of people who may belong to different race, color, nation and ethnicity.

Since anthropology primarily studies the evolving cultural values that influence the human behavior through the times, applying anthropology in understanding the changing societal paradigms would greatly facilitate in improving inter-personal relationship in the organization, leading to improved performance. The analysis of changing dynamics within the tribes of Rwanda and studying the psychology of the western culture, one would be better equipped to apply the anthropological paradigms and disseminate information regarding cross cultural values. People across the globe need to inculcate better understanding of cross cultural values.

Answer 2

The article by Bourgois discusses the problems that have risen from the migration of people across borders. It is the most sensitive issue of the contemporary times. The changing dynamics of the societal norms across the globe has resulted in the huge migration of people from one country to another. The social problems arising from the new emerging social fabric are widespread. The most important are the employment opportunities, housing and medical facilities for the new migrant labor. The author asserts that the state has not been able to meet the challenges of the times and the marginalized population is often poorly paid which makes a mockery of so called social integration. This segment then becomes vulnerable and gets caught into the vicious cycle of drugs, prostitution and other anti social activities. The women are the worst victim. They are exploited by the underworld and become victim but unfortunately they are never recognized as such by the authorities!

The difficulties that are encountered in such research are that of trust building with the people who are involved into unlawful activities.

Nevertheless, these types of research are crucial for studying the cause and consequences of the changing paradigms of the society. The study helps to understand the compulsions of the marginalized worker who is forced into developing relationship with the underworld and cultivate new culture of violence and meanness. Pluralistic society is the global phenomenon and the states must come up with effective measures to redress the problems of the new social orders for peaceful co-existence.

Reference

Bourgois, Philippe. Crack in Spanish Harlem: Culture and Economy in the inner city. Anthropology Today, vol4, 1989.

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Ellington, Richard h Reeves. Using Cultural skills for Cooperative Advantage. Society of Applied Anthropology, Human Organization, vol 52, no. 2 p203-215, 1993.

Waal, Alex de. The Genocidal State: Hutu Extremism and the Origins of 'Final Solution' in Rwanda. Time Literary Supplement (London), p3-4, 1 July 1994.