

Tick Tock
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Nature is a unity in diversity...a harmony blending together all created things...one great whole animated by the breath of life.

— *Naturalist Alexander von Humboldt*

Like a clock, a community is made up of various parts which perform together to progress in a steady rhythm. Everything in our community is necessarily dependent upon one another. Parents entrust teachers to ingrain the fundamentals of society and the concepts of mannerisms necessary to their parts of society into the children. Schools edify everyone on how to develop their own individuality and encourage everyone to nurture talents and skills unique to everyone's interest. Our world is saturated with such exceptional diversity that it would be such a shame to try to squeeze unique and personal potentials into categories. Cultures make people rich, the community sparkle, the world glow. One must respect diversity because we all have a certain role to perform and, when united together, formulate a whole organic movement which inherently perpetuates the process of living.

In a world deeply advanced in technology, where diversity plays such an important component in our economy, every job must be covered and maintained. The acceleration of technology allows more leisure time for families everywhere around the world. Instead of spending countless hours preparing meals, delivering mail or washing clothes, one's family can play a game of ball or picnic in the park with the neighborhood children. People are social beings...not hermits. This simple statement of structure is telltale in the realization that we must have a good reason for our interdependency. If one job were abolished or abandoned, chaos and confusion would quickly stir, handicapping the economic system.

When I asked my school counselor what types of jobs I should specialize in or which to pursue, she answered that the success of a career depended on passions of the individual. A plumber's job to fix clogged drains is connected to a civil engineer planning a city's water system. If the plumber got sick, he or she would need a doctor. If the doctor had a broken pipe, then he or she would need a plumber's good team. If an entire community consisted of nothing but doctors, what would happen if a water pipe burst and the whole community's water supply shut down? A million doctors wouldn't do one bit of good, and the community would fall.

Our interconnected world also forces us to share responsibilities. We all need to overcome obstacles and realize that regardless of one's skin color, shade of eyes or hair texture, we are all human and need the same thing to survive: one another. Human diversity has always affected life-conditions. From mountaintops to river valleys, diversity has played a major part in everyone's life.

War, riots and many racial killings have been sparked because of an ignorance of human diversity and its necessary function. Many life situations teach us the consequences of what blindness and prejudice can do. For example, they have the possibility of tearing whole countries into shreds of disaster (World War II). To strengthen and enhance ourselves and others of this world, everyone must try to keep an open mind and observe for themselves what problems exist and try to challenge themselves by making a difference in our community and in our world: by spreading the seeds of knowledge and understanding of human diversity. Everyone selfishly desires to advance in a big rush and to improve their own lives. But without realizing that this effort is impossible without holding hands and helping one another, such aspirations dwindle into forgotten thoughts.

Title: Tick Tock

Subject: World Tribune 12/05/97 n.3168 p.8 WT971205p08 Tampa, Florida

Author: Nancy Lin

Keywords: Contest Diversity Essay Florida Forums Panels Seminars Society Tampa Tick Tock Winners

The clock of our lives and our world moves at a continuous steady rhythm. Because of our eternal flame which burns to hear this rhythm and move alongside it, we can achieve innumerable ambitions. As we continue to guide and trust each other, and strive to learn from each other's creeds and beliefs, then the clock of our lives moves forward with a continuous beat. We should cherish our individualities, celebrate our talents and respect human diversity...because these are what make the world tick.

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