

Project 2 - Value Reciprocity



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Where I'm From

I was born and raised in Toronto, Ontario - specifically North York. I have a Vietnamese and Chinese background, my dad being Vietnamese and my mom being both Vietnamese and Chinese. I grew up in the city, in an area with a lot of parks and being walking distance of one of the most famous malls in the city. Up until recently I've moved and now I currently reside a few minutes from the area I use to live in.



Truth and Relationship

Within the environment I grew up in, I connected with many people from different schools in my area as well as grew up around many people who I went to elementary and high school with. The neighbourhood I grew up in was a familiar community, I don't have a specific place that was my go-to but any park/trail around the neighbourhood would be my number 1 spot to go hang out with friends to just sit and talk.

However since I've moved, I felt disconnected with my community. Although this neighbourhood is familiar to me and it is not a drastic change in living, there's this unfamiliarity as I don't have the same connection with the people in this area like I had with the people in my old neighbourhood and not knowing the area as well as I knew my old area.

Reflect

The respect that I have for the land that I'm in is because of the sacrifices both my parents have made to benefit myself and my brother.

Both my parents immigrated to Canada from Vietnam. My dad's older brothers and mom came to Canada via boat and settled in before sponsoring my dad and the rest of his siblings to come live with them in Toronto. My mom's uncle and aunt also came to Canada via boat but with the help of my dad, my mom travelled to Canada on her own at the age of 20. Immigrating from one country to another is such a big change, but having to adapt to the language and the community is an even harder change. Having to settle in a new country and start with very little makes me extremely thankful for the opportunities and support that I've been given to this day.

Responsibility

Every area has a connection within their community, a familiarity within the land they reside in. Something they share in common is culture.

Being born a first generation asian, I feel as if it's my job to share my culture with those who are willing to learn about my culture and to pass it to generations. As well, as I grow a bigger connection with my culture, I'm able to help elders feel welcome into the community and connect with one another through our culture.



Execution

For those who struggle to find their connection with the community their in, who are unfamiliar in a big place where many cultures reside, I think billboards with illustrations of the main cultures that lie within a specific area will help draw people into the community and help them find a connection.

Another idea I think would be a great is a podcast having different people telling their journey and struggles of finding a connection within the area they reside in and how long it took for them to feel familiar with the community. That way a target audience can relate and find comfort in actual stories coming from actual people and their own experiences.

Thank you