

LIVING IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY

Social Studies: Issue 2



DIVERSITY

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AFFECT US?**

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WHAT IS DIVERSITY?



THINGS THAT AFFECT DIVERSITY



NATIONALITY

the status of
belonging to a
specific nation
(culture based)



ETHNICITY

the state of
belonging to a
specific social
group
(identity based)



RELIGION

a particular faith
in a system



SES

the economic
situation shared
by a group of
people



05

WHY DIVERSE?

Why is there greater
diversity in Singapore
now?

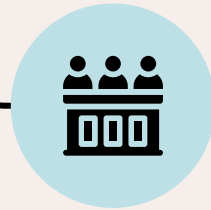
WHY HAS IMMIGRATION POLICY INCREASED DIVERSITY?



WHY?

LOW BIRTH RATE + AGING POPULATION + BRAIN DRAIN

Increasing tax and economic burden on the working-age population, shrinking customer base, unattractive to MNCs, valuable Singaporeans keep migrating



HOW?

SIMPLIFYING CITIZENSHIP/MIGRATION

Interviewing migrants to fit Singapore's criteria to show their willingness to work, rising immigration trends in SG



SO WHAT?

FOREIGNER CONTRIBUTION

bring unique cultures and most importantly come w/ skills, valuable experiences, expertise

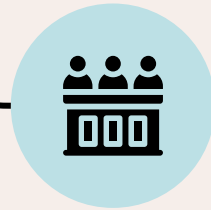
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES



WHY?

MNCS EXIST IN SG

Multinational corporations like SG and thus a lot of them settle here, providing employment to immigrants



HOW?

SINGAPORE GOOD 4 BUSINESS

Ease of doing business, growth potential, stable political environment and well-established legal system

- Best Investment Potential (2014 ranking)
- Top country in Asia for Least Corruption (2014)



SO WHAT?

A LOT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPS FOR IMMIGRANTS

Foreign manpower is used in low-skilled jobs (construction, cleaning), domestic workers, and PMETs (Professional, Managers, Executive, Technicians)

SOCIO-CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

- (2019) ranked as the safest city in the world
- (2020) 201 days without a crime in SG

important to immigrants who may come from unsafe countries/want to settle down and not worry about crime

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Lucky Plaza for Filipinos
- Golden Mile Complex for Thais

Ethnic groups of immigrants exist in Singapore, helping immigrants feel more comfortable with the country and keep their cultural roots

EDUCATION SYSTEM

- Ranked 19th best edu system in the world
- Consistently ranks top 5 in smartest international students produced

Attractive to parents to bring kids here, settle down and give them many opportunities to excel

06

**HOW DOES IT
AFFECT US?**





INTERACTIONS IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY

Ensure society remains
harmonious, through a
willingness to live together and
build agreement and trust in
society



WHY COMMON SPACE GOOD?

- suggested by Goh Chok Tong (former PM)
- cultivate and enlarge an overlapping sphere of different race groups
- better social interaction, collaboration, national identity

e.g: People's Association,
OnePeople.sg -> work to create
CS

EXCHANGE AND APPRECIATION IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY



EXCHANGE AND APPRECIATION OF CULTURE

- Food (fusion food, squid ink, mantou)
- Music (Western + Eastern inspired music, Govin Tan)
- Fashion (Hayden Ng, cross-cultural influences)



EXCHANGE OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- foreign scientists share knowledge to strengthen research
- e.g: Biomedical Research Council w collaboration with local and foreign scientists help discover the H1N1 vaccine



CHALLENGE IN DIVERSE SOCIETY: PREJUDICE AND MISCONCEPTION

- difference in cultural background, make incorrect judgements
 - stereotypes
- minorities hurt and feel excluded
- e.g: Filipino “maid” stereotypes

CHALLENGES: COMPETITION FOR RESOURCES.



CONCERNS OVER STANDARD LIVING

- Fear that foreigners are taking jobs from older white-collar Singaporeans
- foreigners usually take challenging job conditions that many Singaporeans prefer not to work in
- belief that employers hire foreigners at lower cost, keeping wages low for lower income Singaporeans



CONCERNS OVER SOCIAL MOBILITY

- income gaps increase
- more rich people in Singapore
- lower income groups are affected by shifting jobs to foreigner workers who offer labour costs
- loss of jobs -> affect ability to progress up the socio-economic ladder
- SG retrains Singaporeans + teaches new skills to enable Singaporeans to stay relevant to economic demands, improving social mobility



07

WHAT CAN WE DO?

How can we respond in a
diverse society?



ASSIMILATION

Immigrants are supposed to adopt the beliefs and practices of the majority group in the host country to make the identity of the immigrants indistinguishable from majority group

FRANCE'S APPROACH TO ASSIMILATION



EDUCATION

Discussion about religion are not allowed except in certain subjects (History, Philosophy), Adaptation classes for immigrant children



EMPLOYMENT

Allows immigrants to interact with other French people and allows them to gain acceptance, acquire social capital, accepted in society



NATURALISATION

Compulsory for all immigrants to undergo French language courses + civic education programme, to know the language and the culture of France



DISADVANTAGES OF ASSIMILATION



GIVE UP TIES TO THEIR HOMELAND

- Lose language, touch with their own culture



GIVE UP OWN CULTURAL PRACTICES

- Muslim women not allowed to wear headscarves, Christians cannot wear crosses



INTEGRATION

Immigrants retain their unique identities while forming common ground with groups already living in the country, letting immigrants create and adapt new elements into their identity, but allowing them not to change their identity

e.g: Ethnic Integration Policy (racial quotas in HDB, give common space), Presidential Committee of Minority Rights (check if any laws infringers on the rights of minorities)

SINGAPORE'S APPROACH TO INTEGRATION



NATURALISATION

People who want to be citizens have to take the Singapore Citizenship Journey, let them get the culture



COMMON EXP

Opportunities for interactions to foster bonds and encourage locals and foreigners to develop better understanding (NS, School)



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Events and activities done up by Grassroots to highlight different cultures



DISADVANTAGES OF INTEGRATION



JOB SECURITY PROBLEMS

- Singaporeans feel that they have to compete with immigrants
- job security compromised
- blame immigrants for the increase in prices, constant traffic congestion, greater amount of public infrastructure breakdowns
- ev. in a poll in 2011, more than 70 percent of singaporeans felt that their job opportunities would be reduced with more immigrants



EROSION OF CULTURE

- large no. of immigrants have affected social cohesion
- some cannot speak english, so cannot interact
- more new cultures, less of singapore's own

HOW COUNTRIES MANAGE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIVERSITY IN HEALTHCARE?



USA

MARKET-BASED APPROACH

No single national policy guides healthcare system, does not intervene in healthcare providing



SINGAPORE

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY APP

The government and citizens have to work together to ensure health of population



SWEDEN

GOVERNMENT-FINANCED APPROACH

Provides substantial subsidies for the people, cost taken by gov

MARKET BASED APPROACH (PRO/CON)



FREEDOM TO CHOOSE

Citizens have the right to choose whatever healthcare provider they want (also mildly supported by Obamacare that helps lower SES to afford healthcare)



HIGH PRICES

insurance/healthcare providers can increase prices, have incentive to keep prices high and keep healthy rich people paying
(only around 10% of americans can afford premiums healthcare providers want)

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY APPROACH



P. UNIVERSAL COVERAGE

Healthcare subsidies (CHAS, Medisave, Medishield Life) helps Singaporeans to afford healthcare



P. ACCOUNTABILITY

Approach meant to encourage patients to take personal responsibility for their healthcare choice



C. GROWING HEALTHCARE DEMANDS

aging population need more infrastructure to support, 4x more likely to get injured



C. RISING HEALTHCARE COSTS

unavoidable to global healthcare cost inflation

GOVERNMENT-FINANCED APPROACH



P. UNIVERSAL COVERAGE

- provides substantial subsidies and services (one day of hospitalisation for 20+ people is 9 euros)
- all citizens and EU citizens qualify for healthcare regardless of Ses, STRONG INTERVENTION FOR GOVERNMENT



C. HIGH TAXATION FOR LOW HEALTHCARE COSTS

Need to tax healthy citizens highly to afford their subsidies, 25% for Value Added Tax, aging population, less people can pay



C. GROWING NO. OF PEOPLE NEEDING HEALTHCARE

EU citizens don't pay taxes, but still get the cheap costs, more immigrants, more people who need hospital

THANKS!



Do you have any questions?
ask ur teacher go away
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