



ASSIGNMENT DR. ST
UNIT 8 CH. BY

JACEYN
MORGANH
JAMILLAHM
MYLESE

THE REALITY OF APPROP RIATION

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The world we live in today has been tainted by the media's constant need to state opinions and ignorantly do things whether they know they true meaning of it or not. People appropriate culture on a day to day basis, this can look like buying something from a small cultural based business without doing any research or buying it just because it looks nice when in reality it is offensive. Or even taking inspiration from cultures without giving them them the credit that's due. There is a way to beat this thorough genuine appreciation for whatever culture you are attempting to represent at that time. Listen to the stories that are told at the shops you buy from, give credit to where its due, and actually take a second to think about how what you do may be offensive or portrayed to people and there culture.

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LIFESTYLE THEFT

By: Jacey Newsome

TRENDS RAPIDLY PRINTING OUT
RUNWAY CONVEYER BELT
PRINTING OUT A PERSON'S LIVELIHOOD
JUST TO BE OO'D AND AW'D
TRICKLED DOWN THROUGH INK AND
FONTS OF THE PEOPLE
UNTIL IT'S GONE AS QUICKLY AS IT
APPEARED

Style reference: Javier
Zamora

Poem reference: *Nó, Actually,
Soy Salvadoreño*

AS FAST AS LIGHT TRAVELS AND
THEN LEAVING TO REVEAL DARKNESS
EXCEPT IT'S NOT GONE, GONE IN THE
EYES OF THE IGNORANT
THE HOLDERS OF CULTURE STILL
ENDURE HARDSHIPS, CELEBRATION,
STRIFE, GLORY, AND GLEAM
IT'S A LIFESTYLE
NOT A LIGHTBULB THAT TURNS ON AND
OFF

CONSTANTLY APART OF ONESELF
A PART THAT DESERVES RESPECT
AND REPRESENTATION OF THOSE
ALIKE

VOGUE



culture
not
costume

"exotic" fashion

lifestyle as a trend.

AMASIL FAHIM

Culture Appropriation is not your fad

We live in a world bustling with culture.

So many different lives encompassing so many different traditions.

Like me,

A brown Desi girl who loves the centuries worth of traditions and beliefs before me.

I want people to know about my culture.

I want them to see the beauty in my mehndi, my traditional garb, my aromatic food leaving a spice in one's mouth for days.

However, I need them to respect the years and struggles my people went to, to create this thriving culture.

I need them to realize the pain us POC youth feel when we see bastardized versions of the traditions we grew up with.

The traditions we were bullied for until it became trendy.

Did you know that mehndi is a traditional makeup used for celebrations such as weddings and religious holidays.

AD

No, but you were quick to show off the chemical-filled infinity sign you got during your beach trip in Florida.

Do you understand the time and effort it takes to design and choose the perfect fabric for our lehengas, saris, and shalwar kameez.

No, instead you wrap yourself in bed sheets and put on a red marker bindi to go to your Halloween party.

Do you understand the time and effort it takes to design and choose the perfect fabric for our lehengas, saris, and shalwar kameez.

No, instead you wrap yourself in bed sheets and put on a red marker bindi to go to your Halloween party.

Do you appreciate the beauty of our spectrum of brown skin and know brown is beautiful.

No, instead you have Kendall Jenner be on the cover of Vogue India, pushing the stereotype that lighter skin is better.

Do you know that hundreds of spices go into making the perfect biryani, nihari, or chicken tikka.

No, you just complained that my lunch in middle school smelled like curry.

Tumeric has been used for hundreds of years in our skincare and food

It's not the the "new" trend to put in face masks.

So many of my sisters wear head scarves, and you're so quick to call them egg heads, terrorists, or ask where their hair went.

AD

But the moment a white actress goes incognito at an airport and wears a headscarf, you claim that they are the peak of high fashion.

You need to do better.

You need to realize the harm you are doing to young brown girls.

We spend our youths leaving home excited to show our friends things commonplace in our household, only to be deemed weird and asked why

we would ever do that.

You make us scared to be proud to represent our culture.

I was deemed brave to wear a lehenga and tikka to my prom.

My parents were scared to let me wear mehndi to college orientation because it was a PWI.

Yet when I got there, white girls were showing off the designs they got

done on their cruise vacations.

We shouldn't be scared to embrace the culture you appropriate.

Our culture is not your costume.

AD

Our culture is not your Coachella trend.

Our culture is not your music video theme.

Our culture is not your fad.

Our culture does not deserve to be bastardized.



AMASIL FAHIM WAS BORN SEPTEMBER 16TH. FAHIM ATTENDED SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY WHERE SHE MAJORED IN BIOLOGY. SOME OF HER ENJOYMENTS IN LIFE ARE GOATS, EATING CHOCOLATE, AND BAKING MAROONS. SHE FOUND THAT AN EFFECTIVE WAY FOR HER TO SELF-EXPRESS THE THOUGHTS IN HER MIND WAS TO WRITE POETRY. FAHIM IS A SOUTH ASIAN WOMAN AND TAKES PRIDE IN HER CULTURE. IN HER POEM, CULTURAL APPROPRIATION IS NOT YOUR FAD, SHE EXPRESSES HER DISTASTE IN THE APPROPRIATION OF HER CULTURE BY DISRESPECTFUL AND IGNORANT INDIVIDUALS. AS STATED, FAHIM LOVES HER CULTURE AND WANTS ITS BEAUTY TO BE SEEN BY OTHERS, BUT TO APPRECIATE HER CULTURE SHE ALSO WANTS ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE HARDSHIPS SOUTH ASIANS FACE.

Defeating The Fear of Appropriation

by Jamillah Madyun

It's crazy how you can confuse *culture for costumes*,
And costumes for jokes
It's crazy how you can *confuse Appreciated and Appropriated*
And Appropriated for 'oh i'm just joking' or 'I do it for likes'

My life is culture
To other people my culture may oppose as a *joke* or *accessory*
My culture is not an *accessory* that everyone can borrow
As a culture,
My style can be anything I want it to be
But culture can turn out to be anything that other people see

I could ask people
'Do you *appreciate* the appropriation of your culture'
'Do you appreciate the way other people address your culture'
Do you appreciate when muslims decide when they want to wear their
Hijab'
'Do you appreciate when people who are not black wear boxed braids'

We can't *unzip our culture after a long night*
It doesn't come off when the party is over

Diversity raised me
I have friends from different cultures
Diversity raised us
to accept our identity



CULTURAL APPROPRIATION?

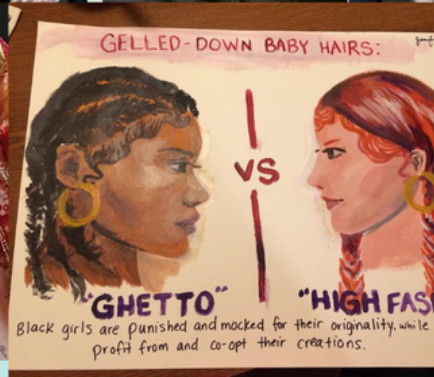
Appreciate don't appropriate!



THIS IS RACIST

...es aren't toys.
...t themes.
...ies and
...tumes.
...ity,
...ear it.

"What if America loved black people as they do black culture?"



NO,
IT'S COOL,
IT'S NOT LIKE YOUR
ANCESTORS
KILLED
THEM ALL OR ANYTHING.

Kayla Strickland's opinion on cultural appropriation

Intro: I'm interviewing Kayla Strickland, who is one of my classmates in English. I chose to interview Kayla because she has expressed to me their knowledge about cultural appropriation.

1. **What does culture mean to you?**

- Culture to me is basically an heritage, or where you come from. For example, music, food, dancing, language, hairstyles. Not just having certain things, but taking deep meaning and tradition in those things. Culture to me can also be a representation of what we've been through in the past. Culture to me has to have some type of historical meaning, or background in order to represent us.

2. **What do you think cultural appropriation is?**

- I think that cultural appropriation is basically someone who isn't a part of the culture using the culture without prior knowledge as to what the culture means, or what it means to be a part of the culture. For example people from indigenous trademarks get tattoos to represent their trademark, then someone else turns around and gets the same thing, this could be an example of cultural appropriation.

3. **Do you appreciate your culture?**

- I do appreciate my culture. I try to appreciate it in different ways, like wearing braids, or even doing other people's braids who are a part of my culture. I also try my hardest to embrace my natural hair, and my natural curl pattern. As an African American I feel like there is a blur line when it comes to culture. Our culture isn't really recognized because other people come and try to take it. Its looked at more as a southern culture, than an African American culture.

4. Why do you think people are so angry when it comes to cultural appropriation?

- If someone who isn't part of your culture starts using your culture it could lead to aggravation. Only because you don't know the meaning of it. For example black women with braids used to get discriminated against for wearing braids but now that they are a trend, other people are wearing braids now. It's really sad because braids are someone's culture, and culture isn't a trend.

5. Do you think cultural appropriation is a trend, or do you think it's a serious issue?

- I wouldn't say it's a serious issue because no one is seriously getting hurt, like getting shot. But I feel like it is something that should be addressed. It's one of the main problems with society now. I don't feel like cultural appropriation is a trend either, but I do feel like people follow what's trending. For example, if something about someone's culture is trending on social media, then people will follow whatever's trending on social media.

7. What kind of things define a culture?

- The things that define a culture are music, language, and dance. It could also be clothing and behaviors. Like certain cultures maintain certain behaviors based on how they grew up, or the type of environment that they're in. A behavior can be an act of acting based on what you were taught. For example, english. Other people come over to the US from different countries, and cultures. They have already inherited other behaviors from their cultures. Now they have to come over to America and adapt to our behaviors that we do out here. They have to learn a new language, and basically learn how to fit in.

- 8. What is the difference between cultural appreciation and cultural appropriation?**
- I don't think there is a difference between appropriation and appreciation because you can always admire a culture, but why do you need to appreciate it if it's not your culture. There is nothing wrong with admiring a culture that's not your own, but there's no reason to appreciate an identity that you're not a part of.
- 9. Do you think cultural appropriation is a bad thing?**
- I do think cultural appropriation is a bad thing because it's stealing the dignity of other cultures. Cultural Appropriation takes away the meaning stored behind cultures. If everyone is taking away something from a culture, that causes culture to appear more as a trend than a culture. For example if everyone has a tribal tattoo as a trend the tattoo will no longer be as important to the owner of that culture. Sometimes people don't understand the meaning behind the tattoo, or the subjective thing that they're doing
- 10. Why are cultural celebrations such an important part of society?**
- I'm not sure because I don't often see it around society. But I would like to see it because people should be able to celebrate and enjoy their heritage, even in America because there are many cultures. I don't see actual cultural celebrations where a bunch of people get together and celebrate. I see people with cultural objects. But I feel as though society should contribute to that because understanding someone else's culture can help you understand that specific person.

Cultural Appropriation is Not a Thing Through Hair

onyxlab

8 Tik Tok dances with @theblackbookoff

Ryan Forester

So I'm guessing all of the black creators who made these dances up were busy huh?

DISPLAYING ALL ARTICLES TAGGED Cultural Appropriation

© THE NEW YORK TIMES 2018

Kim Kardashian Is Being Sued Over SKKN A Black-owned beauty brand filed a suit alleging copyright infringement.

By Anushka Iltis

© BUSTLE.COM 2018

5/17/18 10:30 AM



Regarding the drama Penthouse character Alex, I'd like to let everyone know that none of the appearances that were driven by the character was fully intentional to harm, mock, disrespect or discourage the African-American community. I'd like to apologize to the people who took offense by the character's appearance. It was more admiration of the culture than mockery but now I'm aware that the approach was more CA, it was wrong attempt for character development.

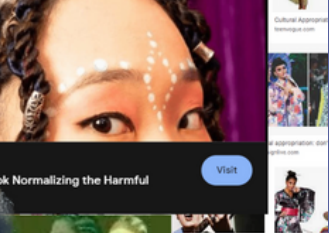
Again I'd like to apologize to those who took offense, as a minority myself should've known better. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give it my perspective. I hope you have the sincerity in your hearts to give the benefit of the doubt, that Alex's appearance was rather a character approach who admired the culture and not to mock like, not intentional.

APOLOGISES ON TIK TOK

WANT OUR RHYTHM

POV: You're watching another yt woman turn into an exaggerated Black caricature just bc they hear a Black word

POV: You're watching another yt woman turn into an exaggerated Black caricature just bc they hear a Black word



Cultural appropriation in marketing and advertising

by [unreadable]



There's history behind the "trend."



OUR HAIR HISTORY

SCROLLING THROUGH

M o r g a n H i c k s

I am sixteen
and my social life has betrayed me
yet another video of an uneducated
white person doing something
stupid has
graced my feed
I wish I would witness such
acts in person
imagining interactions
I wouldn't say a word
and I keep scrolling on my
phone.

style reference: Audre Lorde
poem reference: Hanging Fire

I'm black but
not the aesthetic black
I see beauties, bodies, baddies
that I don't look like but I'll admit
I wish I did
but I'm supposed to be self confident
why does my mind torment
me this way
short nightmares of
if I woke up one day to
my melanin gone
yikes
I'd die on the spot
I need to work on some things
and I keep scrolling on my
phone.

Another person has been
called out
another part of someone's culture,
existence, self
expression, that's been done
for years
was redeemed and renamed
by whiteness
our hairstyles, music, traditions
is not something you discovered or invented
Edison
it's not something you get to
parade around or
mock
what's so funny?
some don't know, some don't
care.
but you can't out do the
doer
and I keep scrolling on my
phone.

Views on Appropriation: Interview of Ahmya Osbourne

I'm interviewing Ahmya Osbourne, who is one of my classmates. I chose to interview Ahmya because I wanted to hear the opinions of appropriation from someone who's my age. Knowing they have experience addressing cultural appropriation I felt they were qualified to speak their views about the topic.

What does culture mean to you?

Culture is a person's lifestyle, including religion, traditional clothing, music hairstyles. As well as holidays, different belief systems and the community you're a part of.

Do you believe cultures can be shared without it being appropriated?

I do actually. I believe that there is a distinction between appropriation and appreciation. The person opening their culture to someone else and that person accepting and acknowledging where it comes from.

How have you seen your culture portrayed in the media? Do you feel it is accurate?

Somewhat. In the media they portray the ghetto culture of the black community. It's also not accurate because in most shows we're only represented in one way and it doesn't show the diversity of the community. There's so much more to the community than what's shown.

Have you witnessed cultural appropriation and how did it make you feel?

In this day and age it's something that's a repeated offense. I feel like it would be common sense, that if you're doing something from another culture to not claim it as your own. Even if you didn't know, don't try to make excuses. It's something that happens everywhere, across many communities.

Do you think that social media is promoting cultural appropriation? For example, AAVE being called "Gen Z language".

I definitely do especially with the AAVE situation. It can be very irritating and frustrating because it's something that black people have always been seen as ghetto and such for using it. Now white teens and people using it incorrectly, it gets seen as cool. Not only with the language but with dances also. On TikTok, white people would do a dance mockingly and the person would get defensive instead of acknowledging how they're in the wrong. There are people on social media educating others but it still happens.

Would you address someone for cultural appropriation in person?

Definitely, I've done it before. I didn't approach them in a malicious way, but in a way as in asking if they know that it's wrong. There are some people who genuinely don't know but there are also others who do and don't care that it's disrespectful.

What do you think is the proper way to address cultural appropriation?

Not approaching it in a way that's malicious or defensive. If it's a person who knows what they're doing is wrong then it's whatever. Especially if it's a person who has done it as a repeated offense they'll eventually get their karma.

What would you say is cultural appreciation? How does that look?

Someone coming to you and wanting you to be a part of the culture, especially if it's tradition. For you to not mock it but learn about its beauty, significance and why it's important.

EVERYONES UNWATED BEST FRIEND

BY MYLES FREEMAN

Within this life people typically come across the unwanted spirit known as exploitation. He is working on the downfall that you fight so hard to prevent. No matter how much effort you put into the shirt you just made he just comes and buys it for a picture just to never wear it again. He doesn't even care that the cloth used to make it was handpicked by you. Nor does he care that the worker he just bought a coffee from is underpaid despite them practicing that brew for weeks. It's not fair. Why doesn't he care? Shouldn't he at least try to make the effort to learn about what you went through to make these things? No, he doesn't. But his nemesis benevolence does. He makes an effort. He stays to hear the story. He cares to learn. He is here to tell you that within this life, he is the good side of your story.





GELLED-DOWN BABY HAIRS:

VS

"GHETTO"

"L.A."

girls are punished and
"What would America be like if we loved black people as much as we love black culture?"

Cultural Appropriation Vs APPRECIATION



These two black poets here created a beautiful poem on how Black culture has been appropriated by white people for the longest and how this issue must come to an end.

A tale of Crystal Valentine

Crystal Valentine is an African American accomplished poet who traveled internationally to perform in places such as Paris, Brazil, Botswana, South Africa, and many more. As a queer, Black, Woman many of her poems display how she herself deals with the trials and tribulations that come with her identities. She opens up a safe place for those like her and speaks on several topics and to the audiences that's she apart of, knows about or supports such as: queer, trans, women, gender non conforming, disabled, poor, loud, angry, or ghetto.

A brief bio on Aaliyah Jihad



There isn't much on this poet however not only did she help write this poem alongside Crystal Valentine, but she wrote another poem with her called "To Be Black and Woman and Alive".

It's not that we don't trust white people, it's that y'all really think my Black looks better on you.

Crystal Valentine and Aaliyah jihad

”

The issue with cultural appropriation

People don't understand the true issue that comes with them not taking the time to understand what goes into the items they buy. The culture and values that lie within a product deserve to be understood and when people do things just because it looks cool is ignorant. A person could buy a shirt that is very offensive to one culture just because they didn't take the time to learn about it or its origin. I personally believe that people should genuinely make the effort to learn about the things they buy before they buy them. It shows that you care not only about how you present yourself but it shows that you care how others would like to be represented.

Poem Link

<https://youtu.be/jzcwWMqRjI8>

SOURCES:

Holmes, K. (2015). Cultural appreciation vs. cultural appropriation: Why it matters. Greenheart International. Retrieved October 5, 2022, from <https://greenheart.org/blog/greenheart-international/cultural-appreciation-vs-cultural-appropriation-why-it-matters/>

OUR EXPERIENCE

AS AN AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN, I CONSTANTLY SEE MY CULTURE APPROPRIATED. ALONG WITH CULTURE APPROPRIATION, A FEELING OF INVALIDATION HAS BEEN APPARENT IN MY EXPERIENCE. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN PEOPLE DON'T TAKE CULTURE APPROPRIATION SERIOUS. I HAVE HEARD " IT'S JUST A HAIRSTYLE" "IT'S JUST PIECE OF CLOTHING". WHEN IN REALITY NOTHING IS "JUST" ANYTHING. ESPECIALLY WHEN SOMEONE WHO IS NOT OF THE CULTURE, BUT THEY RECEIVE PRAISE, ACKNOWLEDGMENT, AND CREDIT FOR A CULTURAL ASPECT OF ONE THAT IS NOT THEIRS. ERASURE OF THE ORIGIN OF A CULTURE CAN BE EXTREMELY HARMFUL AND OUR ZINE WANTS TO HIGHLIGHT THAT, AS WELL AS EMPHASIZING THAT THERE IS A WAY TO APPRECIATE CULTURE RESPECTFULLY. -JACEY NEWSOME

AS A MAN OF AFRICAN AMERICAN DESCENT I SEE PEOPLE APPROPRIATE THE THINGS THAT MY PEOPLE HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE AND SHOW TO THE WORLD. PEOPLE DON'T APPRECIATE THE EFFORT THAT IS PUT INTO THESE ITEMS THAT ARE HANDCRAFTED BY THOSE WHO GENUINELY CARE ABOUT HOW THEY ARE SHARING THEIR CULTURE. THE ACT OF PEOPLE SHOWING INTEREST IN THINGS THAT THEY PURCHASE THAT HAVE SOME SORT OF CULTURAL REPRESENTATION SHOWS THAT THEY CARE ABOUT CORRECTLY PORTRAYING A CULTURE. I FEEL AS THOUGH PEOPLE NEED TO MAKE AN EFFORT TO CARE ABOUT SOME OF THE THINGS THEY BUY BECAUSE IT NOT ONLY HELPS YOU LEARN BUT IT SHOWS THE PEOPLE OF THAT CULTURE THAT YOU CARE. -MYLES FREEMAN

MY NAME IS JAMILLAH MADYUN, AND I AM AN AFRICAN AMERICAN GIRL IN THIS SOCIETY, I EXPERIENCE A LOT OF INVALIDATION WHEN IT COMES TO MY CULTURE. ESPECIALLY ON SOCIAL MEDIA. ON SOCIAL MEDIA CULTURE IS BECOMING SOME SORT OF TREND. WHEN I SAY TREND I MEAN PEOPLE ARE GOING AROUND APPROPRIATING CULTURES AND THEY WOULD POST IT ON TIKTOK FOR LIKES, OR VIEWS.

MY NAME IS MORGAN HICKS AND I'M A YOUNG BLACK WOMAN WHO'S GROWN UP IN PHILADELPHIA. I FEEL LIKE AS I'VE MATURED I STARTED TO NOTICE SMALL NUANCES IN MY ENVIRONMENT LIKE CULTURAL APPROPRIATION. ESPECIALLY GROWING UP IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA, I'M MORE PRONE TO SEEING THIS IN MY DAY TO DAY SCROLLING. IT'S TIRING TO HAVE TO KEEP SEEING THIS HAPPEN IN MAINSTREAM MEDIA. I FEEL APPROPRIATION IS SOMETHING THAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW NOT TO DO, BUT SOME STILL DO IT EVEN WHEN THEIR EDUCATED ON THE TOPIC. I HOPE TO SEE A DAY WHERE APPROPRIATION ISN'T AN ISSUE BUT I'M NOT SURE IF IT WILL EVER HAPPEN. -MORGAN HICKS

ARTISTS' STATEMENT

MYLES FREEMAN

I USED CREATIVITY TO CONVEY MY ZINE'S MAIN PURPOSE BY BOTH VERBALLY AND VISUALLY EXPLAINING HOW THE EFFECTS OF CULTURAL APPROPRIATION AND APPRECIATION AFFECTS THE CULTURE THAT I AM A PART OF AND OTHERS THAT I HAVE SEEN. I DISPLAYED MANY WAYS THAT PEOPLE APPROPRIATE THINGS THAT ARE COMMON WITHIN CERTAIN CULTURES JUST BECAUSE IT LOOKS COOL. I ALSO GAVE MULTIPLE WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO CORRECT THESE THINGS AND SHOWED HOW THEM APPRECIATING CULTURES WOULD GIVE THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN. I BASED THE POEM I WROTE OFF OF THE POET JOY HARJO AND I MADE SURE THAT IN MY POEM I SHOWED PLENTY OF IMAGERY AND PERSONIFICATION JUST AS SHE DOES IN HER POEMS. ESPECIALLY SINCE I WAS MIRRORING THE POEM "DON'T BOTHER THE SPIRIT EARTH" SO I COULD TRULY BRING MY POINT OF PEOPLE EXPLOITING CULTURES TO LIFE. MY CREATIVE SUBMISSION WAS A COLLAGE OF THE MANY WAYS THAT CULTURE IS APPROPRIATED IN TODAY'S SOCIETY. THIS COMPLIMENTS MY POEM BECAUSE IT DEMONSTRATES HOW PEOPLE CAN BE SO CARELESS WITH WHAT THEY WEAR DESPITE KNOWING IF IT IS OFFENSIVE OR NOT. I ENJOYED ADDING IN THE QUOTE I FOUND BECAUSE IT ADDS SOME THOUGHT AND INSIGHT TO HOW US AS A COMMUNITY FEEL ABOUT HOW PEOPLE WEAR THE ITEMS WE CREATE AND DON'T GIVE CREDIT, WEAR IT WRONG, OR TURN IT INTO SOMETHING IT SHOULD NOT BE.

MORGAN HICKS

I KNEW THAT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION IS SEEN IN DIFFERENT FORMS OF MEDIA. TO CONVEY THE MESSAGE OF THE ZINE I DECIDED TO USE PERSPECTIVE OF CULTURAL APPROPRIATION FROM THE EYES OF YOUTH TO CREATIVELY SHOW THE TOPIC. IN MY POEM "SILENT TRADITIONS" IT'S BASED ON THE POEM BY AUDRE LORDE, "HANGING FIRE". IN MY POEM I REPLICATED HER TECHNIQUE USED IN HERS. HER POEM IS FREE VERSE, WITH THE USE OF A REFRAIN AT THE END OF EACH STANZA. IT'S ALSO FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF HER 14 YEAR OLD SELF. TO EMULATE HER POEM I USED THE SAME TECHNIQUES AS WELL AS TALKING ABOUT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION FROM THE VIEW OF MY 16 YEAR OLD SELF. TO GO ALONG WITH MY POEM I CREATED A COLLAGE. THE BACKGROUND PICTURES OF THE COLLAGE ARE PICTURES OF MEDIA POSTS AND ARTICLES AND ABOUT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION AT THE TOP, AND AT THE BOTTOM IT'S PICTURES EMULATING BLACK CULTURE. THE CENTER OF IT ALL IS A PICTURE OF A TEENAGE BLACK GIRL ON HER PHONE. THE REASON WHY I CHOSE THIS TO BE THE CENTER OF THE PIECE IS BECAUSE MY POEM HAS A REPEATED REFRAIN "AND I KEEP SCROLLING ON MY PHONE". THE PICTURE SHOWS A TEEN ENGAGING IN MEDIA AND SEEING CULTURAL APPROPRIATION TO GO ALONG WITH HER ACTUAL THOUGHTS THAT ARE SAID THROUGH THE POEM. I FELT THIS WAS A NICE WAY TO ADD A VISUAL TO THE POEM "SILENT TRADITIONS".

ARTISTS' STATEMENT

JACEY NEWSOME

WHETHER ITS REALIZED OR NOT, WE ALL ARE IMPACTED BY HIGH FASHION. IT MAY NOT BE A DIRECT CORRELATION FOR MOST, BUT A BIG SUM OF THE ARTICLES YOU OWN ARE TRICKLED DOWN HIGH FASHION DESIGN. THERE IS A FASHION PYRAMID AND ALMOST EVERYONE IS REACHED BY A LEVEL IN THE HIERARCHY. KNOWING THIS INFORMATION, CULTURE APPROPRIATION IN RUNWAY SHOWS HAS A HUGE IMPACT ON SOCIETY, NOT IS HIGH FASHION AN ART FORM, BUT IT LAYS THE GROUNDWORK OF HOW PEOPLE CULTIVATE THEIR STYLES AND OUTFITS. IN MY COLLAGE OF HIGH FASHION CULTURE APPROPRIATION, IT CONVEYS THE DISCREDIT AND DISRESPECT FASHION DESIGNERS SHOW TO CULTURES FROM WHICH THEY OBTAIN INSPIRATION FROM. CULTURE IS A PART OF ONE'S LIFESTYLE AND CAN BE SACRED, SEEING YOUR CULTURE ON A RUNWAY WITHOUT CREDIT, WITHOUT REAL APPRECIATION CAN BE SADDENING AS YOU WATCH YOUR CULTURE (OR ANYONE'S) BE DILUTED TO A PIECE OF CLOTHING ON A RACK. THE PEOPLE FROM INSPIRED CULTURES WANT CREDIT, RESPECT AND NON-TOUCHING OF CERTAIN ASPECTS, AND PROPER APPRECIATION AND RESEARCH DONE OF CULTURES WHEN IN THE HIGH FASHION WORLD.

JAMILLAH MADYUN

AS EVERYONE KNOWS, CULTURAL APPROPRIATION IS A BIG ISSUE AROUND THE MEDIA. I SEE IT ALL AROUND ME. PEOPLE OFTEN CONFUSE CULTURE FOR COSTUMES, OR JOKES. THAT'S WHERE MY POEM "DEFEATING THE FEAR OF APPROPRIATION" COMES IN. I RECEIVED MY INSPIRATION FROM MY PEERS AROUND ME, AND THEIR ACTIONS INFLUENCED ME TO BE INTERESTED IN THIS TOPIC. "DEFEATING THE FEAR OF APPROPRIATION" BASICALLY TALKS ABOUT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION AND HOW IT'S USED IN SOCIAL MEDIA. I COMPOSED MY POEM TO CONVEY TO MY AUDIENCE THAT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION ISN'T FUNNY AND SHOULDN'T BE DONE IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN SOCIAL MEDIA LIKES. ALSO FROM THERE, I GOT THE INSPIRATION FOR MY COLLAGE. RACISM AND CULTURE ARE THE THEMES OF MY COLLAGE AS WELL. BECAUSE IT MAKES FUN OF SOMEONE ELSE'S TRADITIONS OR BELIEFS, SOME INDIVIDUALS ALSO SEE CULTURAL APPROPRIATION AS A TYPE OF RACISM. I RECOGNIZE THAT, AND THE PURPOSE OF MY COLLAGE IS TO PERSUADE OTHERS THAT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION MAY ALSO BE A KIND OF RACISM.

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