

UNDERSTANDING CORE SOCIAL DIFFERENCES

1 st Century Palestine	Value/Activity	21 st Century America
Strong Group Orientation Person defined via Group	Group/Individual Orientation	Weak Group Orientation Person defined as Individual
Honor--Shame	Motivation and Decision Making	Economics
Closed: Maintain or Downward	Social Mobility	Open: Upward or Downward
Limited Goods	Understanding of Goods	Near Unlimited Goods
Pre-Industrial Agrarian	Type of Society	Post-Industrial Technological
Tributary	Economic System	Consumer
Vast Peasant Majority	Class Majority	Middle Class Majority
40 years for those living past age 5	Life Expectancy	High 70s for those living past age 2
Subordination to Nature	Relation to Nature	Mastery over Nature
Patronage & Exploitation	Obtaining of Goods	Rights & Earning Power
Extracted by Urban Elites	Surplus of Goods	Sold for Profit
Controlled by Elites Impeded	Technological Progress	Available to Broad Range of Users Rewarded
Fully Intertwined; indistinguishable	Secular & Non-Secular	Separation of Church & State Realms
Sacrifice & Communal Ritual <i>Ex opere operato</i>	Focus of Religion	Individual spiritual feeling Voluntary association
Pessimistic Focus on Present; Future is Set	Basic Outlook on Life	Optimistic Live in Present; Future is Open
Patriarchal	Relational Ideals for Society	Egalitarian
Limited to Elite Majority Illiterate	Education & Literacy	Available to All Highly Literate
Highly Oral Society	Reception of Information	Highly Visual Society
Genealogy is Fundamental	Family "Roots"	Genealogy is a Hobby
Designs of Parents	Force Behind Marriage	Feelings of Couple
Common & Preferred	Endogamy (Marriage within clan)	Outlawed by Government
Arranged for Advancement of Family (Honor/economic)	Exogamy (Marriage outside clan)	Normative & out of Love
For Procreation Married Couple	Sexual Relations	For Intimacy, Pleasure, Procreation Consenting Adults
Monogenetic: origin of human is from seed of male	Human Reproduction	Bi-genetic: origin of human is from male's sperm & female's egg
Multi-generational	Family Formation	Nuclear or Single Parent
Betrothal Negotiation Consummated	Marital Process	Individual's Decision Engagement Wedding Ceremony
Bridal Dowry (formal)	Wedding Endowment	Wedding Gifts (voluntary)
With Groom's Parents	Post-Marital Residence	New Household
Oldest son: Double share Other sons: single share Daughters: Dowries	Inheritance	Free Decision of Individual
Children	Social Security	Government Safety-Net Individual Savings/Pension