Research report

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# Research methods

Since this is an early stage of the project and research we are mainly going to do literature and field research. We will do this by looking up research on Google that has already been done, and look at our own situations and neighborhoods.

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# Research question

## What is the best way for people with different cultural backgrounds to get involved and meet with the locals and vice versa?

**Method:** literature research

**Hypothesis:**

We expect that there are actually various ways and techniques of meeting people in your neighborhoods. And we think that some of these techniques apply universally to all situations.

We need to know how people from abroad can get involved in their community with the locals. By including people of all different kinds of cultural backgrounds in a community, you can get a lot of different opinions and visions of people with experience all over the world. With these visions locals can expand their view on the world and be more open towards different cultures.

**Best ways for people to meet the locals**

**Learn the language**

Communication is always easier when you speak the same language as other people. That is why it is always good to learn the language of your neighborhood. If you speak the language of the people in the neighborhood it is easier to start a conversation with the local for example on the street.

**Don't be a stranger**

Try to meet and speak to people every once in a while. Even if it is just a small conversation on the street. Show interest to the people and don’t be shy (can be hard in the beginning). It is also very good to get to know your neighbours. That is because they probably know the neighbourhoods very well and if you get to know them they can introduce you to the other people in the neighborhood which makes it easier to make contact with others and get more involved.

**Go to local neighborhood events**

Another good way to meet your locals is to go to local neighborhood events such as sport events, local meetings or BBQ’s. A lot of neighborhoods have annual events like these, so it shouldn’t be too hard to meet people this way.

**Find people with the same hobbies**

If you meet people with the same hobbies and interest it is easier to build up a friendship. That way you can get to know each other quicker and better. You could for example meet locals at a football club.

**Organize cultural events**

Another good way to get to know the locals, is by introducing them to your culture. Host events on dates that might be important to your religion/culture. For example, if you’re German and want to localize more with the locals, you can host a beer party on Oktoberfest for the locals to get to know you better.

**Meet others online**

A lot of people would first like to know you a little bit before wanting to meet you in person. The internet is a good way to do this. Just look at dating apps like Tinder, which has 50 million users and made a yearly profit of $1.2 billion USD in 2019. Clearly a lot of people like to use this app to meet new people. The same could be applied to meeting locals, but instead of it being a dating app, it could be a platform for locals and people from abroad to get to know each other, before they meet in person.

**Best places to meet**

According to Nabin Paudyal from Siplikan Media Group, the ten best places to meet people are as follows:

1. Parks
2. Fitness clubs
3. Sports events
4. Sports clubs
5. Parties
6. Festivals
7. Volunteer activities
8. Classrooms
9. Libraries
10. Public transport

**Conclusion**

We can conclude that it is very important to be active in the neighborhood and try to get to know people with the same interests as you have. You need to be initiative and show interest. You can attend local events or even organize your own event. A good way to start is by meeting other people through the internet.

**App functionalities based on research**

* See all the current events going on in your neighborhoods
* Filter events by your preferences/hobbies

**Sources**

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# Our own neighborhoods

## Dary

**Negative:**

I live in a small village so I don't deal with these community and neighbourhoods problems.

**Positive:**

In my neighbourhood we have a lot of activities to keep the neighbourhood close. For example “Neighbourhood soccer day”. This is a soccer day on which a lot of neighbourhoods in my village participate. On this day each neighbourhood that participated is a soccer team and all the neighbourhoods play against each other. Eventually you reach the finals etc. and one neighbourhood team is the winner. Everybody in their neighbourhood can join their team. Even the ones that don’t even play soccer so it’s very fun because there is a broad mix between good and bad players which leads to funny matches.

Furthermore we as a neighbourhood plan a couple of events every year. One of them is the “Neighbourhood day” as we call it. Neighbourhood day is a day where we do fun things with all the people in our neighbourhood such as having a barbecue and all the kids play together etc. Also we have a big neighbourhood whatsapp group chat. For example when new people move into the neighbourhood someone sends a message in the group chat so that everybody knows there are new people. That way the new people are quickly introduced. The group chat is also used to keep the neighbourhood safe. So whenever something suspicious happens someone can send a message about that so that everybody is informed. Also some people try to keep our neighbourhoods safe. So has someone put down a safety sign next to the road that warns people that little kids might be playing in the neighbourhoods of streets. This makes the people aware not to drive too fast or violate the speed limit.

## Finn

**Positive:**

There were annual neighborhood BBQ’s hosted by the people that live in my neighborhood. These were always pretty fun, and the organizers would always get a bouncy castle or something to make it more enjoyable for the kids.

**Negative:**

Since all the kids in my neighborhood grew up, we aren’t as close, and barely see eachother anymore.