

# Seeing Different

The way you see the world and the way others see the world, both as individuals and as communities, seems to play an important role in anthropology. Seeing things through the eyes of others; their opinions, their ideals, their beliefs; is an important step to understanding someone. The same is true about seeing the bigger picture of cultures. Trying to see and understand the steps and history that made a culture the way it is, is a big step in better understanding the people of said culture. It is also important to see the smaller details; the why do they do that, and the why is this like that.

While exploring other cultures you will not always be able to follow their beliefs or agree with their way of doing things. But you can try to understand why those are their beliefs and why that is their way of doing things. Trying to understand their superstructure; ideas, concepts, and values; it is an important part to understanding the people and the communities that you visit. If you understand the superstructure then you can have a better understanding of individuals within that community.

The structure; social and political organization, kinship, and power relations; of cultures is another very important part to understanding them. Understanding a culture or communities is important since it plays a big role in how they interact with one another. Understanding the structure is also another piece of the puzzle, along with superstructure and infrastructure, to the workings of communities and how they are made within that culture.

The way you see the world plays a big part in how you understand other cultures and how you view communities. Being able to see the world through the eyes of another is an important skill to understanding others and their views on there and other cultures, or even life itself.

Notes to self: Try seeing the world through the eyes of different people. Explore your “Filedworker’s Toolit” and utilize some of its tools. Explore the “Art of Seeing”.