Paul English

HUMA 1100-012

Derek Bitter

February 20, 2013

Reflection Journal #7 - American Indian

1 How should we treat the sacred things of others?

We cannot really change others, and though we may not always share similar beliefs, if we are to respect another people at all, we must also respect their customs, their traditions, and anything they consider sacred. It would be wrong to try and convince another culture that a practice of theirs isn't sacred. Even the most rational, logical thinkers find certain things to be sacred. It's a part of all human beings, and something that helps us to experience a full range of emotion. So why on earth would you deny someone, or a group this right purposefully and expect others to allow it for yourself.

With that said, it can be easy to make mistakes and not recognize something that is sacred to another. I've always found the terrain of the United States to be awe inspiring. I can understand the sacredness that is present in American Indian nations for these spaces that we tend to take for granted. I can also see how easy it is to forget the sacredness and perhaps be disrespectful, but as a point of respect, we should always pay attention to the things others find sacred.