

## 08/19 Class Notes

### Agenda:

- who are our speakers?
- powerful words from the talks
- group discussion

### Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

- Nigerian author
- central figure in post-colonial literature
- childhood influenced by post-colonial rule & Nigerian civil war.
- why do we think her TED Talk has gained such publicity?
- "When we reject a single story, we regain a kind of paradise."

### Canwen Xu

- Columbia University grad
- content strategist for Iris (dating app), works for EQ (lifestyle mag)
- how did her talk influence her throughout her life?
- "I will let you decide [where to go] from this talk. All I can do is share my story."

### Hailey Rosen

- former Stanford & professional soccer player
- Founder & owner, "Just Womens' Sports"
- why does Rosen's Ted Talk only have lesser views?
- "we do not treat womens' sports like sports. We treat them like a charity."
- "sports runs on hype, not guilt."

## Reading Questions

- 1) What is the danger of a single story from Adichie's point of view?
- 2) How have you been affected by someone having a single story or narrative about who you are?

What is Xu gesturing to about stereotypes?

- 4) How does Xu use humor to address Asian stereotypes?

What problem is Rosen addressing about women's sports?

- 6) What have you seen in media, films, books, literature, etc. that proves or disproves Rosen's points?

How can we make connections between the 3 talks about why we cannot fall into the danger of a single story?

- 1) social media can positively use single stories to push concise compelling narratives.  
prevents people from enveloping others into their communities.  
↳ shutting someone out before they can even watch for themselves.  
we can try so hard to break a single story about ourselves that we inadvertently lose sight of ourselves & typecast ourselves.  
biases in terms of publicity / reporting events can categorize an entire person / place as an exclusively positive/negative thing, eliminating dimensionality.
- 4) helps with ethics.  
Stereotypes make you reject your identity, which can make someone fulfill a complement of a stereotype.  
A model of Asian-American model - Immigrant Tokenism.
- 6) WNBA — viewership due to objectification