**Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – “The Danger of the Single Story”**

**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9Ihs241zeg**

The purpose of this assignment is twofold: the first purpose is to introduce you to the idea of the single story and to get you thinking about stereotyping and its affect on the world around you. The second purpose is to get in the habit of consuming media with purpose. That is, we are going to watch Chimamanda’s TED talk while looking for specific information.

Before we view the talk, please read over the following questions. Your notes should work toward answering these questions as well as identifying any other key ideas you observe while watching. The ability to take notes in real time is a difficult skill but it is one that you’ll need for almost every class you ever take in college and university.

Questions:

1. Write down some of the language that caught your attention in this talk. You may want to include words or ideas that are unfamiliar or that you do not understand, or, ideas that are interesting and are making you think about things in new ways.

This is a copy of an email I sent to Matt.

There are some kind of single stories that has some purpose. For example, some medias report Chinese people can't afford eggs, while the fact is Chinese are eating vegetables, meats, eggs and every foods like other people in the world eat. However, there are another kind of single stories that is not out of some bad purpose. My group talked about Butter Peanut Eagle before, we found the movie didn't show all the sides about that disability. But from the view of the movie maker, they should listed all the sides of that kind of disability before they start shooting the movie. Based on the time of a movie of no more than 2 to 3 hours, movie makers must make subtraction of all these characters that disability have and cause the stereo type problem. Do the makers want to raise stereo type problem? I think not. But if the makers don't do so, the movie might not be showed or the audience will not like the movie. Only if the movie watched by people, people will know that kind of disability and try to help them, even if people don't know them comprehensively.

So, my question is, to the single stories that is not raising the stereo type problem internationally, should we think them as a problem or blame it cause stereo type problem?

1. The idea of the “foreigner” – what does she say about her early impressions of the foreigner in the books she read? What affect did it have on her?

They are white skin, drink a kind of beer, talking about the weather every day, which the lecturer didn’t talk about it. The author knows the world is big and not everyone lives the similar life than the author, we usually drop into limitation.

1. For Chimimanda what was “no possibility” with regard to how her roommate thought of her as an African person?

An African person can’t speak English fluently, and can’t use electronic devices.

1. How might literature be considered a cause for the world’s “single story” about Africa?

Africans might suffered discrimination

1. How does she say we create the single story about a people?

We emphasize only one character of a people again and again.

1. What does power have to do with the single story?

People with power should finger out the single story problem and tell people other sides about this story.

1. What is the consequence of the single story?

People learned the single stories will focus on the different more than similar among people and people.

1. What do you think she means at the end when she says we “regain a kind of paradise”?

When people realize they drop into stereo type, they will try to discover more sides of the thing, overcome the imperfection and view the thing in a more comprehensive view. And after we knowing the stereo problem, we can help others to overcome the problem.