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When we say Culture, it always relates to the tradition and way of life of an organization or group of people in a society. A society should always be organized, developing, and living in a less conflicted environment, and there are factors that can make a society the most successful and ethically correct version of it. Culture has a huge impact on what society will become, but individuals also have a role, their own role to become morally correct as a person that are living in a community, and the moral behavior of every individual affects how it is going to shape the culture of the society as culture affects the individual’s own moral values and perception.

There are a lot of specific ways to improve our moral culture as an individual, but the first thing that comes to my mind will always be the practice of self-awareness and introspection. Using the information that we consume from our environment like our parents, friends, school, and media, we can use these to shape our subjective thinking process on how we will perceive the outer world such as our culture. Family, friends, schools, and media taught us at an early age what they think are moral standards or the right and wrong depending on where we live, and this influences our moral values. But sometimes what they taught us is not always the best or the most ethically correct of all. That’s why for me, to enhance my own moral culture, I need to sit down for a moment and start to dive into my subjective world to contemplate what’s actually the most morally correct because I will not depend on my views on the cultural norms if the cultural norms are not even ethical enough. After I learned from different social groups like schools and social media, I need to combine those learnings and my subjective worldview then triangulate that information to craft the most morally accurate beliefs in order to improve my own moral culture.

Another way to improve one’s moral culture is to practice Inclusivity and Diversity especially when it comes to social situations. There are a lot of different people and groups that share some diverse traits which is sometimes hard for the societal norms to comprehend, it will always fall to the group of races, cultures, genders, and especially sub-cultures that exist in our society. Most of the time, the people who are part of these diverse groups are always marginalized and outcast by the people in the norms, it is because those groups embody interest that is not common in the eyes of people in the norms. This creates discrimination and oppression among different groups. To be specific, I personally want to talk about a specific type of subculture especially a music-based subculture called Emo, and others like Gothic, Punk, Grunge, Hip-Hop, etc. These music-based subcultures have been adopted by a few people since the 1970s and are still being adopted by younger people these days. People who belong to these sub-cultures express their music taste, fashion style, and emotions through fashion or way of clothing. Most of the time the people in these music-based subcultures wear unique clothing, dye their hair differently, paint their nails black, or add piercings and tattoos to their bodies. As I expected, the people in the norms will marginalize these groups, because their interests and fashion don’t match on what is considered normal. People on the norms will make fun of and create stereotypes such as “Worshipper of Satan, Depressed, Jejemon,” and other derogatory insults. The differences between groups such as the cultural norms and the diverse groups create a prejudice against each other, people on the norms perceive the outgroup as less human or less moral and vice versa. It affects how the norms treat the outgroup, the norms always get intimidated or disgusted by the outgroup, expecting them to commit non-ethical acts. When in reality, our taste in music and way of clothing, doesn’t equate to our moral values. A person’s clothes, tattoos, and piercing don’t tell if he/she is a bad person.

If you kill a cockroach you are a hero, if you kill a butterfly you are evil. Morals have aesthetic criteria.

- Fredrich Nietzsche

Culture has always been the one that shapes perception, moral judgment, and moral behavior sometimes individuals become overdependent on it. Unfortunately, cultural norms are not always ethical that’s why we have our own minds to form our own moral culture. Don’t let conformity rule your beliefs and perception, think for yourself, and be yourself. Don’t be a victim of Cultural conditioning.