**Legacy Reflection**

Name:

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Legacy Reflection

People are born to different racial and cultural groups. This calls for us to make conscious decisions in establishing friendships with people from other races and cultures by asking questions about their customs and cultures and examining our biases. While people might disagree on various issues due to their racial and cultural backgrounds, it is a critical aspect that enhances productivity in different areas (Guglielmo et al., 2018). As students, we often experience racial and cultural diversity as we grow up since we are surrounded by people and situations that are unfamiliar to our culture. As we grow up, our identities and life experiences are shaped and broadened by interaction with various racial and cultural groups.

I recall my first encounter with a person who was from a different ethnic and cultural background was in an Oscar-nominated short film named “New Boy.” The short film helped me understand that people were diverse based on their skin color, which brought about the differences in race and cultural activities. At that time, since I was old enough to understand my surroundings and the people in them, I had come to the understanding that people were racially different. Before that, I had thought that people across the world were different across the world.

The movie I watched made me realize that people were racially and culturally different. The film's plot seemed to be dominated by numerous instances of racism. The movie revealed various racial differences, affecting my impression of the characters. Besides, it depicted the long-lived struggles of African Americans in representation and identity as we try to fit in with our peers amidst our personal struggles. 'New Boy' keenly follows the story of Joseph, a young African boy who moves to Ireland to start school. The movie's opening begins with Joseph facing his immediate struggle as his male classmates reject him. As the story progresses, he faces more struggles which he is forced to overcome within his school life. However, as much as the film starts with Joseph’s struggles in a White class, it ends with some weight of his struggle being lifted.

The character representation of Joseph gave me a positive impression as it helps represent the diversity present in mixed-race classes through race, personality, and culture. All the characters in the short film work together to create an overall realistic impression of a classroom while bringing a sense of social and hierarchy balance. Joseph stands out as an outcast from the rest of the class as he is seen to be the only black child in the class and is rejected by the white students. Overall, the film gave me the impression that there is a difference between different people looking at their color. Moreover, the main character seems to be aware of the racial differences.

In this view, I developed negative impressions towards other characters like Seth and Christian, who outwardly demonstrate racism in the film. The two students show bad attitudes reinforced throughout the film towards the black student.

From a cultural pluralist perspective, my experience on 'New Boy' was a negative one considering I was born and raised to know that all human beings were equal despite their racial or cultural origins. I was specifically intrigued by the surprising fact that children understood their racial differences and knew to treat each other differently while attending school. It is said that young students can treat others harshly simply because they come from different racial backgrounds. Children should be more unified and understand that everyone should be treated equally despite their origins (Diette et al., 2021). In conclusion, the actions in the short film created an impression of racial differences in the world.

References

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