WHAT IS CULTURE?

Culture:  
[a] The integrated pattern of human knowledge, belief and behavior that depends upon man’s capacity for learning and transmitting knowledge to succeeding generations  
[b] The customary beliefs, social forms, and material traits of a racial, religious, or social group.  

***Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary***

- Culture is learned
- We assimilate it unconsciously in early childhood and function within its framework totally out of awareness
- We cannot shed culture
- Our culture molds the way we structure experience so that we inhabit different sensory worlds.
- We must learn to understand the out-of-awareness aspect of communication (culture)
- The real job is not to understand foreign cultures but to understand our own
- Intercultural understanding is the new enterprise of learning to live together -- BUT different.