City Bound Proposal

Multiculturalism In Melbourne is a very wide spread topic, which will probably be most complicated and difficult to get a full perspective on, seeing as political correctness may get in the way of some peoples honest opinions. The question is “Is Multiculturalism accepted in melbourne?” I think that Multiculturalism causes a lot of problems in Melbourne, including many fights between different races, sometimes causing massive cracks down the middle of Melbourne society. Though, there are the benefits of Multiculturalism like tourist attractions such as china town and Lygon Street, cultural performances, contacts and alliances in foreign countries and cheaper work wages. That last one though has both bad and good points; the cheaper wages are good for the business owner and consumer, but it also makes it hard to find work for Australian citizens who expect a higher wage. So my basic opinion is that Multiculturalism in Melbourne is complicated, and good in some instances. I do not want a “white” Australia, but on the other hand, with many cultures comes many different lines that people can cross with great ease. So I’m slightly leaning towards no, but am around the indifferent point.

1. Perception Analysis

I will get opinions from myself, my friendship group in year nine, some students with ethnic backgrounds, my family, the immigration and refugee centre in Dandenong, my grandmas church ethnic program, Neil Burgess Sommerville MP, government officials and possibly a long term police officer (Gary fair) or a protester of diversity in Australia. I want to get their honest opinion on ethnicity in Melbourne and how it’s different to the peninsula, and am going to ask them a range of questions to do so, whilst trying to expand my connections with experts in this area. I’m planning to complete all of these before the 1st day of city bound, and have already expressed interest to some of the persons above.

1. Gathering Information

Part A:

Websites: <http://museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/>

<http://www.opalconsulting.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111&Itemid=137>

<http://www.theimmigrationlawyers.com.au/>

<http://museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/discoverycentre/identity/>

<http://www.visitvictoria.com/displayobject.cfm/objectid.D9CC6984-3A64-4DA5-B01AAFC0F1445171/>

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/AboutMelbourne/History/Pages/multiculturalhistory.aspx>

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/AboutMelbourne/MelbourneProfile/Pages/Multiculturalcommunities.aspx>

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/CommunityServices/MulticulturalServices/multiculturalhub/Pages/MulticulturalHub.aspx>

<http://www.visitmelbourne.com/displayobject.cfm/objectid.0009C787-744A-1A5A-80DA80C476A90000/>

<http://www.visitmelbourne.com/displayobject.cfm/objectid.0007C337-47CA-1A83-846A80C476A901EF/>

<http://www.fedsquare.com/index.cfm?pageID=247>

<http://www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/Whatson/Festivals/Multicultural/Pages/Multicultural.aspx>

<http://www.visitvictoria.com/displayobject.cfm/objectid.D9CC6984-3A64-4DA5-B01AAFC0F1445171/>

Books:

Also possibly talk to the immigration and refugee centre in Dandenong, and grab a few brochures or handbooks.

Part B: I am torn between two people, Mr Vaugne- exchange , Mr Bolche- Round square. Both would be quite adequate, seeing as Mr Vaugne is involved in organising the foreign exchange in Melbourne; Whereas Mr Bolche organises the round square conference for Woodleigh. I will most probably make my mind up in the next week or so, and organise an interview for about week 5-6 with either of them. I’m going to try and gather extra information on this topic from a more fact based point of view, rather than an opinionated piece, though I will ask for a brief opinion on the question previously stated.

1. Questionnaire interviews and tally sheet  
   I’m going to do two types of interviews: A one for the public, where which a survey will be conducted to get the public’s perspective on multiculturalism. I want to get an idea of their attitudes towards new immigrants and traditions, and if they’re open to change and growth culturally. These will take place on three Melbourne streets, including Lygon street and the City Centre. I’m aiming to interview in 3 different locations; one which is culturally diverse and famed for that same reason( which is why I chose Lygon street), one which is quite Caucasian and business minded ( a place I am not sure of), and an indifferent one, such as the City Centre.

The other type of interview I was presuming to do would be a private interview. I am hoping to find out about personal stories of moving, and if these people had being ridiculed, or ridiculed others, and why. I also want to look at the business side of things, such as: If it’s good for the economy, if it’s good for tourism, if it hinders sales because people are scared of opposing races who may be inside, etc. I am most defiantly going to contact the immigration museum Melbourne for I found so much valuable information on their website, and there are people (recent and past) who would be willing to tell their story of immigration, and I would contact them through the Museum. Also possibly with an owner of a tourist-y cultured shop, an owner of a truly cultural shop where cultured people visit, a lawyer for immigration, and a person who had seen the bad side of multiculturalism, or disagrees with it; such as a long term police officer who had worked in multicultural, somewhat poor towns, or a protester.

1. Mapping and Discovery

A multicultural slum, immigraton office and museum, Lygon Street, Police station, Immigration Law office, a “hang out” spot for people of a certain culture, an anti-multiculturalism organisation.

1. Passive Interpretation

Here we would be trying to observe how a non-Caucasian community is run and managed. I would think to be located at a place where new generations of cultures have been living in for only a decade or so, or possibly the closest thing Melbourne has to a slum. I want to observe the condition of the town, the race of people in it and if there are other races living in with them. Or, we could look at a place such as lygon street or china town for a more tourist-y outlook on Melbourne multiculturalism, a more recognised outlook.

1. Experimenting and Testing Your Ideas

I’m thinking possibly getting a Caucasian person to walk through an ethnic community, and go into a store (also ethnic) and buy something. I would want a coloured person to then do the same and see if they were looked at differently. I would also like to do this in a sort of swapped way; such as the coloured person walking into a very Caucasian part of the city and trying to buy something, and for the Caucasian person to do the same.

1. Face To Face Interviews

Here I want to find out the personal stories of people who had moved to Melbourne and how they were and are still treated. I want to interview a worker at a convenience store such as seven 11, and see if he/she gets ridiculed because of their race or behaviours; also possibly the same sort of deal, except with a taxi driver. I would like to interview a long term police officer, to get the bad side of multiculturalism, and to find more out about the racial discrimination issues. I would also like to interview a person who had immigrated to Australia a few decades ago, and see how they were treated when they first arrived compared to a foreigner nowadays. I am also thinking of doing an interview with a government official to see the impacts it has on economy, tourism and welfare of the state, but I’m not sure whether to do this on for RM3 or RM7.