Research Method 1

Me:

Multiculturalism is bad for Melbourne. With all the Japanese and Chinese coming to live and taking our jobs. How is that good for Melbourne? When the Indian students came to Melbourne to study and got bashed up by people who already lived here. That reputation is not good for Melbourne and it makes the city look like a bad place to live, but that’s not true about Melbourne.

Multiculturalism causes problems for Melbourne.

Friends:

The majority of my friends think the same as me when it comes to multiculturalism. They accept multiculturalism in Melbourne as well as anywhere else including at school. Many of them are in the same group as me for City Bound and they chose this topic so it must be of interest to them too. At school we have very few different ethnic groups – most of the students are Anglo Saxon and we know from going out to the city that it is quite a different world compared to school. We often hear at assembly of different ways of life and our exchange students present many different views on the world to us. We think that this is a pretty lucky country when it comes to the pressure we have from school (compared to many overseas school that have longer days and shorter holidays) also the fact that we have good food, clean water and air.

School:

“At Woodleigh we are tolerant of all different student differences; this includes their cultural background as well as religion.” “We respect others for all their differences and appreciate the special input they have to making up our society.” “Their points of view of life are different; their food, their customs and so on.” “We should all take time to learn about other cultures so we expand our own view on life.” “There is no doubt that the Peninsula is insular, that we pretty much all look the same down here and have common backgrounds”. “You just need to step out into Springvale or Dandenong and you will see huge differences – the faces are different, the languages more varied and the shops quite varied too to meet the needs of different cultures”. City Bound will be a great experience to broaden student’s horizons, to speak to people from all sort of backgrounds, and, my favourite, to taste the spectacular foods that they have brought with them”. “Multiculturalism is a very important aspect of life”.

Family: (this is one person’s view only)

Multiculturalism only works if everyone is prepared to blend into our society. They need to adapt their customs to fit with our laws and customs, so that they are able to fit in and not live as a separate group amongst us. There have long been pockets of ethnic groups in our communities and this is not healthy. There are still occasions where you see people who have lived here for quite a long time and they still are unable (or unwilling?) to speak our language. And they wonder why things are bad for them – at least have a god at learning a few English words.

Government:

The government have finally realised that every person’s background and culture is vitally important to them. Only a few years ago they actually realised how much pain they had caused the aboriginal people with the stolen generation and this lead to Sorry Day. It seems now that the government is more educated about people’s culture than they were. They are sending the boat people (illegal immigrants) back to danger and persecution because we believe that have no room for them – that we have already accepted our “share” of people into our country.