

Open Peer Review on Qeios

Geo-culture effect

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Geo-culture refers to cultural differences amidst diverse geographic location, or the changes that occurs in culture due to changes in geographic location. Geographical location has a role to play in interfering with one's culture, behaviour and religious preference. According to figures published by the Catholic Hierarchy (2008), 96.55% of the Italian population are Catholic by faith. For example, if fictional Mr. Smith was born and raised in the city of Rome, there would be about 96% chances that Catholic Christian faith would be his religious preference. On the other hand, figures publish by the Population Reference Bureau (2013) revealed that 99.9% of the Moroccan populace are Muslim. Again, if the same Mr. Smith was born and raised in Morocco there would an overwhelming 99% chances that Islam would be his religious preference. Italy, which is situated in Western Europe, was first reference point in this section, followed by Morocco which is in North Africa. Now, just a bit of navigating to the East where there are more Buddhist than any other parts of the world. According to figures published by the Buddha Dharma Education Association Inc., a total of 95% of Thai population practice Buddhism. Back to Mr. Smith, if he was born and raised in Thailand, there would be a 95% chance that his religious preference would be Buddhism.

The questions are why do very high percentages of populace in certain regions have the same religious preference? Why do those preferences change along with changes in geographical location? People learn these preferences from their parents or caregivers, extended families, schools and their communities. It's what they are exposed to from childhood, and most likely are told and reminded on a daily basis of the consequences of disobedience to such faith. In other words people are conditioned to behave in certain ways, think in certain fashion, and respond to stimuli in certain ways. This process of learning these preferences is where the will of the individual begins to shift or adjust to fit in the will of the society at large.