



DIVERSITY FRIDAY

It will be a pleasure to hear from colleagues regarding the topics we bring to you in the Newsletter. This is your Newsletter and your views are very important.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Today, as we introduce **Oom Andries Smit** to you, we also want to introduce the topic of **human communication**, especially at an intercultural level. Stewart L. Tubbs, in his book "Human Communication, 7th Edition, pp.6" gives the following definition: 'Human Communication is the process of creating a meaning between two or more people.'

We know that communication comes in many forms, but there are two distinct methods of communication, namely, verbal and non-verbal. A verbal message is any type of spoken communication using one or more words; and we all know that spoken languages today have many words imported into original languages and the meanings could be very different. Non-verbal messages aren't as easily described as verbal ones because the category is extremely broad. It includes all non-verbal aspects of our behaviour, facial expression, posture, tone of voice, hand movements, manner of dress and so on. In short, it's all the messages we transmit without words, or over and above the words we use.

The simple definition for intercultural communications is thus the 'communication between members of different cultures' (whether defined in terms of racial, ethnic or socio-economic, or a combination of these differences).

CULTURE is a way of life, developed and shared by a group of people and passed down from generation to generation. It's made up of many complex elements, e.g. religious and political systems, customs and language, as well as tools, clothing, buildings and works of art. Culture can be learned and unlearned. Let us, once again, refer to the book earlier mentioned, on p. 421 we read the following: 'A popular cartoon appeared during a period when many Americans were adopting Vietnamese war orphans, which depicted a woman announcing to her husband that their daughter adopted as a Vietnamese orphan had spoken her first words that day. "English or Vietnamese?", he asked. Language, like culture, is so much a part of us that we tend to think of it as genetically transmitted.'

WHAT

WHAT IS OUR CULTURE AS THE OFFICE OF THE PREMIER ...

... WHAT IS IT THAT REALLY MAKES US TICK?



Ask Oom Andries ...



I visited Oom Andries about 'Old Dogs' learning new tricks. He got very angry at me and answered: "...*Luister hier boetie! Ou honde het net soveel regte soos enige ander honde... so wat bedoel jy nou eintlik? Meen jy dat ... if something is old it is useless??* (Well, I personally felt that his

irritation was caused by his own mature age). He looked at me and I could see all the wisdom in his eyes as he said: "*What a violation of the rights of Old dogs ... enige hond kan nog 'n trick of twee leer.*"

Maybe Oom Andries is right ... learning has got nothing to do with age!

After a long apology for violating the Old Dog's rights, we discussed some of his old traditions and he shared this recipe of Nama Melktert with me ...

Preheat the oven to 180°C.

CRUST: Cream together 250g Butter & 60ml Sugar then beat in 2 eggs and 5ml Vanilla Essence. Add 250ml Flour and 15ml Baking Powder and beat until smooth. Spread in bases of 3 foil tart containers and refrigerate.

FILLING: Mix 125ml Flour, 125ml Maizena, a pinch of Salt and 250ml Milk into a smooth mixture. Bring 1.25l of Milk with 1 Cinnamon Stick to the boil. Add 500ml to the Flour mixture and mix well. Pour back into pot with Milk and add 160ml Sugar and 30ml Butter and bring to the boil while stirring slowly. Remove from heat.

Take out the Cinnamon Stick and stir in 5ml Vanilla and 3ml Almond Essence. Beat the whites of 5 eggs until firm and fold into the mixture. Spoon the mixture into the tart containers and bake for 30-40mins until golden brown. Let cool slightly and sprinkle tarts with cinnamon.



WHAT IDEAS OR QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR OOM ANDRIES?

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SHARE SOME OF YOUR TRADITIONAL RECIPES WITH US!

PLEASE



~EMPLOYMENT EQUITY AND DIVERSITY UNIT~