

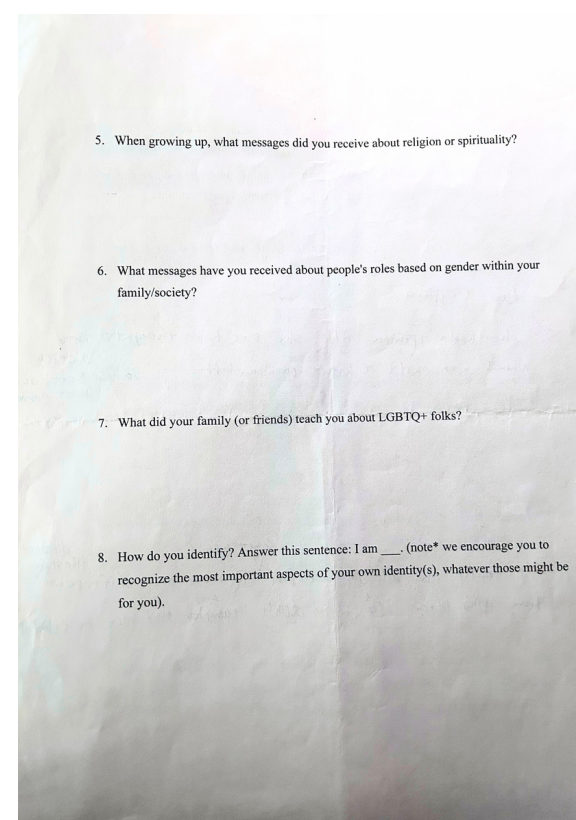
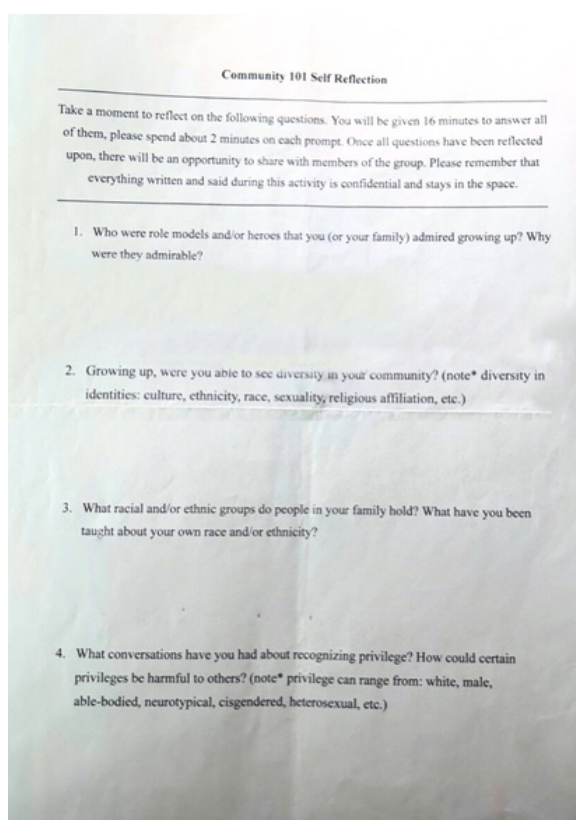
Knowing One's Identity



Coco Masuda

Introduction

The first thing that surprised me when I came to the U.S. was introducing myself. When introducing oneself in a group, Japanese people usually say their name, grade, hobbies, etc. But in the U.S., in addition to these, they say pronouns. I was confused as to why I would say such a thing to someone I had never met before. I was also shocked at the opening group session I had with the Willamette students. The content was to write answers to a few questions about my identity on a paper and share them later. I could not write. It's not that I didn't understand the questions. I didn't know anything about myself. People around me were writing so easily, but I couldn't write at all. I wondered why everyone else could write so well and why I didn't know anything about myself. In this presentation, I will explore the idea of identity.



Learning from ASP Life

Jackson (2014) described in her book that some people first realize their identity when they go to foreign countries to study, etc. and become a minority. In fact, I think that is true for me too. When I came to the U.S., I could not write the paper I mentioned earlier at first, but as I lived in the U.S., I began to realize my identity as a Japanese. Actually, I didn't even think about it until I was asked, "What is your identity? But just feeling that I was different from Americans was a big step.

Jackson (2014) also described that identity is dynamic. I was not aware of it, but my identity is also changing. I am not sure what it is, but recently I have been thinking about this.

I learned about half-Japanese people (call "Hafu" in Japan) living in Japan from a documentary film HAFU (2013) in my Current Topics class. I believe that hafu is an excellent identity. However, some people are confused or have difficulties in their lives because of this identity. They are always seen as foreigners even though they are Japanese. In the documentary, a half-Ghanaian, half-Japanese person said something like this. This is like having one's identity be rejected. In such a situation, it would be confusing to know who I am. However, it would give confidence if such a situation could be overcome and finding own identity.

Why is it important

Why is it important to understand your identity? If you understand your identity, it is easier to live a life that suits you. It is also easier to find a job that suits you when looking for a job. Therefore, understanding one's identity is important.

Sugimoto (2021) described in his book, some Japanese university students seek relaxation or enjoyment in university life. They don't think deeply during university life and after graduation more than American. If they think deeply about themselves, their way of thinking about the present and the future will change.

Also, some Japanese think Japan is a monocultural. So, they don't think about own identity. However, Sugimoto argued Japan is diverse. So, I think it is important for Japanese people to think about identity. They will see that people have different identities, and also realize that Japan is diverse.

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HOMELESS IN THE US

Genki Takada



WHY I CHOOSE THIS TOPIC

I was surprised that there are many homeless in the US, especially in downtown. I felt a little anxiety and fear when I walked around them. Also I saw an impossible phenomenon in Japan, a woman bought hundreds to homeless in Macdonald. It never happens in Japan. So I would like to research the difference between Japan and the us.

HOMELESS IN THE US

According to USA Fact, there are 582,000 homeless in 2022.

1. California (171,521)
2. New York (74,178)
3. Florida (25,959)
4. Washington (25,211)
5. Texas (24,432)
6. Oregon (17,959)

WHY BECOME HOMELESS

- 1, Lack of affordable housing
- 2, Poverty
- 3, Substance abuse
- 4, Unemployment
- 5, DV
- 6, System issue
- 7, Health issue
- 8, Criminal justice system
- 9, Natural disaster and economic down turn

OREGON GOVERNMENT POLICY



According to website for the Office of Oregon Governor, Oregon's current policy on "Housing and Homelessness" under current Governor Tina Kotek is the following:

"Governor Kotek is bringing urgency to the challenge and championing concrete solutions, including proposals to build more housing, rehouse our neighbors experiencing homelessness, prevent homelessness before it happens, and expand access to homeownership.

On her first full day in office, Governor Tina Kotek signed three executive orders aimed at tackling the state's housing and homelessness crisis: declaring a homelessness state of emergency; setting an ambitious state target to increase home construction; and directing state agencies to prioritize reducing and preventing homelessness in all areas of the state.

In response to the homelessness state of emergency, Governor Kotek worked with legislative leaders to develop and pass an urgent \$155 million package to rehouse 1,650 Oregonians, prevent homelessness for 8,750 households, and expand shelter capacity by 700 beds by the end of 2023.

After setting an ambitious housing production goal of 36,000 homes per year, Governor Kotek also established a council of leaders charged with developing an action plan to meet the new construction targets."

DIGNITY VILLAGE IN PORTLAND

DIGNITY VILLAGE WAS OPENED IN 2004 AS A PLACE FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE SLEEPING ON THE STREETS TO REGAIN A "NORMAL" LIFE, AND RESIDENTS AFFECTIONATELY CALL EACH OTHER "VILLAGERS." IT'S CALLED.

RENT IS \$35 A MONTH (APPROXIMATELY 3,900 YEN). IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING HOUSING AND MEALS, THERE WILL ALSO BE CHARGING STATIONS FOR CELL PHONES AND LAPTOPS, A COMMUNAL KITCHEN, SHOWERS, AND PORTABLE TOILETS.



THE MAIN MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS ARE CARRIED OUT BY NINE PEOPLE DEMOCRATICALLY SELECTED FROM AMONG THE VILLAGERS. VIOLENCE, THEFT, NUISANCE, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE PROHIBITED IN THE VILLAGE. THEY ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO SPEND AT LEAST 10 HOURS A WEEK DOING VOLUNTEER WORK, SUCH AS MOWING LAWNS, CUTTING FIREWOOD, AND REPAIRING COMPUTERS, EACH CONTRIBUTING TO THE OPERATION OF THE VILLAGE.

DIFFERENCE IN JAPAN



In Japan, homeless is one of the social issue but the number of homeless is quite few. Also there are differences in characteristics. Japan has less drug pollution because punishment will be imposed to use it. Also Japan has large number of beds for patients receiving psychiatric treatment so they are institutionalised. In addition, there are no traumatized veterans because Japan avoid war. As a feature, Japanese people don't beg. They feel ashamed of begging and do not want people to know that they are homeless and cannot support themselves. Pride and shame may also be factors.

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Why are Americans roads wider than Japan's road?

Roads in Japan



Japanese public roads are mainly two-lane roads with a road width of approximately 3.0 m per lane. Expressways range from 3.5m to 3.75m wide.

Also, when you use the highway, it costs money. When you drive, you're driving on the left side of the road.



Features of Japanese cars

Japanese cars are small and easy to drive on narrow roads and in intricate residential areas.

Running costs such as taxes and fuel costs can be reduced. Low fuel consumption and reduced weight have made it less durable, but parts are less likely to break.

Reason

First, Japanese roads are narrow. Second, taxes are different depending on the size of the car, and the larger the size, the higher the tax. Third, when you own a car in Japan, you must have a place to park it, and the bigger the car, the more expensive it is.

Why I chose it

The first thing I saw when I arrived in the U.S. were the roads. There were more roads and they were wider than in Japan.

I also wondered very much why the roads in the U.S. are so wide and the cars they use are bigger than those in Japan.

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Features of foreign cars

Because of its size, it has airbag capability in recent years with less damage in the event of a collision. The large body size gives it an overwhelming presence and sense of security.

Reason

Originally, there was no number division or tax classification by body size, so many countries divide taxes by displacement.

Foreign cars are often required to have high performance, so they need to be comfortable, comfortable, and safe.

Roads in America



The width of the roads in the U.S. is 3.66 meters for both public roads and highways, which are mainly three-lane roads. There is no fee for entering the highway. When you drive, you're driving on the right side of the road.

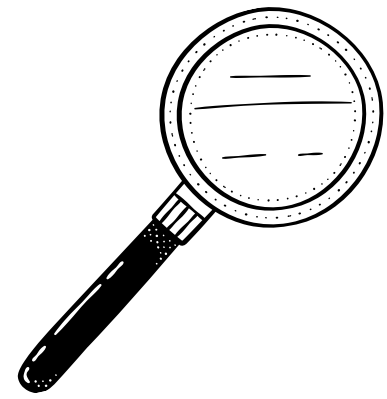


Reason for narrow

In the past, most transportation used people to carry goods, and heavy loads were sometimes transported by horse-drawn wagons. As a result, Japanese roads became narrower because there was less need to use wider widths.

Reason for wide

The United States was originally one large continent with no roads. However, the arrival of pioneers allowed for wide roads to be built on the vast land, creating straight roads. Also, because the continent itself is so vast, there was no need to make things smaller.



Different culture of Tattoos between Japan and US

#2384382 Name: Karin Sase



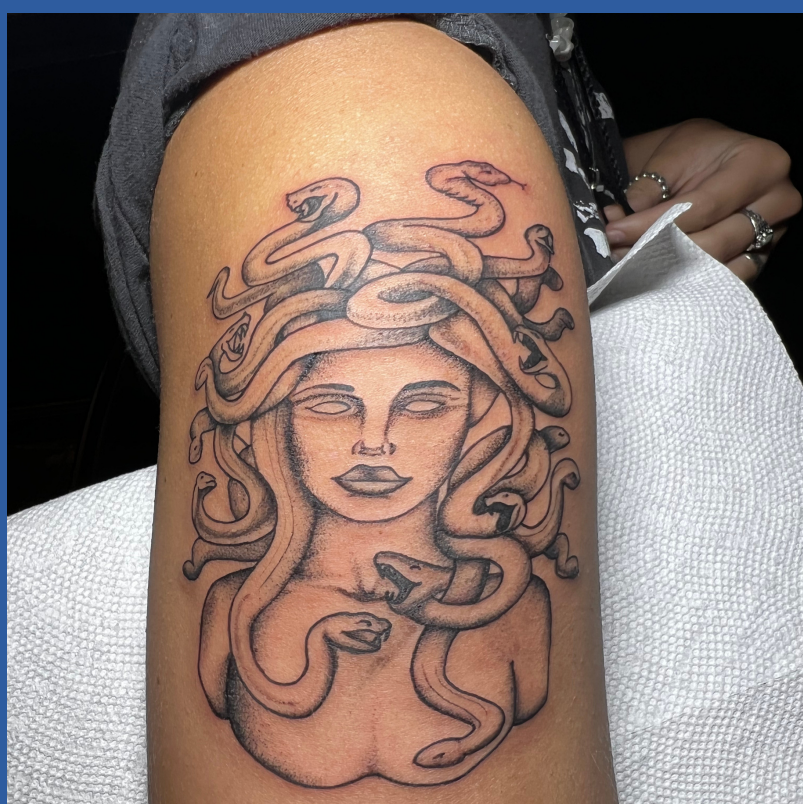
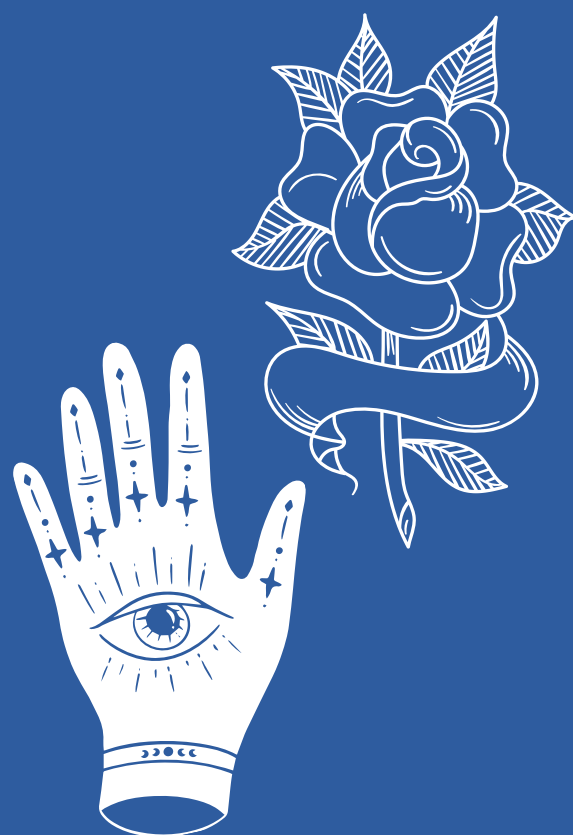
Introduction

I chose this topic because the culture is very different between Japan and the US. After coming here, I often see people with lots of tattoos on their bodies. Also, most of my friends have tattoos. It is not common in Japan and I think most people have negative thoughts about tattoos. Before I came here, I also had a negative image about tattoos, but now my impression of it has changed to a good image because in the US it is very common to get tattoos, and I've come to think of them as cute rather than scary. It was one of the big surprises in my study abroad life and I became very interested in it. I researched the differences in image and rules regarding tattoos between Japan and the United States. Also, I will compare and clarify any differences.

Main point

Q1: What percentage of people get tattoos? Why?

Q2: What is the difference between the image of tattoos in Japan and the US?



-America-

Q1 (Percentage) : According to the Pew Research Center : (2023), 32% of Americans have tattoos, including 22% who have more than one. Also I found an interesting fact from the graph is that the Americans most likely to have tattoos are women, Black Americans and younger adults. In addition, I was surprised to find that 38 % of women have at least one tattoo, compared to only 27% of men. Furthermore, according to the research survey of U.S. adults, I found that the most common reason Americans get tattoos is to honor or remember someone or something. About 69% tattooed adults say this is a major reason they got one or more of their tattoos.

Q2 (Image) : According to the Pew Research Center : (2023) , a full 29 % of Americans who do not have tattoos were found to have a more negative than positive image of someone's tattoo. Also, I asked the question about America's tattoo image with my WU's some friends and I have learned that they don't think Americans like tattoos very much. In addition, I learned that the image of tattoos changes depending on age and region from the pew research center and my friends. The fact is interesting for me.



Tattoos's role in Japan

●Tattoo-prohibited establishments

1. Hot spring facilities and bedrock baths
2. Sports gyms
3. Beaches for swimming
4. Esthetics and hair removal
5. Golf courses



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Conclusion

In conclusion, as a result of my research into the differences in tattoo culture between the U.S. and Japan, before researching I thought that American tattoo culture was widely accepted because many of my friends have tattoos around me, but I found out that this is not true and that acceptance and impressions vary depending on the region and generation. Also, I was surprised to see that the percentage of young people who have tattoos as a part of fashion has recently doubled since 2014 in Japan despite the fact that the impression of tattoos has always been and still not a very positive image, and in some places it is banned. In my opinion, before I came here I thought tattoos were bad and scary, but now my image is positive because my roommate and some friends have it on their body. Also, it looks so cute. Furthermore, in fact I tried to get a fake tattoo on my body sometimes. This is one of the good memories I experienced when I came to the U.S. I hope that Japan's tattoo rules will change because my friends were shocked that they could not enter a Japanese hot spring.



Gender Recognition in America

Misaki Seki

Introduction

All-Gender bathroom, resources for LGBTQ+ community, and pronouns. I found a lot of differences of gender recognition from Japan since I came here to Willamette University. There are far fewer chances to experience the situation where people consider about their own gender identity and other's in Japan. Not only did I find these things, but also I learnt about them deeply in the class that I took, Sociology of Gender. What I learned there were concepts such as patriarchy, movement of feminism, and masculinity made me realize how important it is to grasp gender properly and to realize we all are in the shift right now. In this poster presentation, I would like to examine the acceptance for people in LGBTQ+ community at Willamette University and how attitudes are toward LGBTQ+ community.

WILLAMETTE  UNIVERSITY

Pronouns

Each person has an opportunity to state their pronouns in self introduction and stickers on their room. Every student has a responsibility to other's pronouns.

Lift-Up in the gym

Willamette University has special hours within the Sparks Fitness Center for marginalized students across the spectrums of gender and body types.

Willamette University has the support, facility, and understanding toward LGBTQ+ community; however, it does not happen all over the U.S. and the world. Within the U.S., how progressive each area or region is varies. When we look at the circumstances in Japan, according to Stanford University, almost half of Japanese support same-sex marriage even though Japan doesn't seem to be supportive for it because there are less visible expressions of the concept of non-binary. That means how accepted it is can't be measured by object. However, physically appearing is one of the starting points toward social acceptance of the community. The energetic movement by LGBTQ+ community nowadays in the U.S. is enhancing neighborhood of people who have been marginalized because of gender identity. According to Meg-John Barker (Gender: A Graphic Guide), "Increasing number of trans people over time doesn't mean its cause is social. They're no longer forced to stand being trans."

Situation with consideration to non-binary

Resources for LGBTQ+ community

GRAC (Gender Resources and Advocacy Center) in Willamette University supports victims and survivors of gender-based violence and provides supportive resources for the LGBTQA+ campus community.

All-Gender bathroom

Willamette has bathrooms that everyone can use. All students' gender identity are not determined by bathroom.

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Ryusei Hida



CULTURAL DIFFERENCES: CANNABIS AND FOOD LOSS

Introduction

I intend to provide an explanation about what I had experienced in the U.S. What I thought about that? What are differences between America and Japan? Especially I focus on cannabis and food loss, because I was surprised about these things.

Food Loss

I researched about these things through actual experiences in classes and while living in America. I also researched about perception of cannabis and food loss on the internet.

I thought that about cannabis and food loss are different American's perception and Japanese's one, so that I was so surprised. I ate food in the Goudy for the first time, when I came to here. Many students left food behind. I was so surprised, because basically Japanese are appreciate for food while they eat food and don't left food. I and my friends were forcing ourself to eat ensuring not to leave any food behind. Therefore I have few times to left food when I was child and don't often left food now and there aren't around me, that is why I was so surprised. (The picture is right side and left side.) The below picture is also about total food waste between America and Japan.

However I could accept to left food by many students through studying abroad.

Cannabis

It was also surprised smell of cannabis for the first time, honestly it was so stinky. In Japan, there are a lot of people who smoke cigarettes. Actually my mother and my friends around me are smoke cigarettes and they are prohibited to smoke cannabis. My friends said that you can relax using cigarettes and focus on study and work after using cigarettes. Consequently Japanese think cannabis are more dangerous than cigarettes. Nevertheless American think that opposite idea. (The picture is below.) Many people smoke cannabis when I went to downtown.

It was first time to learn about cannabis are used for medical care in class. For example, CBD contained in cannabis is good effective for seizures. They are found a 50 % or greater reduction in seizures after CBD treatment. (Quoted from Current Topics class.) it was also you can feel relax by using cannabis. I learned about is cannabis really dangerous? in class. Actually there are events cerebrating cannabis in Los Angels at April 20th.

As a result I found out why Americans think cannabis more safer than cigarettes. That is because cannabis is not harmful to the body when used for medical purposes or in moderation although cigarettes are not.

Thus, I found out these things through actual experiences in classes and while living in America. Recently, there was a debate between the Japanese government on whether to allow the use of cannabis for medical purposes although this idea was not adopted, so that Japanese still think strict about using cannabis for medical purposes.

I thought that we need to discuss about this thing.

Conclusion

I found out about these cannabis and food loss through actual experiences and living in the U.S. Currently, the use of cannabis for medical purpose is not permitted in Japan and restaurants are trying to prevent food waste by preparing boxes for food they can't finish in the U.S, so that we should understand each issues it is not only our country, but also other countries.

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Country Name	GDP per capita, PPP (constant 2017 international \$)	total food waste (kg/head/year)
United States	60162.91	139
Japan	39200.66	88

Americans' Views of Tobacco Products and Other Substances

In general, how harmful do you feel each of the following is to people who use them?

■ % Very harmful ■ % Somewhat harmful ■ % Not too harmful ■ % Not at all



Those with no opinion are not shown



Difference of university between Japan and U.S.



Yuka Matsuura

Introduction

My idea is about the difference of university between Japan and US. The reason is because I felt that the strength of interaction with the community in American university. In America, local people were taking a walk in the university, or families with children and people with dogs were coming to eat at goudy. Also, there was Family Weekend at Willamette University and an event was also held that invited students' families. However, in Japan, there are no such events because of the difference of lifestyle of university. From these experiences, I felt the strength of relationship with the American university and the community, and I was interested in the difference of university style.

The main difference

- System
- Philosophy
- College life
- The value of a college education

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The difference of university between Japan and US

At first, TIU has guardhouse at the entrance to enter the grounds, and basically only students and university officials can enter. On the other hand, American university don't have like this system, and anyone can go in and out freely. And regarding to goudy, it is also open to the general public. In addition, I think one of the reason why American university has strong relationship with community is the difference of philosophy. Willamette university focuses on our communities, both local and global. And it tries to bring us together and make our communities stronger. It expects to connect to individual growth by strengthening the community. As an example of one activity to achieve it, willamette has students organizations to contribute to the community. The organizations have many opportunities, and students aim to grow as a member of the Salem community through these activities. On the other hand, TIU overall focuses on the growth of individual students. As the philosophy of TIU, it focuses on developing human resources who can play an active role in the world by raising their vision for the future, having the courage to act, and polishing their intelligence. Therefore, I thought it would be opened to the local people.

Also, many students who have different nationalities come to an university. And even if domestic, America has vast land, so it's general for students to live in dorm or sharehouse. Also, some of the students have their own cars, and they park in the university. On the other hand, in TIU, most of the students go to uni from home by train or live alone. Japan has a developed public transportation system, and many Japanese universities, including TIU, are near the station. Also, according to the TIU website, it is prohibited to go to university by car. By these reasons, many American students are apart from their parents, so I think that there is an event called Family Weekend. The Willamette University website says that this event aims to experience of campus life and get to know other members of Willamette community. That is, willamette is not only doing activities to contribute to the community for students, but also to strengthen the connection of the Willamette community through event.

And finally, there is a difference between Japan and the US in terms of values for the university itself. In Japan, many people think that students can improve their expertise by going to university and working on academics, and also it is meaningful to spend time at university as one of their life experiences. In other words, many Japanese focus on improving their knowledge through studying and growing themselves through university life as the purpose of going to university. On the other hand, Americans focus on workplace-related skills and knowledge than personal and intellectual growth. Of course, many university graduates think that their university experience was very useful to grow their personal and intellectual. However, more than half of Americans think that specific skills and knowledge that can be used at work should be taught at university. Probably, most Japanese university students find a job while they are in university, but American university students generally find a job after graduation, and this difference is considered to be one of the factors that create a difference in values.

Concluding

While living in American university, I discovered many things. Among them, through this research, I realized that there are some differences between the university of Japan and the US. As a philosophy of TIU, it aims to nurture human resources who can play an active role in the world, but as one of the philosophy of Willamette University, it aims to strengthen the Willamette community and emphasize its connection. Because Willamette values the community, it is also tolerant of local people, and unlike TIU's system, it seems that anyone can go in and out freely. Also, due to the difference of breadth of land, there is a difference of college life so that there is an event not found in Japan which welcomes student's family. And there is also a difference of the way of thinking about college education. I thought that the event which traditional Japanese university creates the difference of the value.