



Cultural Intelligence: A Modern Protocol for Law Enforcement

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Abstract: Globalization has changed the world in several ways for the law enforcement profession. One of the most important changes is the increased interconnectedness of peoples and heightened cultural diversity around the world. Increased cultural diversity emphasizes the need for and importance of cultural intelligence in law enforcement. Cultural intelligence is a dynamic thought process that can be learned through training. Utilizing cultural intelligence ultimately allows one to recognize cultural diversity and knowing when and how to incorporate cultural intelligence cognitively, motivationally and behaviorally. This skill is important to the law enforcement community in the sense that it allows officers to maintain legitimacy, communicate effectively and avoid misunderstandings in their many intercultural encounters. Ethnocentrism is also noted as a hindrance to law enforcement utilization of cultural intelligence, and that it must be recognized and avoided.