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Dr. Ru

KSP 220W

Diversity Event Report #1

“We Gon’ Be Alright” Black Identity Lecture

1. **Describe the event.**

At this event, the ASA invited a professor from the University of Minnesota to speak about Black identity. He referenced artists in pop culture that advocate for Black culture and identity, such as Kendrick Lamar and Beyoncè. The speaker wanted to “have a discussion” not lecture to the audience. I did not have my “aha moment” until our class discussion. My aha moment was that this lecture was a space for African Americans to find solace and support in coping with different forms of discrimination.

1. **What was significant about your experience?**

By simply attending this lecture I felt uncomfortable because I was a part of the minority for that short amount of time. I was scared to speak out because I knew that I was different from the majority of the audience and my mindset may not be common among them. Also, the discussion of Black Lives Matter protests gave me a new perspective. It made me realize that their protests *must* be visible and affect peoples’ lives if they are to accomplish their goal of racial equality.

1. **Thinking as a teacher, pose questions that could help deepen your content knowledge related to the event.**

What is the line between expressing your culture and protest? What are actions whites can take to support this movement even though we will never fully understand their experiences? How much of our population consists of colored Americans (Mexican, Asian, African, etc.)? How does this percentage compare to other countries regarding diversity? What is the percentage of white populations in other countries?