

# Preserving Cultural Heritage

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## PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

The world consists of people of different cultural background. Canada remains no exception regarding this context of multiculturalism. The difference in cultural identities traces back to the periods of colonialism when there existed a distinction between the whites and other non-white races. The concept of multiculturalism in Canada has had various impacts including the writers' desire to explore their heritage and retain dual identities, fragmenting Canadian population into cultural and linguistic fractions, and the concept of ethnic enclave bringing immigrants together. Therefore, the paper explores the effects of multiculturalism in Canada through the lenses of cultural heritage and identities, fragmentation into cultural and linguistic fractions, and the influence of ethnic enclave on the Canadian immigrants.

In fact, the Canadian commitment to multiculturalism has availed the framework that many writers have used to explore their heritage and retain their dual identities. The concept of multiculturalism has ignited the writers' enthusiasm and provided the born of contention for scholars to focus their research or arguments. For instance, Brand (1988) provides an insightful flashback into her stay in the St. Mary's Estate, a place of her birth. Her main view mainly concerns the contracting Black poverty and the White affluence in the land where her grandfather worked as an overseer for twenty years. Brand's reflection provides a sense of cultural heritage and identity with her community. Bedard (2001) is another writer who attributes cultural identities to the construction of the mind. The author proves his claim by explaining his relationship to the Quebecois identity. Bedard contends that those who call themselves Canadians do not treat people of the other world differently. Therefore, it is the Canadian commitment to multiculturalism that provided the writer with the framework to explore his heritage and retain Quebecois and Canadian identity. Finally, the Canadian commitment to multiculturalism

provides Suzuki with gene framework which he uses to study the concept of heritage and dual identities. The writer uses second and third-immigrants to Canada and his Japanese race to disapprove the notion that gene is the primary determinant of the behavior.

Moreover, the claim by the critics of Canada's Multiculturalism Policy regarding multiculturalism fragmenting the Canadian population into cultural and linguistic factions holds. The divisions and cultural separations that they claim are the real effects of the Canadian Multicultural Policy. Many people like Suzuki have decided to explore their cultural backgrounds and disapprove various concepts linked to multiculturalism (Suzuki, 1987). For instance, the author clarifies that the idea of the gene does not determine one's behavior.

Finally, the phenomenon of the immigrants of the same background being together in ethnic enclaves is the need for cultural diversification. Moreover, the immigrants cherish the better life that people experience in the enclaves including the non-existence of poverty (Keung, 2015).

Overall, the concept of multiculturalism in Canada has provided the writers with the ideas to explore regarding their heritage and identity. Moreover, it is true that multiculturalism has led to the fragmentations of the Canadian population into cultural and linguistic factions. Furthermore, the immigrants of the same backgrounds view the ethnic enclaves as points of poverty alleviation and ethnic diversity.

