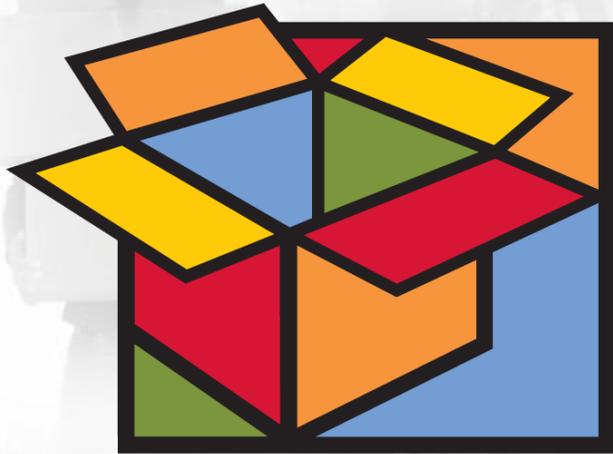


RELOCATION PROGRAM

FOREIGN BORN SPOUSES “Welcome to U.S.A.”



Moving Made Easy

Cinzia Spampinato
Work & Family Life Supervisor
FFSC, NAS SIGONELLA



12th Annual Joint Services/Agency/ERC
Relocation Training Conference



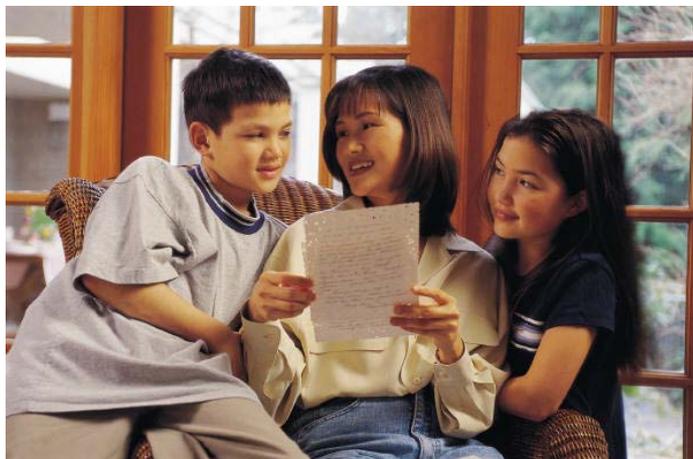
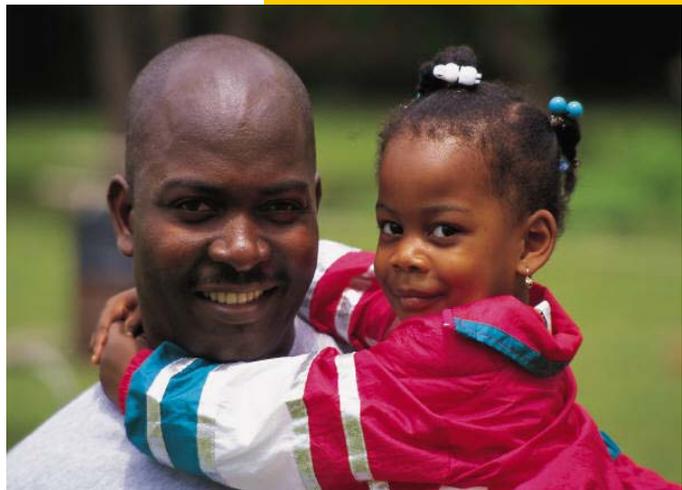
“Welcome to U.S.A.” Presentation topics

- **American geography & history**
- **Cultural differences**
- **Country Specific**
- **Skills for living in the U.S.A.**

GEOGRAPHY & HISTORY



DEMOGRAPHICS





HISTORY

Declaration of Independence





Concept of time

PAST

Talk about history, origin of family, business and nation.

Motivated to recreate a golden age

Show respect for ancestors, predecessors and older people

Everything viewed in the context of tradition or history.

PRESENT

Activities and enjoyments of the moment are most important

Plans not objected to, but rarely executed

Show intense interest in present relationships, “here and now”.

Everything viewed in terms of its contemporary impact and style.

FUTURE

Much talk of prospects, potentials, aspirations, future achievements

Planning and strategizing done enthusiastically

Show great interest in the youthful and in future potentials

Present and past used, even exploited, for future advantage.

“Riding the Waves of Culture” Trompenaars, Hampden-Turner, 1998



Concept of space

- All human beings have a natural comfort zone called “bubble”. Its dimension varies not only from individual to individual but also from culture to culture.
- How big is our “bubble”?
- Differences about concept of space can influence communication within our intercultural relations (touching, staring, how do we stand in line etc).



Living in the U.S.A.

American homes





Living in the U.S.A.

American transportation



Gary Morton Collection

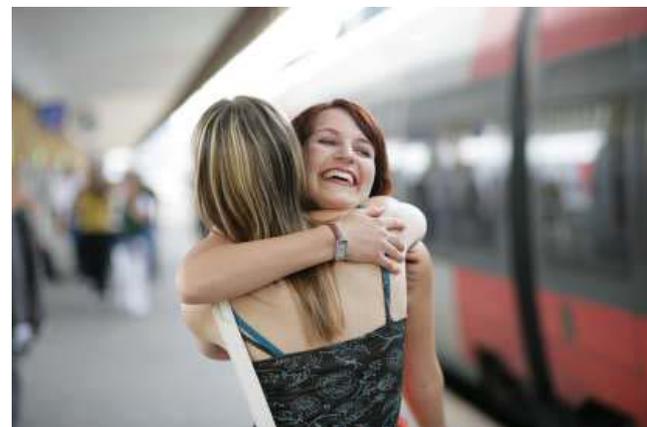


Moving Military Families: Challenges and Opportunities



Living in the U.S.A.

American greetings



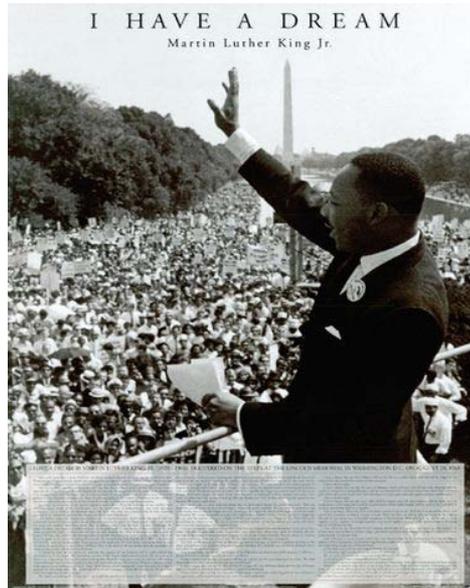


Living in the U.S.A.

Federal Holidays



January



January



February



Living in the U.S.A.

Federal Holidays



May



July



September



Living in the U.S.A.

Federal Holidays



Columbus Day

October



November



November



December

Living in the U.S.A.

Significant events





Skills for living in the U.S.A.

Ask the expert

- **Employment**
- **Financial**
- **Education**
- **DODDS/School System**
- **Navy Legal**

HISTORY

Wars



Civil War
1861 - 1865



World War I



World War II



Korea



Vietnam

HISTORY

American Symbols



Liberty Bell



National Anthem



Bald Eagle



Capitol Building



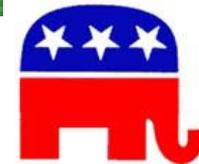
Statue of Liberty



Uncle Sam



White House



Political Parties



CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

American Values and Assumptions

- **Cultural Dimensions**
 - Collectivist vs. Individualist
 - Directness vs. Indirectness
 - Concept of Time
 - Concept of Space

Collectivist vs. Individualist

COLLECTIVIST

- People are born into extended families or other groups which continue to protect them in exchange for loyalty.
- Identity is based in the social network to which one belongs.
- Children learn to think in terms of “we”.
- Relationship prevails over task

- Everyone grows up to look after him/her immediate nuclear family only
- Identity is based in the individual
- Children learn to think in terms of “I”.
- Task prevails over relationship

INDIVIDUALIST

Culture and organizations, software of the mind , Hofstede, 1991



Skills for living in the U.S.A.

Ask the expert

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