

Exercise: Whose Culture Is It Anyway?

Take a few minutes to discuss how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

1. "At team meetings, I introduce the parents by their first names. It makes them feel more comfortable."
2. "Sara and her mother want to meet in the office, but I think I could learn more about the family dynamics if we meet in their home."
3. "I know Lee's Aunt. She works at my son's school. She speaks Russian, too. So, I asked the family to invite Lee's Aunt to the team meeting so that she can translate."
4. "Ernest wants to go to college, but his father wants him to work and make some money to help support the family."
5. "His mom and I both think Bible camp would be a good summer activity for Jimmy, so I'm making a referral, but Jimmy is not at all excited about it and has even said that he's afraid to go."
6. "It's hard to schedule anything. They are always either really early or really late for the meeting, or just don't even show up. I'm ready to close this one."
7. "I told them they had to choose which therapist they wanted, and I sent them home with a list to choose from. It even had locations and phone numbers. But they still haven't gotten back with me about it."
8. "When I was over their house, I saw they had a rifle leaning against the front door, and a dog that was chained up outside, barking like crazy when I approached the house. From now on, I'm having all my meetings with them at the office."