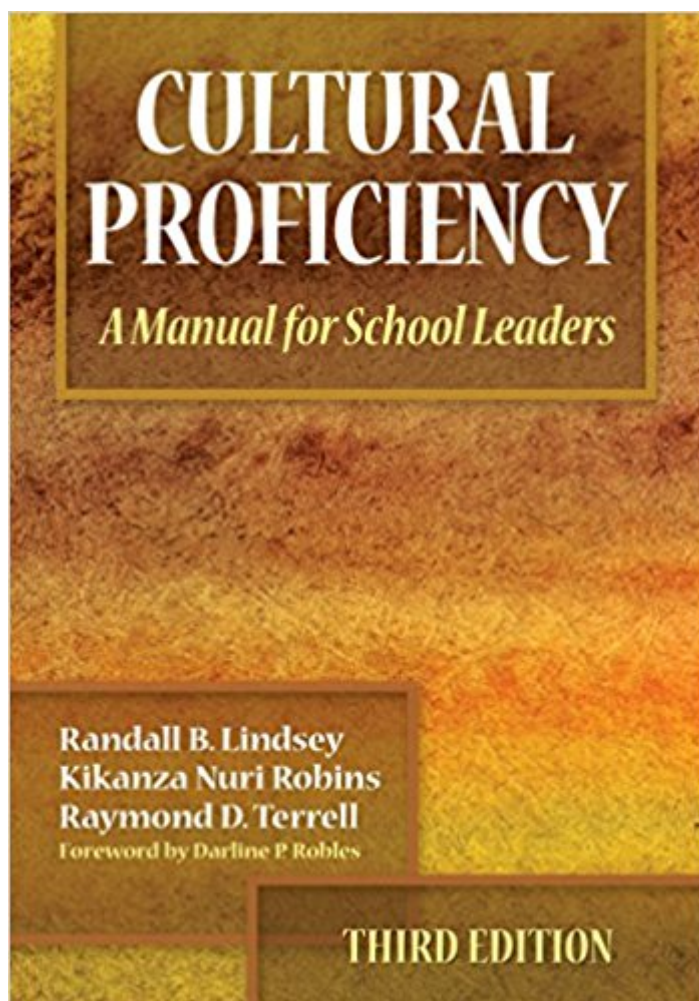


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# Cultural Proficiency: A Manual For School Leaders



## Synopsis

Embark on a journey toward cultural proficiency that results in professional growth and organizational change! This powerful third edition offers fresh approaches, a revised organization, and new activities that enable leaders to engage in effective interactions with students, educators, and the communities they serve. The authors meticulously provide information gathered from their experiences working with schools, educational agencies, and organizations across the United States and Canada and show how school leaders can: Gain a personal understanding of what cultural proficiency means in practice Use collaborative activities to effect change in a school Lead a learning community toward becoming a culturally proficient organization

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This book is a phenomenal resource for school districts and organizations that are interested in improving the culture of their organizations. It provides a solid foundation for understanding equity, embracing diversity, and adapting to differences. Moreover, the protocols and activities presented in this edition are practical to use and serve as a road map for school and district leaders on the journey toward cultural proficiency."--Lynne Rosen, Director of Language and Cultural Equity (02/03/2009)"The tools of cultural proficiency outlined in this book have provided the foundation upon which we are building our state educational leadership system. We believe that culturally proficient school leaders can close the educational achievement gap in Massachusetts."--Bobbie

D'Alessandro and Erica Champagne (02/17/2009)"This book is a phenomenal resource for school districts and organizations that are interested in improving the culture of their organizations. It provides a solid foundation for understanding equity, embracing diversity, and adapting to differences. Moreover, the protocols and activities presented in this edition are practical to use and serve as a road map for school and district leaders on the journey toward cultural proficiency."--Lynne Rosen, Director of Language and Cultural Equity (02/03/2009)"The tools of cultural proficiency outlined in this book have provided the foundation upon which we are building our state educational leadership system. We believe that culturally proficient school leaders can close the educational achievement gap in Massachusetts."--Bobbie D'Alessandro and Erica Champagne (02/17/2009)-This book is a phenomenal resource for school districts and organizations that are interested in improving the culture of their organizations. It provides a solid foundation for understanding equity, embracing diversity, and adapting to differences. Moreover, the protocols and activities presented in this edition are practical to use and serve as a road map for school and district leaders on the journey toward cultural proficiency.---Lynne Rosen, Director of Language and Cultural Equity (02/03/2009)-The tools of cultural proficiency outlined in this book have provided the foundation upon which we are building our state educational leadership system. We believe that culturally proficient school leaders can close the educational achievement gap in Massachusetts.---Bobbie D'Alessandro and Erica Champagne (02/17/2009)

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It's a lot to get through and it has some nice ideas and perspectives

Thank you for making college textbooks available in digital form. School is expensive.

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I am satisfied with the quality of the product and the delivery service was very quick and efficient. Excellent job!! Ensure you maintain the high standards I am a satisfied customer

This book is very informative and I suggest that anyone who wants to make changes in their school or their classroom read it!

Great book for all teachers and school leaders to read.

This book attempts to cover a serious topic but fails. Rwanda, Kosovo, and 911, are just several reminders of what unchecked cultural conflict can produce. Children in our schools will be killed because of intolerance to their race or sexual orientation and millions harbor lifelong emotional wounds. If you are looking for a book that takes a scholarly approach to this issue, look elsewhere. The authors of Cultural Proficiency appear to have written about whatever came off the top of their collective heads and took far too much liberty in just making stuff up that suits their position (even if it is one that I typically agree with). For a book that purports to be scholarly, not a single empirical study supports the authors' position. No evidence is provided that any of the suggestions they offer have validity. Even after three editions, not a single piece of empirical evidence documents that anything in these pages actually works. While the authors do make a number of critical points, so does the UFO community. Without evidence, it's just one person's belief over another's. Our history is paved with horribly hurtful actions done with the best of intentions. We just never bothered to check to see if they worked and neither have Lindsey, Nuri Roberts, and Terrell. If you're going to claim to have the solution to something as important as cultural intolerance, you better be right. We don't have the time, money, or political capital to do this twice. The old saying of "measure twice, cut once" is extremely applicable. I'm not seeing these authors measuring even once. This feels a bit like academic televangelism. For only \$38.63 you too can be healed from the demons of cultural intolerance! Even if the prescriptions of the book are suspect, you would think a title such as this should at least have solid definitions and historical support for the need for cultural proficiency. Here again, the authors have failed. These definitions provided are not definitions, they are connotative expressions at best. A definition is an exact meaning of word. Words may have

multiple definitions under the denotation, but each sub-definition is precise. What we have here are broad generalizations. These could be called colloquialisms or even might even be stretched to be cultural proficiency jargon, but they are by no means definitions. The authors are bound up in the connotation and denotation problem and someone needs to toss in a life preserver and pull them out. Finally, one must question the validity of cultural proficiency in the 21st century. The authors provide a timeline on pages 8 - 11. Each decade is listed: 1950's Desegregation 1960's Integration 1970's Multiculturalism 1980's Diversity 1990s and 21st Century - Cultural Proficiency. I do agree that the 90's were about Cultural Proficiency. But the 21st century is something else. For lack of a better word, I'll describe it as Cultural Transmogrification. Transmogrification is the changing of something into something else. The 00's were a time of great cultural morphing around the world, fueled in no small part by the Internet. It's by no means complete, but it is absolutely something under way. Globalization has led to a worldwide exchange of worldviews, products, ideas and cultures. The best Indian food is in England. Tuscany has some killer Chinese food. My local WalMart carries six varieties of Hummus. Every city in the world must by now have a Donor Kebab stand and Gelato shop (likely under the same roof). Yes, there are still marked and pronounced cultural differences, but they are changing quickly, morphing into one. Each generation moves closer to the middle. On the macro scale, we are becoming one global culture faster than the authors of Cultural Proficiency could have ever imagined in 1990. I'm not saying that Cultural Proficiency never existed, but in 2013, to just look for Cultural Proficiency will not be enough. Not for us as global educators and not to prepare our students for the global world they will work in. Cultural Proficiency is dead, long live Cultural Proficiency. As for Cultural Proficiency: A Manual for School Leaders, the world won't be for loss without it and neither will you.

Exactly what I ordered and needed for school. It is a very useful book, full of great information!

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