

Bohemian Mix

The emerging culture is drawing a lot of attention presently. They are the beginning of the American society change from Western modern culture to the Postmodern thought that has dominated Eastern culture and Europe.

Distinctives

Members of this segment value authenticity and individuality. They value relationship over events or programs and feeling over intellect. They will intentionally do things just to go against tradition and majority. Therefore, Macintosh products, Ipods, non traditional name brands, and other edgy fashions will be their instruments of choice.

The group is a social network. Because it is affinity based, around social issues and spirituality, it is not uncommon for any one cluster to include white collar higher educated professionals and those that barely got out of high school. They have a live and let live attitude of tolerance, but they are very concerned about social justice, and authenticity. They are not attracted to chain restaurants or institutions, but are drawn to independent businesses. They are anti organized religion but spiritually sensitive. This group is all about the experience and the people and less about the goal and accomplishment.



Music tastes float around U2, Coldplay, anything you might hear at Starbucks (although they don't hang out at Starbucks because it's a chain).

What Following Christ Looks Like -

Congregations composed of this segment will be very involved in community transformation ministries, reaching out to the poor and needy, and involved in social reform. Externally focused is a way of life.

Disciplemaking is mentoring and coaching. Worldview change is not accomplished in a classroom but through relationships. Growth in Christ is obtained as disciples of Christ walk adjust their own life to be able to walk alongside the lives of those around them instilling in them Biblical values and helping them to see their God given purpose and live that out according to their own uniqueness. Small groups are highly effective as a safe place for transparency. Whereas a leader may facilitate the group, the process is more about mutually sharing how God's Word is lived out in life experience than it is about one person teaching. Transparency is sought as the group highly values authenticity.

Worship is acoustic, seldom using any electric instrument other than maybe a bass guitar, and a return to reformation liturgy. The worship experience is all about experiencing God and seeing how He reveals himself through the creative arts and music. The message times are usually a time of learning how our story is directly affected by God's story and drive home the necessity of our lives being in tune with God's Kingdom. Messages are usually narrative or thematic.

NOTE: Healthy Bohemian congregations will adapt emerging worship styles without catering to the extreme non-Biblical emergent theologies that have risen from this movement.

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