

Dear 12,

After yesterday's rushing about like spinning tops we have time to process and think through.

I have a lot of reflections swimming round in my head though I am not sure of their status and validity. Here are some of them.

1. During our work with E█, I was struck by the fact that probably more questions came from people from the Northern European cultures than from Castilla Leon and the Basque Country. The observation is factual.... but what cultural conclusion can be drawn, if any? Is it to do with purely individual reactions?
Is it to do with different levels of reticence in different parts of Europe when discussing death? I could see that one or two people were psychodramatically affected- they did not speak because they were brimming with emotion.
2. One of the reasons for the impact of E█'s talk on us was, perhaps that she kept us thinking and feeling continuously on the Bateson levels of belief and identity. These are the most powerful areas in a human's life.
Who am I if X has really died? These kinds of thoughts are to do with core identity.
3. From lots of M█ and M█'s bits of behaviour, can we make any tentative, valid, respectful generalisation about the Danish cultural value system.? These matters need careful handling since a value system is strong and fierce, not some wishy-washy anthropologist's intellectual construct.
4. How does a quasi-Englishman, Mario, deal professionally with a person he squarely dislikes (C█ in QE). Here I depend on you as it is hard to observe what one is doing while "doing" it.
Some guesses: I guess he will be rather careful and polite
I guess his accent will go a bit more up-market,,, a tinzy bit more Oxbridge.
I guess he will ask questions from within the UK elite value system in an attempt to stay congruent with her and thus preserve social harmony.
5. Who is L█? Is he Hungarian or is he English? Here again we have a question of identity.

e basta.... I must draw a line under these speculations somewhere!

Mario

Can you form groups of three that reflect the cultural diversity of the group and address the ideas set out above.