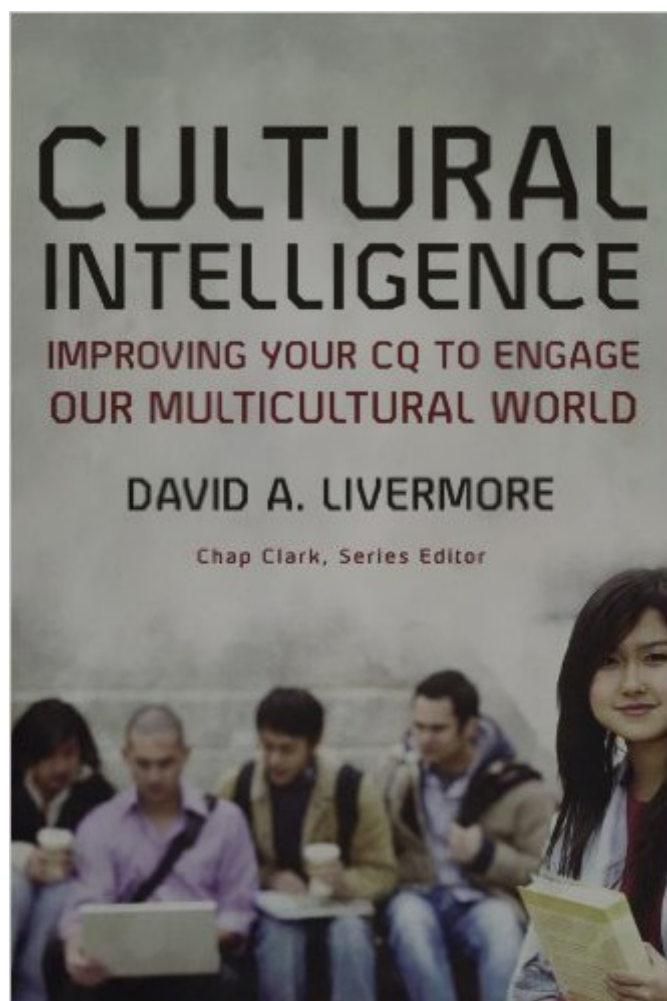


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# Cultural Intelligence: Improving Your CQ To Engage Our Multicultural World (Youth, Family, And Culture)



## Synopsis

Twenty-first-century society is diverse, and Christians must be able to understand other cultures and communicate effectively between and among them. Following up on the bestselling *Hurt: Inside the World of Today's Teenagers*, this new addition to the Youth, Family, and Culture series explores the much-needed skill of Cultural Intelligence (C.Q.), the ability to work effectively across national, ethnic, and even organizational cultures. While rooted in sound, scholarly research, Cultural Intelligence is highly practical and accessible to general readers. It will benefit students as well as guide ministry leaders interested in increasing their cultural awareness and sensitivity. Packed with assessment tools, simulations, case studies, and exercises, Cultural Intelligence will help transform individuals and organizations into effective intercultural communicators of the gospel. Excerpt What do you do when you encounter someone who isn't like you? How do you feel? What goes on inside you? How do you relate to him or her? These are the kinds of questions we want to explore in this book. Few things are more basic to life than expressing love and respect for people who look, think, believe, act, and see differently than we do. We want to adapt to the barrage of cultures around us while still remaining true to ourselves. We want to let the world change us so that we can be part of changing the world. And we want to move from the desire to love across the chasm of cultural difference to the ability to express our love for people of difference. Relating lovingly to our fellow human beings is central to what it means to be human. And when it comes down to it, Christian ministry at its core is interacting with all kinds of people in ways that give them glimpses of Jesus in us. The billions of us sharing planet Earth together have so much in common. We're all born. We all die. We're all created in the image of God. We eat, sleep

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am a graduating senior at Pepperdine University enrolled in a course on multicultural ministry. This book is an assigned textbook for that course, and it is immensely useful in outlining the importance of being culturally aware when doing ministry. In it, David Livermore provides a framework for improving cross-cultural interactions, discussions, and missions. He writes, "That's our destination in this journey" learning how to effectively express love for people unlike us" (13). Livermore's goal is to assist us as Christians in gaining the ability to love people who are different from us. As someone who has participated in missionary efforts in several countries and who currently directs the Global Learning Center at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, Livermore is highly qualified to write this text and share his experiences. The greatest strengths of this book include the effectiveness of its structure, the emphasis it places on cross-cultural interactions within our own nation, and the connections to God it allows for. Divided into four sections based on the four types of cultural intelligence, the structure is easy to follow and promotes the creation of achievable, distinct goals for everyone. A huge takeaway from this book is the focus on the diversity of our own nation, for that is a reality that we need to consider when developing cultural intelligence. I appreciate the reference to God as the Holy Other, for that places our misunderstandings of those around us into a much needed perspective that God invites us to experience: Himself as incredibly, beautifully different from us. Yet, God reaches across the chasm of difference and makes every effort to meet us where we are.

So I remember the days of sorority sisterhood back in the mid 1960s. We sisters of Gamma Phi all had cute, short haircuts, wore the same camel-colored mohair blazers and pretty much dated very similar young men from the same fraternities, especially sisters who were of higher status, members of Greek Council. While our sorority house was known to be less conforming (some people called us the "zoo") than other more popular houses at the University of Nevada, Reno, we still had a sense of safety in our ability to toe the acceptable conformity line, most of the time. And when we finally graduated, leaving college and the safety of sisterhood to enter the workforce, what we encountered was really not much different from the institution we just left. The workplace of that era was certainly not as diverse as today; it was not even close. Nearly all co-workers were of the same ethnicity as

us (white, Germanic or Irish heritage) and we closely conformed to the accepted dress norms, if we wanted to keep our jobs. Actually, one of my friends was fired from a major pharmaceutical company because he wore loafers with tassles. No kidding. Today, many of us work with colleagues and customers from around the globe, people who may dress, talk and behave much differently from our former, cookie-cutter sorority sisters and fraternity brothers. To succeed in today's world of business, author David Livermore believes we need cultural intelligence, or CQ. A consultant, Livermore came to this conclusion because he moved from Canada to New York when he was a child. However, he made regular trips back to visit relatives, remaining fascinated by Canada's culture - the different money and way of saying things, the foods and other significant things that keep Canadians being Canadians.

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