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English

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18 February 2021

The Necklace Of Love

Material Culture is the aspect of social fact grounded in the objects and architecture that encompass people. It consists of the usage, consumption, creation, and alternate of objects as nicely as the behaviors, norms, and rituals that the objects create or take part in. Personal artifacts are objects that serve the personal needs of an individual. Some examples of artifacts are jewelry, toys, clothes etc. Many different people from different cultures have their own version of a cultural artifact. The artifacts have their own special meaning.

The necklace is 14 qt gold it has details of chains being hooked on one by one, it has little stars also in each chain. It's a tight necklace; it does not even pass your collar bone. It looks like the typical chain everyone wears or has. When others see my artifact they say it is really pretty and ask me where I got it from or who gave it to me. I think when others see it they believe that it is just a necklace that there is no meaning behind it, that it is just a random piece.

When I turned 16, it was passed down from all my sisters to me. I want to be the last one to wear it. It was my moms when my dad and her first got together in their teens. He wanted to get her something nice to show her how much he appreciated her. After they had my two big sisters he decided to get himself a matching one to show the dedication he had to her since they never got married, the necklaces were a symbol for it. To Hispanics if you live with your boyfriend he is now your husband, if you have kids with your boyfriend he is now your husband.

So for them since they had kids and were together for years they were already married just without the paperwork so they decided they didn't need to get married for it.

Touching the artifact made me think what it was made out of. Yeah it's made out of gold but to me it was made with love, he had chosen how he wanted it to look like. I remember there was once when I had asked him what made him want to give something like that to her, and his exact words were that he wanted to give her a necklace because she deserved something as beautiful as her, and that he wanted to show her he was thankful for her for taking care of his daughters.

The personal connection I have to the artifact is my dad. Growing up I was never really close to my dad, or for that matter he was not close to me, after I was born my parents had split up and moved on with their lives so I never got that mom and dad feeling when the parents are still together. I guess having the necklace that he gave her kind of makes up for it in a small way for me because he still wears his every day, and he never takes it off. It fills an empty spot that I have whenever I have it on, it makes me think "What if?", every kid's ideal perfect family, what if? What if they were still together? How would my life be different? Just different scenarios run through my head, at least I know I will always have a little piece of him.

My artifact can be associated with any sub-culture, I say this because anyone can be given an item that is able to be worn on them, that has a meaning behind it. This can also be a start of a tradition of a family and can continue on and on through generations and become a part of their culture. For me my personal artifact symbolizes love, this is because when my dad had gone out to hand pick something and buy it for my mom it was out of love. But after they separated, my mom did not wear it for years, she had it in a little box in her dresser. When it was

passed down to each of us it was passed down with love. This can be the same thing for other cultures.