Globalization in My Life 10 Captured Images

Blase Biello



While at Walmart, I saw the newly added produce section. I went over an checked out some of the produce. I picked up a line to discover that the lime was imported from Mexico. This lime is something we couldn't be able to produce at this time of year but we are able to acquire it through global trade. This is beneficial on both sides of the spectrum though. While, we get to enjoy all produce year-round at cheap prices; we are providing the other countries' economies with jobs and profit.

For example, by us importing these limes we are providing jobs for Mexican citizens and helping to help their economy slightly. Global trade is something that helps strengthen the participating countries' economies. Also, products can be made available year-round for countries that aren't able to produce them year-round. This is a clear sign of globalization because many food product that we find in super markets are actually from countries thousands of miles away; the food market is open for trade!

Mexican imports/exports here

Education Expansion



While waiting for the trolley to go home, I saw a clear example of globalization in Philadelphia and the US. If you look at the billboard to the left you will see that the University of Phoenix, which has campuses in all 50 states, is advertising specifically to Philadelphia. At first, I thought this university was based out of Arizona and they just happened to open a couple campuses on the East Coast. But, after going on their website I realized that they offered a plethora of online degree programs! This ties education and technology together very closely.

This way of education is relatively new. You are now able to get an Associate's Degree from home, without ever actually having to go and sit in a classroom, like you traditionally would have. After looking online, I also learned that you can study-abroad (internationally). This definitely also shows globalization because multiple countries have paired up to provide educational services and exchanges. This is something that is also relatively new and is an element of globalization for Philadelphia, the United States, and the participating states and countries.

Study-Abroad info here

Society/Culture



This picture is the same as the last, but this time focus on the right side of the two billboards. It is an advertisement for Captain Morgan rum, which is an alcoholic beverage. I thought these two billboards right next to each other was pretty interesting actually. Something that could potentially stop a lot of people from furthering their education and destroying this life is right next to an advertisement promoting education. This is a very interesting look on America's society; in which it is okay to closely advertise these 2 institutions and get away with it.

This shows globalization in Philadelphia and the United States because over the past decades, alcohol has moved from something that was once prohibited for some years, to something that now goes hand in hand with education, essentially. At least that's what the ad is showing me. It is intereting to see how big the world alcohol community has grown over the past decades with many U.S. companies importing alcohol from foreign countries.

Prohibition info here

Human Rights



Something that we commonly ignore is the inclusion of braille on many streets around our environment. While I was waiting for the trolley at 22nd Street Station, I took a look around for some globalization elements or things that pretty much represented it. So, I turned around and looked at the sign which I do all the time and noticed Braille. In my opinion, this is a clear representation of the globalization theme, human rights and also technology.

I think this shows human rights because many people take vision for granted and there are a plethora of signs throughout the day, that help us navigate. But, at a certain point in time, there was no way for the blind to navigate around the city of Philadelphia without having to ask or practice a route. But, with the inclusion of braille (a technological advancement) the visually impaired city members now have a way to easily view the signs. This represents international globalization because Braille is the same way of reading for every race in the world. The inclusion of Braille worldwide is a clear example of human rights being fulfilled all over the world.

Braille info here

Environment/Education



Right on the corner of street, is a sewer; something very common on the streets of Philadelphia. But, a couple years ago the Philadelphia Water Department placed the plaques shown above in front of many of the sewers in my neighborhood. The message said, "No Dumping! Drains to River!" with a cute, little fish saying Yo! I'd say this ad is pretty interesting and the color contrast definitely works to catch your attention when just looking at the dark street/sidewalk. This shows globalization on the city scale because a major water department has begun a campaign to educate the Philadelphians about the dangers of littering and dumping nasty things into the sewer. This is a growing problem, that was barely common a couple decades ago.

The Philadelphia Water Department is one of the major water departments in Pennsylvania. Many places all over the world have their own water departments that do this kind of campaigning. You must understand that although they are referring to our river; the world shares all bodies of water, in some way or another. Our contributions to the cleanliness of our water can affect water cleanliness in other parts of the world; such as Japan or Europe. Other countries have their own clean-water campaigns and standards so that the world's shared water can be cleaner overall. World water security here

Society, Culture/Migration



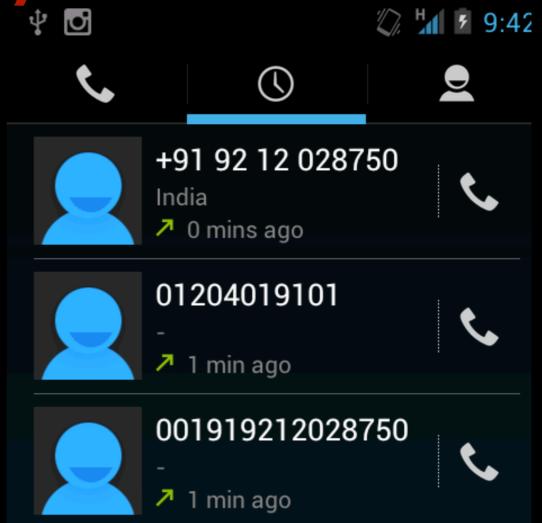
The above sign can be found in South Philadelphia near 11th and Washington. This area was once a predominately Italian area, but is now home to a plethora of different races. There is also a huge Vietnamese and other asian presence in the area and they've begun colonizing the area. For example, the sign above; which is right on the side of the street, is almost completely in Vietnamese! There are little to no words that are actually in English. This is pretty interesting to see actually. This shows how a once predominately English-speaking area is now primarily a Vietnamese-speaking area. This shows examples of colonization and their race migrating in this pocket of South Philadelphia.

Something like this, there is not a chance in the world you would see back in the 1950's for example, but now its normal. It shows globalization occurring pretty dramatically actually and how our society and even culture is changing. We are coming together and allowing other cultures to become popular and successful. I actually ate at one of these restaurants last night, and I loved the food. I am proud to have a bite of globalized food!

Vietnamese culture & America here

Economy/Trade



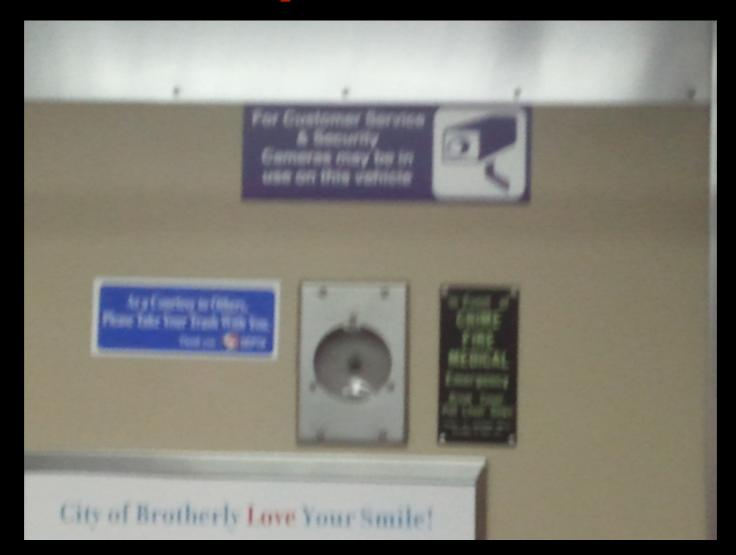


For this globalization topic, I wanted to find two examples of this in everyday life. As we all know, many of our American distributed products are actually made in China. This bottle of lotion came all the way from China. It is pretty interesting that a couple decades ago, almost all of our products were actually made in the United States. But, around the 1990's outsourcing became extremely popular when Clinton opened free-trade. American companies realized how much more profitable it would be to outsource and just import their mass-produced products at much cheaper prices for labor and costs.

The other image to the right is a screenshot from my cell-phone. As I'm sure many of us have experienced, we've called customer service and been forwarded to a call-center all the way in India. This is another example of outsourcing. It is simply cheaper to pay an Indian citizen to answer our calls and pay them hourly, than it is to pay an American here hourly. It's all about money. Since, the economy has been staggering pretty negatively over the past decade; companies are always trying to make as much profit as possible so outsourcing is the answer. This is a key sign of globalization because both our and other countries' markets and services are exchanged and often exploited. Products were once made in America and all call-centers were here; but globalization has gone with the money and companies have chosen the cheaper route.

outsourcing popularity info here

Security/Terrorism



While riding Septa subway line home, I looked on the wall of the train to see a good amount of signs advertising safety and security. The first sign shows that there is a camera watching all activity; trying to make sure any crime is caught on tape. The black sign to the right says "in the event of crime, fire, medical emergency; break seal and pull", referring to the object to the left of it. This is a clear element of security and can also be used to fight against terrorism if a SEPTA rider sees terroristic activity.

This is also a key sign of technology because this is definitely a technological advancement in our society that came from some of the technologies used in Japanese public transportation. We are always adapting new security ideas from other countries as they do with our advancements. This like the other things I've gone over in this slideshow, is something that you've never seen a couple years back but is now implemented into public transportation systems all over the world.

Public transportation security here

Economy/Trade/International Organizations



Western Union was founded in the 18th century and has been growing ever since. In 1871, they starting transferring money from country to country a service never used before. This opened up the trade market to many Americans who were not able to send money to other countries before this with ease. Western Union allows connectivity of persons between multiple countries in a safe manner.

This is a clear element of globalization because Western Union is an International Organization and offers its services all over the world after expanding from America. There is a lot of trade that occurs through western union and it allows the people's economy to flourish with open money trade. This company opens up international trade for the smaller people; a sign of growing globalization.

Western Union history here

Economy/Trade/International Organizations



As I was driving home from visiting a couple stores, I took a route down Delaware Avenue. This is the road right next to the Delaware River and there are tons of imports that come through here. Often, there are dozens of tractor-trailers and tons of boats unloading huge crates. This really shows trade and it is pretty cool to see how much is traded between us and other countries. This is related to Philadelphia because many of Philly's imports are actually done here in South Philadelphia because of the river accessibility.

The above images are of a tractor trailer that helps transport goods globally and shipping crates that have just been unloaded off a boat from a foreign country. These are clear examples of globalization and represent the economy and trade aspects of it. Trade is what helps to boost many countries's economies, including ours. With the implementation of heavy trade into our country, we've been boosting our economy. A benefit from globalization. These international organizations were also established to control the trade and help provide the services globally.

Philadelphia imports here

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