## Benefits & Challenges of Multiculturalism By: Chloe of JC1 Forbes

In an interconnected world, the idea of multiculturalism is one that is the subject of societal progress but has also become a beacon to intense debates. Multiculturalism shows richness, inclusivity and unique values within traditions as each culture is different from the other. However, it also questions identity, social cohesion and the integration of different cultures. At the core of this topic, the question lies whether multiculturalism allows society to combine or much rather lose identity.

On the one hand multiculturalism is one that exposes you to different types of cultures, traditional cuisines, arts and languages, different types of individuals come together with different perspectives. It becomes a clash of colors on one big canvas, allowing different people with different perspectives to come and educate each other to become open-minded. Furthermore, as we're now able to meet different types of people, we're able to live with one another and the same space, this is a type of diversity and cohesion that promotes mutual respect and tolerance for one another. It pushes individuals to learn further than their own culture but also include others within their own respective cultures.

On the other side of this coin, the main issue is that identities might get mixed as now these individuals are balancing two or many different cultural identities within a shared national identity which could be very difficult as times values can conflict. Additionally cultural differences are the definite reason at times to cause social tensions is their differences could lead to misunderstandings and stereotypes between different communities. Unintentionally when multiculturalism is happening, this encourages formations of isolated communities where they're solely a certain identity.

Like everything's balance is crucial, finding identity within your culture is crucial with keeping an open mind where the ability to balance diversity with our own identities.