

Pre-departure workshop



Stereotypes



World?

How do we see the



stereotypes



ster-ee-uh-tahyp

A simplified portrait of a group of people, which often assumes that they are homogeneous, and that some key traits, typically derogatory, are shared by all members of the group.

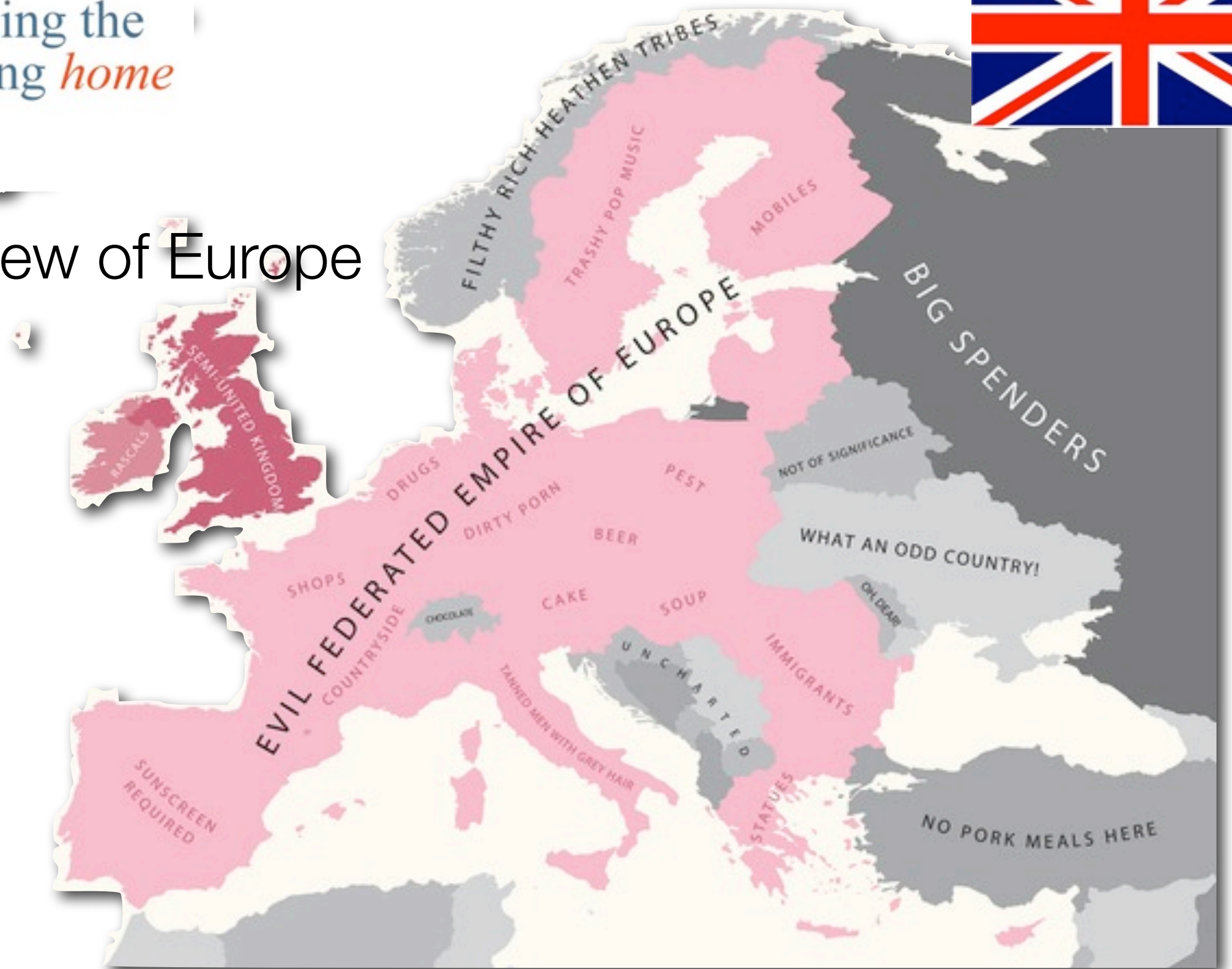
stereotypes



Bringing the
learning *home*



A British view of Europe



Map by Yanko Tsvetkov

See: <http://alphadesigner.com/project-mapping-stereotypes.html>



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A French view of Europe



Map by Yanko Tsvetkov

See: <http://alphadesigner.com/project-mapping-stereotypes.html>



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A US view of Europe



Map by Yanko Tsvetkov

See: <http://alphadesigner.com/project-mapping-stereotypes.html>

An Australian view of the World?



stereotypes

Image from the ABC2 series, 'Dumb, Drunk & Racist'
See: <http://www.abc.net.au/tv/dumbdrunkracist/>

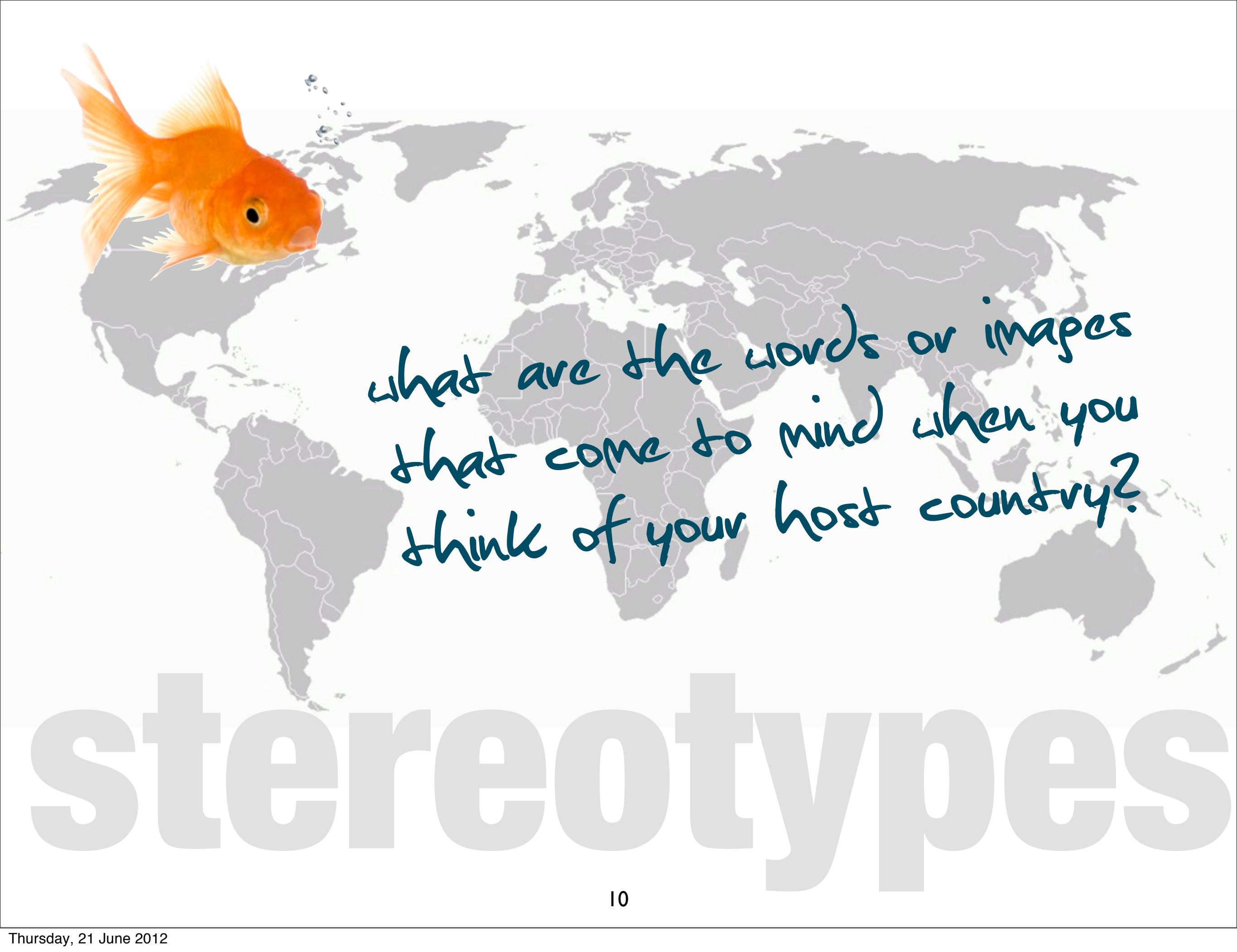


Stereotypes are a **perfectly normal cognitive shortcut** to understanding more complex realities.

Moreover, they are themselves a cultural resource, a **set of caricatures** for everything from **humour to short-hand communication**.

However, they can be a limit if they **block deeper understanding**.

stereotypes



what are the words or images
that come to mind when you
think of your host country?

stereotypes



What is the **origin** of our images?

Do you think your impressions are **widely shared?**
Personal?

Is the image **positive or negative?**

Do you think that people from your **host country**
would support the image?

stereotypes

positive & negative **stereotypes**

Overly simplified images of people can
be both negative & positive.

Some research suggests students may
start with **overly *positive* views** of
their host countries on exchange.

Overly positive stereotypes can lead to
disillusionment & disappointment.

stereotypes

trying on a stereotype:
how well do they fit?

I've noticed many weird things about Americans and their
slightly skewed perception of Australia.
The first thing is the fact that the kangaroo is the first
thing that comes up in conversation.

misperceptions



The stereotypes about Australia are so apparent when people start asking you questions like do you have Kangaroos in your backyard and other silly stuff like that.

Americans are very gullible and believe anything you tell them which can be funny at times.

misperceptions

Photo by Semuthutan, 2007.

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Original at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/azriadnan/2120116682/>



I don't exactly represent the quintessential Australian, but I offer some diversity that could potentially educate Americans about Australia, and relieve some of the simplistic views they might have of us.

I think that a country is more than just the image it projects, but sometimes the image is all people care to consider..

misperceptions

Photo, 'Australia Day - Thai Style,' by gxdoyle, 2010.

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Original at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/25792994@N04/5299579966/>

Australia Gets Drunk, Wakes Up in North Atlantic

May 5, 2009, SatireWire.com

Tired of being
isolated and
ignored,
continent isn't
bloody moving



stereotypes

‘stereotype’ & ‘culture’ what’s the difference?

- Overly-homogenising
- Derogatory (*not always*)
- Essentialising
- Superficial



stereotypes

consensual **stereotypes**

Why consent to a stereotype?

- Vested interest
- Representation
- Internalisation



stereotypes

Photo from the UK by Luke B.

Original at <http://ozstudentsabroad.com/2011/05/13/winchester-iii-darrells-revenge/>

‘cultural **intimacy**’

Anthropologist Michael Herzfeld calls ‘**cultural intimacy**’ the ‘**self-stereotypes** that insiders express ostensibly at their own collective expense.’

cultural intimacy

Herzfeld, Michael. 2005 (originally 1997). *Cultural Intimacy: Social Poetics in the Nation State*. New York: Routledge. P. 3.

‘cultural intimacy’



When is it okay for people to consider themselves ‘insider’ enough to have a go at us?

Why is it alright for us to make fun of ourselves in ways that would offend us if someone else said the same thing?

cultural intimacy

Image of superimposed maps of Australia by Adrian Acediscovery

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Original at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/acediscovery/3850986761/>

Stereotypes pre-departure workshop

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For more information: ozstudentsabroad.com or
<http://www.tlc.murdoch.edu.au/project/btlh/>



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