

International Experience

ELTI-5

Making the decision to continue my education outside of my country and far away from my family was a fateful decision because it needed a lot of **schemes**. In general, moving away from home may have negative or positive psychological dimensions on the individual. The natural explanation is that the person gets culture shock, especially to the people who cannot cope with the new civilization and interact with the people around them. Being an international student gives me the chance to have an international experience that influences my way of thinking and my personality.

First of all, the only negative psychological dimension I have faced since I moved to the United States was depression. It was difficult to integrate into a radically different society, which made me resort to introversion. After a while, I was able to acclimatize and harmonize in the new society because I tried to relate to the place where I was forced to live and to deal with it as my home. As I have to reside in the United States, it changed my view of understanding another culture and how to adapt in another country with different customs and traditions. Also, I am learning a lot by living in more than one country.

Secondly, when I moved to another country, it changed many things in me, like relying more on myself than in the **preceding** country, which has led to independence. Also, the way I think and respond to things have changed: even my relationship with God has become stronger. **Accordingly**, I formed myself and my personality despite difficulties by adding some of the qualities that would not have appeared if I were in my country.

Finally, moving to new cultures changed the way I deal with the society according to

their customs and traditions. The relationship with other people is important, so back in my country I used to rely on my family, but now the most important thing is to choose the people who I can rely on. In my country, using my family name can assist me in getting what I want, but presently, I cannot use my family name because it is not important here. I am a person who can start to have my place without relying on a family name, so I learned if I do not have strong values, I will not be moving to achieve any of my goals.

To sum up, if a person wants to go into the experience of living in new countries, he can learn many things from sailing in other people`s cultures. Without a doubt, the positive impact on me was more than the negative consequences. It raised the intellectual and cultural level and changed my personality. I learned to be patient and think solely about the positive things. Also, I can rely on myself more, strengthen my personality, and deal with situations appropriately. Even though there are many negative things about living in another country, there are more positive things that leads to have an international experience.