**The peer posts must be like a conversation between me and the poster.**

**Peer Response Guidelines: Select at least two peers who are analyzing different films. In your responses to the initial posts of these peers, assess how well their interview questions would target different aspects of the characters’ cultural practices and positions within expressions of power. Suggest at least one revision or additional question for each peer to consider, and explain how that question would be useful in understanding the character’s cultural practices. Also, consider whether your peers slipped into ethnocentrism or practiced the principles of cultural relativism.**

**Post by Mary Alfano**

Film: *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*

Character: Gus Portokalos

Role: Gus Portokalos is the father of the main character, Toula. Gus believes that his daughter at age 30, should be married and have a family by now. Gus is a Greek immigrant and has strong ideas that his Greek culture is superior to others and the only choice his daughter Toula should have, is to marry a Greek boy. When Toula meets Ian, a non-Greek, Gus struggles with the cultural differences. Eventually he does accept Toula’s choice and supports their marriage.

1. Do you feel your Greek culture is mis-understood here in America?
2. Why is it important that Toula marry by a certain age?
3. Did it help you accept Ian more because he agreed to become a member of the Greek Orthodox Church?
4. Men traditionally make family decisions in your culture, do you think that your wife plays a bigger role in decisions here than she would of if you stayed in Greece??
5. How would you react if it was your son bringing home a non-Greek girl?

These questions were asked to understand more clearly how Gus sees his role in how the family assimilates into their new community.  Opening a dialogue with Gus to discuss how his judgement of our culture effects his strong beliefs regarding his own cultural beliefs and values.

**Post by Cody De Palma**

Greetings all!

*Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*

**Character:**Samwise Gamgee

**Role:**Sam is a Hobbit, best friend to Frodo Baggins - the main protagonist of the film - and during their often perilous adventure, Sam supports and protects Frodo, even attempting to protect him from himself.

*1.*Which foods do Hobbits enjoy the most, and are there any special meals prepared?

*2.*Why are birthdays so significant?

*3.*Besides being Frodo's friend, what urged you to take on the Quest of the Ring?

4. Do you respect or admire others in the Fellowship, such as Legolas or Aragorn?

*5.*Is there a strong sense of kinship regarding fellow Hobbits or other races, especially as you share arduous experiences?

The first two questions touch on cultural norms, whereas the next three hit on anthropological concepts ( such as ethnocentrism and kinship).