## Ingredients of Culture

*What are some of those harder-to see parts of cultures?*

Here are a few examples of communication and interaction styles that vary across cultures. Because of who you are individually and culturally, you may fall anywhere on this spectrum:

*Look at each part of culture and think about where you fall on the line.*
*Is that about your culture? Your choices?*

ATTITUDE TOWARD CONFLICT

**Conflict is fine, and sometimes necessary** **Conflict should be avoided**

NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION

**Communication is often non-verbal** **Communication is only verbal**

TIME MANAGEMENT



**Time is fluid; things will get done when they get done** **We must have a schedule**

DECISION-MAKING



**Consensus is best – everyone agrees** **Majority-rule is best**

INDIVIDUAL VS. COMMUNITY



**My role is to be part of a community** **My role is to be an individual**

EQUITY VS. HIERARCHY



**Age and experience must be respected and listened to** **Everyone's ideas are equal**

FEELING VS. THINKING



**Feelings are more important than ideas** **Ideas are more important than feelings**

*What other examples can you think of? What are some pieces of our cultures that affect how we make decisions or communicate with each other or express leadership?*

*Mostly we are talking about culture in terms of ethnicity, race, country of origin, and other such categories. However, how do age, class, poverty, wealth, urban/rural/suburban origin, gender, sexual orientation or other factors also make up our culture and identity? Discuss.*