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Course

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White Horse Village

From the articles and videos, it is apparent that the diverse ideologies and responses of the villagers reveal that modernization is a tough process. A process that needs the long durations to materialize the plans put on paper to a useful and practical drive to reduce the expense and enhance the benefits of each person engaged in modernization. The varying responses from the villagers are understandable through collectivism and individualism theories.

China is an expansive nation having a high population density with most people settled in Beijing and Shanghai. Due to this migration from the rural regions, the Chinese government saw it fit to renovate White-Horse village to enable job creation for the locals and create a business hub for investors and businesspeople. This philosophy resonates with the concept of globalization, which is concerned with business, strong economic unity, and private investment (Pennsylvania State University). An instance is a man that utilizes his compensation to develop a personal enterprise. This man is the victor of the urbanization process because his life and family substantially change as he can exploit the opportunity of social revolution. Still, the limitation of globalization is the adverse impact on the environment. The pictures from the BBC article and the video on White Horse village tell it all. In 2006, the region was lush green contrasted with the factories and buildings ten years later (“White Horse Village: Beginning”). Moreover, in observing the Beijing life, it is easy to see the cars and smoke that create the air pollution in the

environment. As a result, it might be a fact to conclude that the people of White Horse village are aware that they are looking at a future that is devoid of vegetation and full of pollution.

Furthermore, the varying reactions from the villagers apparently demonstrate the comparison between individualism and collectivism. Although most of the people of White Horse village display collectivism, that resists the urbanization and the construction of a new city in their village, there are individuals like Xiao Zhang, as seen in the BBC video, that signify the individualism that promotes independence and elevates the desires of a person ("White Horse Village: Rebirth"). The BBC video shows that most of the villagers are perplexed regarding their futures, houses, families, jobs, as they are adherent to their traditions and the norms of their ancestors ("White Horse Village: Standoff"). Also, the villagers are used to the rural lifestyle and agriculture leading to a fear of possible change (Gracie). Again, the people of White Horse village believe that their government is unduly exploiting the land of White Horse village since cases of corruption are rising in the area. Still, the Chinese people have a great tradition that emphasizes on caring for the children. Farmers are compliant with the demolition of their houses for the establishment of learning facilities with modern amenities.

Incidentally, Xiao Zhang, who is exploring the opportunities in the urban areas, possesses a broad-minded philosophy but cannot enforce it. She is optimistic that urbanization can result in well-paid occupation while eliminating the need to leave her children behind (Gracie). Zhang denotes the individuals that are residing in the process of urbanization. They have the capacity to implement their dreams but exhibit reluctance in their pursuit. What is more, she is the only one in her family having a progressive vision that prefers the advancement aspect that implies giving up her house or migrating to the city for a job. Zhang's mother still observes the thinking of the farmers that supports maintaining their homes and continue agriculture in the village (Gracie).

Lastly, the White Horse farmers yield their houses and shift to flats that possess modern amenities. Their children have the opportunity if experiencing better education and the villagers get the chance to own enterprises. Xiao Zhang can perform less work and receive five times the pay than with the farming job (Gracie). This is an illustration of modernization leading to the alleviation of poverty. The village people have stores that offer building materials as the construction process is still ongoing and more individuals begin to move into White Horse village. Still, the people will have to consider other products in the long-term as the supply always exceeds the demand. Again, the BBC video demonstrates that modernization leads to the sprouting of competitors in the same fields making it harder to succeed ("White Horse Village: Betrayal").

Overall, urbanization, which is a component of modernization result, is the development of a rural region to an urban area (city). It is a complicated procedure, demanding the change of the self and social norms. When the ruling administration decides to embrace globalization and begins modernization, industrialization, and urbanization, the people must obey the government, or they lock themselves from progress. The White Horse villagers are aware of the positive and adverse impacts of urbanization. Although urbanization provides opportunities for the farmer in having a life that is more tensed, it eliminates the lush and serene environment they had.

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