

# Recruiting Across Other Cultures and Languages for Scouting

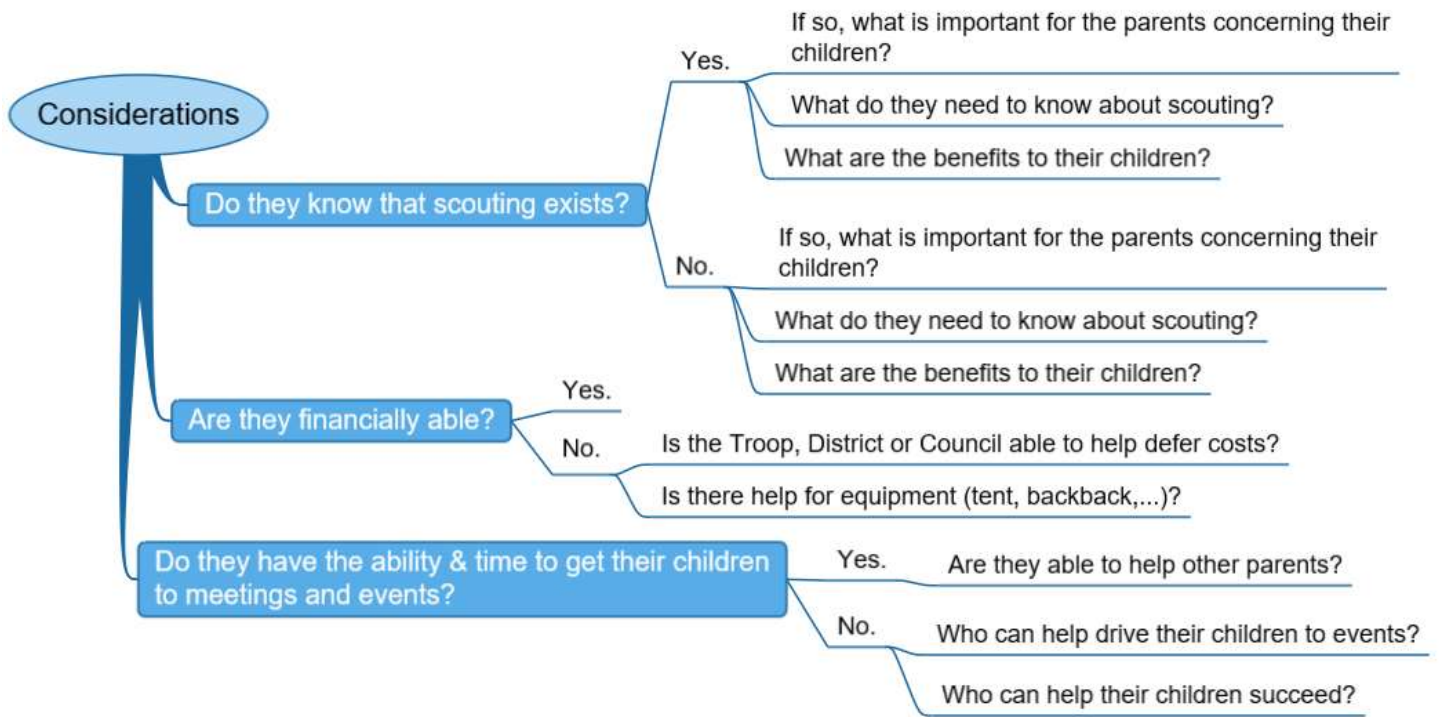
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A Dichotomous Key Approach to Assist in Your Approach



## What is important to other cultures, regions and languages that Scouting might provide

### Check off Tips

*This is not a comprehensive list and is a work in progress. Improvements and additions will always be expected.*

#### Latin America:

- ✓ Family want to be involved and know what the kids are involved in.
- ✓ Being able to learn beyond what school provides.
- ✓ Improves their community.

#### Middle East:

- ✓ Self-Improvement.
- ✓ Can lead to community improvement.

#### Asian:

- ✓ Learn to be independent
- ✓ Be part of a team and builds teamwork.
- ✓ Learn unity, to be kind, helpful and selfless.
- ✓ Scout promise, scout law and actions affecting everyday life.
- ✓ Scouting as rite of passage to becoming and independent adult.

#### Inner-city:

- ✓ Parents lack information about scouting.
- ✓ Show that scouting can provide positive role models for their children.
- ✓ Parents often need support because they may be working more than one job. How can their children get to and from meetings and events?
- ✓ By incorporating the scout promise, scout law and actions affecting everyday life.
- ✓ Instills good values and helps to keep scouts off the streets.
- ✓ Help in affording the costs of Scouting.
- ✓ Are these single parent families?

#### In General, the basics...

- Identify the need.
- How can you help them join and stay in scouts?
- What are the available resources?
- My Father's advice, "Nothing Ventured, Nothing Gained". Change does not come without being the change.

## When their *first* language isn't English

When a book is translated, it is either based on the idea being portrayed or it's done word-for-word. The latter mentioned method rarely communicates what the writer is trying to show. Although translating the idea is not perfect without considering the cultural influences and aspects of the local and national cultures. This is more than conservative, liberal, centrist and nationalist ideologies. In Central and South America, the Spanish language was injected into those cultures and countries by Spanish explorers and became intertwined with the native indigenous languages. In Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador, Quechua, the native Inca language became layered onto Spanish. In Mexico, ancient Maya language as well as Miztecs, Oaxaca, Hidalgo, Otomi and Nahua influence the national Spanish language vocabulary. The country of Spain, there are 17 autonomous communities amongst the 13 regions and 5 *official* languages. In Central Asia, the country of Myanmar (Burma) has 52 recognized ethnic groups including the dominant Burmese. Out of that number Bamar, Shan, Karen, Rhakine, and Mon are the 5 largest ethnic groups with their own languages.

When you are approaching non-English speaking or non-U.S. born groups about Scouting:

- Assuming this community is literate in reading, do you have flyers and literature available to hand out?
- For communities that use spoken language as their dominate way of communicating. Do you speak their language or do you have an interpreter?
- If this is a centralized community, who do you approach to discuss Scouting? A chief or community leader is a familiar face is a good place to start so they will more likely trust the salesman. In some instances, working through the local spiritual leader is helpful.
- There are cultures that will listen to your information if they consider you are coming from a higher position such as company manager or CEO or commander of a unit. Leaders and elder persons more often receive more respect than the grunt workers or youth of a community.
- Religion is an ingrained part of the some cultures' daily practice. You'll hear 'Gracias a Dios' or 'Allah be praised' in many conversations.
- Consider that even English has different ways to say the same thing.
- From the perspective of the Japanese language, asking a question with a negative approach (e.g. "Isn't it better to..." ) instead of stating it directly often gets a better response.