

Amelia Christy Lingkam
Anthropology 2
Friday/ 1.30-5.00
Leslie Anderson
Friday 3rd, 2008

EXTRA CREDIT – FOOD AND CULTURE

1. What is the name and cultural association of the food dish you tried?

I tried Korean traditional food called Kimchi, which is one of the top five healthiest foods in the world because it contains essential vitamins like vitamin A, B, C, etc. This food also good for diet because rich of fiber.

2. What are the main ingredients of the dish?

The main ingredient of the dish is Korean cabbage, radish, a young radish, leaf mustard, hot pepper, a green onion, garlic and ginger

3. How is this different from the foods you are familiar with and eat regularly?

The taste of this food and the color are not usual. I think this food is very unique compare to the food that I used to eat everyday, which have a lot of varieties of meat, sauce and vegetables. In my home country, the food is usually tastes sweet, but in Korean Kimchi the tastes is different. It is like a combination of sour, sweet, and spicy.

4. Food plays a large part in defining our family roles, rules, and traditions: describe one food that figures prominently in your family.

I think the food that plays a large part in defining our family is rice and fish. As we know, Indonesian is an island country where seafood is cheaper than meat. When I was in my home country, I used to eat rice and fish everyday because we think that rice is very important for our body and fish is good for our brain. We used rice as a symbol of energy and fish of cleverness. When have a lot of activities we need to eat rice to give up more energy. That's why when the first time i came to America and realized that rice is not the main food in this country, I feel a little bit awkward and not comfortable because I could not eat rice.

5. What food in your culture would be perceived as "weird" or "gross" by members of another culture?

I think people from other culture will think that it is weird to eat an RW, which is made from dog meat and it taste super spicy. I knew it because when I came back here from my vacation in my home country, I brought RW and I asked my friends, who is American and Chinese to taste it. I still remembered their expression at that time when I told them if this food made from dog meat. They seem like surprise and they told me they do not want to eat this food. After I talked with my other friend, I just realize that many American people love dog and they even think dog as their friend. So, when I came up with that food, they think it was weird to eat dog meat.