# Part 1: Thinking Anthropologically & Doing Fieldwork

## Discussion Questions (Collated from the text)

1. How do the Ju/’hoansi typically respond to one another after a hunt? Why? What mistakes did Lee make by boasting about the black ox?
2. Why was Lee the perfect target for the charge of arrogance?
3. What does this story show about conducting fieldwork?
4. Summarize the anthropological lessons learned by applying the concepts of cultural relativism and ethnocentrism.
5. What are the differences between human rights, human values, and human dignity? What is the role of culture their determination?
6. Fluehr-Lobban shares that for decades she found herself accepting FGM from a cultural relativist position, while at the same time criticizing Western practices that were harmful to women and children, such as breast implants or instances of domestic violence. Have you ever noticed yourself applying a double standard to critique some practices that are considered harmful and defend others? Are there circumstances where such a standard seems appropriate?
7. What are some contemporary human rights issues and debates where anthropological knowledge of cultural specificity might be useful?
8. Discuss the different symbolic meanings attached to veiling. What do distinct practices reveal about social status, professional occupation, religious beliefs, and so on?
9. What does the burqa represent in the “War on Terrorism”?
10. What is “colonial feminism,” and how did Laura Bush’s speech about the War of Terrorism emancipating women reflect colonial feminism?
11. What does this discussion about the burqa reveal about cultural understandings of freedom, choice, and human rights?
12. What concerns have native anthropologists expressed about non-native, Western anthropologists researching and writing about natives?
13. In what ways are ethnographies written by native anthropologists seen as preferable? Does Tsuda agree that they are?
14. In what way(s) is difference “good to think with”?