

Aryeh Tenbroek – 1<sup>st</sup> place – grades 3-5

I have done reading and research on Tibet before now and have gained my own perspective on this issue. By traveling to Tibet, I would be able to talk to the people living there and find the impacts of Chinese rule on their lives. Also by going there, I would learn what issues are most important to them and what solutions may or may not work for their situation...One of the challenges on the Tibetan culture is the relocation of the Tibetan nomads. The Chinese relocation program "has provided as many as 2.1 million Tibetans with running water, electricity and access to better healthcare and schools, but researchers at Human Rights Watch say the program has had a devastating impact on traditional Tibetan society by fracturing families, forcing nomads to give up their livestock and requiring many residents to pay for some of the costs of relocation, leaving them with sizable debts." By understanding what these people are going through, I will appreciate more that I can celebrate my own religion freely and not take my way of life for granted. My second point is that broadening your perspective can help people come up with better solutions to problems by looking at the issue from more than one side. For example, the Tibetan nomads have more modern living conditions, but their culture has been left behind if you want to fix real-world problems, you cannot ignore culture.