PEACE CORPS IN MOROCCO

Samantha Druckman, RPCV 2014-2016
WHAT IS THE GOAL OF PEACE CORPS?

1. To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women.

2. To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.

3. To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.
ABOUT MOROCCO

• Sovereign country, constitutional monarchy with elected parliament
  • Non-secular, “authoritarian regime”
  • Capital: Rabat
• Other major cities: Casablanca, Marrakech, Fes, Tangier
• 99% Muslim-majority country
• Approximately the same size as California

*As indicated by the Democracy Index, 2014
PEACE CORPS IN MOROCCO

• PCV’s have been serving in Morocco since 1963

• Currently 160+ volunteers in Morocco

• Languages learned: Darija, Amazigh languages (Tamazight, Tachelhit)

• Primary project: Youth Development
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Community-Based Training
MY SITE - BEJ AAD

- aka Boujaad, Khouribga provence
- Population – roughly 50-70,000 including outlying villages
- Moussem of Sidi Bouabid Cherki
- 2 dar chebabs, 3 high schools
- Many community organizations (tutoring, sports, volunteerism)
MY SERVICE/DAILY LIFE

• Primary project = ?
• Life skills, community development for youth with special needs
• HIV/AIDS awareness, advocacy, and education
• Teaching English
• Health fairs (hygiene, hand-washing, sanitation, nutrition, etc.)
• Community Involvement!
**NEEDS**
- water, food, and survival
- family
- To learn, communicate, technology, communication
- safety
- To have plan in the future
- To survive, to eat
- To have status in society & participation (help) to our development.
- need technology to have communication.
- Need love, peace, and safety
- peace
- to qualify gender equality, and family

**WANTS**
1. To succeed, to exam (exams)
2. To learn English, much
3. Enjoy our life, entertainment, intravel
4. jobs
   - to have company
   - needs/infrastructure
   - places for entertainment
   - public speaking
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Positives</strong></th>
<th><strong>Negatives</strong></th>
<th><strong>Changes</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Extremely hospitable culture</td>
<td>• Mostly social issues</td>
<td>• Lack of structure from PC HQ</td>
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<td>• Fast language immersion</td>
<td>• Gender inequality</td>
<td>• Roadblocks with Ministry of Youth and Sports</td>
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<td>• Flexibility to pursue multiple projects</td>
<td>• harassment</td>
<td>• More support for volunteers</td>
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<td>• Extremely diverse country, lots of opportunity to travel</td>
<td>• Religious inequality/persecution</td>
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<td>• Ample trainings to involve HCN’s</td>
<td>• lack of work and structure, variable throughout the year</td>
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<td>• MOROCCAN FOOD!</td>
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