

Figure 13.6 Getting a Grasp on Ethnocentrism (Continued)

STATEMENT	BAD	NEUTRAL	GOOD		
27. Having more than one wife at a time.	1	2	3	4	5
28. Having "barnyard" animals live in your home.	1	2	3	4	5
29. Believing that all citizens have a right to know "the truth" about what the government does.	1	2	3	4	5
30. Showing no emotions to others.	1	2	3	4	5
31. Having healthy self-esteem.	1	2	3	4	5
32. Believing in fate.	1	2	3	4	5
33. Believing that the arrangement of furniture in your home can help determine your health and happiness.	1	2	3	4	5
34. Always finish what you start regardless of the cost or consequences.	1	2	3	4	5
35. Hard work is more important than fun.	1	2	3	4	5
36. Honesty is always the best policy.	1	2	3	4	5
37. Participating in a nomadic lifestyle.	1	2	3	4	5
38. Mercy or honor killing.	1	2	3	4	5
39. Marrying children under the age of 16.	1	2	3	4	5
40. Lying to protect someone's feelings.	1	2	3	4	5

ANALYSIS: Now that you have circled a response for each statement, work with a group of students in your class or online to determine how your answers are different from or similar to theirs. This can be of significance when your responses vary by at least two numbers on the scale. (Example: If you responded with a 5 on #30 and your partner(s) responded with a 1, this is a major difference.) After you have discussed your responses with each other, write a brief statement about what conclusions can be drawn from this experience.

CONFLICT IN RELATIONSHIPS IS INEVITABLE

Why Is It Important to Learn How You Deal with Conflict?

Many people intensely dislike conflict and will go to extreme measures to avoid it. On the other hand, some people seem to thrive on conflict and enjoy creating situations that put people at odds with each other. While in college, you certainly will not be sheltered from conflicts. In fact, on a college campus where a very diverse population lives and learns together, conflict is likely to arise on a regular basis. The simple truth is, conflict is pervasive throughout our culture, and you simply cannot avoid having some confrontations with other people. Therefore, you should not try to avoid conflict; rather, you can use it to create better relationships by exploring workable solutions—hopefully win-win solutions.

Consider the Chinese symbol for *conflict* in Figure 13.7. You will see that it is made up of two different symbols: **danger** and **hidden opportunity**. Why? Because when you are engaged in a conflict, you have the potential to enter into *dangerous* territory. Violence, alienation, and irreparable damage could occur. However, you also have the *hidden opportunity* to grow,