## **Culture of Costa Rica: Homogenous Society**

When it comes to social classes, Costa Rica is homogenous.

**Aug. 19, 2008** - *PRLog* -- Costa Rica has the most homogenous population with about 3.9 million people inhabiting the region. The political and economic stability of the region, low taxes and inexpensive labor has attracted many an entrepreneur like Edward R. Mercer, who came to Costa Rica in 1988 and made it his home. Ed Mercer, along with his wife dove into the upcoming real estate market. A self taught entrepreneur, Ed took up small business ventures and turned them into the money producing machines. In time, Ed became one of he largest land owners, builders and real estate developers in Costa Rica. The developmental projects of the company of Ed Mercer are not only ecologically sustainable (so that the rainforest ecosystem is preserved) but also meet the strictest of the environmental standards. Despite hailing from Canada, Ed worked selflessly to provide the Costa Rican school children the roads and buses and fondly came to be known as Mr. Costa Rica. An accomplished leader, Ed helped thirty five other people become millionaires like him. Ed Mercer's penchant for the welfare and association with the organizations like Feed the Child, Missing Child and battered wives is recognized widely. Recently, Ed was inducted into the prestigious Environmental Hall of Fame for saving the wild life species of the scarlet macaws, white faced monkeys and sea turtles, which were on the verge of extinction. Ed got the entire area cordoned off by deploying security guards. Simultaneously, to increase the biodiversity, Ed planted thousands of almond trees that, being the natural source of food for macaws, increased the population and the sky was once again full of chirping birds. Ed also provided the sea turtles fresh protected beaches to nest with a result that their population also increased significantly.

His organization, Edward R. Mercer Foundation is committed to the betterment of the planet by the twin goals of ecological conservation and education. Ed believes in giving more and more towards the betterment of his community. Ed believes that money cannot buy happiness and hence, the rich may not necessarily be happy. Ed knows that money only magnifies who you already are.

Ed has shared the stage with prominent personalities like Bob Proctor, Jack Canfield, Deepak Chopra, T. Harv Eker, John Gray, Mark Victor Hansen, Lisa Nichols, Jay Abraham, Ron Heagy, Bob Circosta and Armand Moran.

When it comes to social classes, Costa Rica is homogenous. Most of the population is middle class. As there are families in poverty, Ed Mercer is making efforts to change lives. The income of Costa Ricans is very low when compared to other countries. There is a very elitist upper class also, besides the lower and middle class. This class essentially comprises the newly rich and the traditionally rich families. So, despite such extreme variations in the social structure of Costa Rica, it is primarily the middle class that imparts a good homogeneity to the classes as a whole.

Basically, most of the Ticos fundamentally belong to a conservative class. They are generally averse to new or strange ideas. Despite huge forays in the financial sector of the country, the society is still conservative at the roots. Some think of Ticos as being passive and lacking initiative, punctuality and quick decision making skills. Still, their traits of warm welcome, friendliness and hospitality ranks much higher. Extremely social, the Costa Ricans enjoy all the social gatherings and the public functions.

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