

Student name

Ms. Drew

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### Of Perceptions and Personal Profanity

“Sacred Cows make the tastiest hamburgers” - Abbie Hoffman (Bartlett 768:9)

With winds whirling and waves washing away the end of a God-observed war, I boarded my boat with my crewmen to partake in a journey towards my personally sacred homeland, wife, and absence of religion. My Ithaca was to be the end of my odyssey and would hold the truth about “sacred”, my new companion. The vast ocean of research ahead alluded that my trip would not be a direct one. Arrival at my sacred home was going to involve many sources from several characters in history, as well as objective reference material, from which I drew little. I dropped my anchor at many metaphoric islands and found differing perspectives, all of which individually altered my path towards Ithaca. Religion populated many of my sources, much like the deities on Greek islands. My homeland, though, was personal and lacked the presence or reverence of Gods, and, eventually, the path I followed led me there. The opinions of “sacred” differed greatly among these “island inhabitants,” however the views were all derived from the feelings that “sacred” evoked in their minds. Unlike Odysseus, however, I was able to feel that a plague of modernism and technology was removing the sacred qualities from objects, people, and most importantly, ideas; stripping wonder and mysticism from the concepts that we personally preserve and subjectively observe.