

DEFINING CUBAN NATIONALISM TRANSCENDING BORDERS



“Cuban nationalism is leaving Cuba physically, but staying there emotionally”

-Respondent from Group Interview

Table 4: Comparing responses of Cuban Americans and Cubans, to the Question 14:

What do you consider to be a symbol of Cuban national identity?”

Cuban American Responses	Cuban Responses
Flag (24)	Flag (16)
Diversity (1)	Tocoloro (4)
Cigars/Tabacco (4)	Tabacco (4)
Guayabera (2)	Guayabera (1)
Cuban Coffee (1)	Cuisine (1)
Arroz Congris (1)	Son (1)
Ropa Vieja (1)	Trova (1)
Dominoes (1)	Medical Field (1)
Jose Marti (4)	Jose Marti (1)
Religion (3)	Folklore (1)
Palma Real (3)	Palma Real (6)
La Virgen de la Caridad (3)	Flor de la Mariposa (3)
Peter Pan (1)	Charisma (2)
Coat of Arms (3)	Coat of Arms (6)
Island (1)	The Malecon (1)
National Anthem (1)	National Anthem (4)
Stories of hardship (1)	Education (1)
Struggle (1)	Rumba (1)
Cuban Exiles (1)	Treasure (1)
Hard Work (1)	Rum (5)
Sugar Cane (1)	Happiness (1)
Maracas (1)	Culture (1)
Cuisine (2)	
Café con Leche (2)	
Croquetas (1)	
Accents (1)	
Celia Cruz (1)	
Cha Cha Cha (1)	

*Respondents listed more than one national identity symbol, and each of the symbols they listed is counted in the table above.



A symbol of Cuban national identity as the: “sense of pride in where Cubans come from...trying to provide a supportive community where we all understand each other’s struggles”

-Respondent from Surveys

“The ties that unite Cuba and Angola are unbreakable...” – Oscar Ribas

Memories of pride, humanitarianism, heroism, friendship, Angola as a “grand school”, trauma, suffering, disappointment, disillusionment, brainwashing

“We Cubans who participated in that gesture are proud for having contributed to the definite liberation of many African countries from colonialism”

“Can you tell me in what way did that war benefit Cubans?”

