CONCLUSION

As I progressed through this fulfilling journey, I have felt that I have enhanced my understanding of my cultural heritage and social and cultural identity. In my endeavour to apprehend the effects of language attrition bought on my migration on the Vietnamese community in contemporary Australian society, I have developed stronger relations with persons of my micro world, allowing me to accept and raise awareness of the importance of my Vietnamese culture.

Through a culmination of both public and private knowledge, I validated my hypothesis on how migration brings upon positive and negative consequences of losing one’s native language. It may be one of the main reasons by language attrition creates a generational divide. Contrastingly, losing one’s languages may also bring upon positive ramifications through the power of globalisation, industrialisation and urbanisation.

The use of primary and secondary research in both my micro and macro worlds has contributed eloquently throughout my PIP, giving me a range of perspectives towards the issue of language attrition. When conducting secondary research, I was overwhelmed with the plethora amount of sources, including internet sites, academic journals, podcasts and documentaries that were readily available. Some sources were extremely useful to perceive the changes and continuities in the macro world.

My primary data comprised the methodologies of a focus group, interviews and questionnaires that were all extremely useful in my PIP. By collecting qualitative and quantitative data outside my comfort zone, I was able to confront strangers confidently over time, about language loss, as I firmly believed in the importance of maintaining cultural heritage and sense of individualism. Some obstacles I encountered were the language barrier between non-English speaking participants. It was also very time-consuming. Despite this, it allowed a higher level of control over how the information was collected. The focus group and interviews were exceptionally convenient in terms of my generational cross-cultural component. Additionally, the questionnaires provided me with both similar and contrasting beliefs and attitudes from my own subjective speculations. Thus, I was able to emphasise with other views and personal experiences. My personal reflection was valuable in reflecting through my memories and beliefs that I was able to mould into my secondary research.
What I lost when language dies

During this cathartic yet rewarding experience, I have gained better analytical, organisational and communication skills which would hopefully benefit me in future studies. With this hindsight, I would manage my time more effectively, as I am a huge procrastinator. As I come to the peak of my PIP, I feel a sense of satisfaction. This continuous, invaluable learning experience gave me the opportunity to engage in such independent research which aided me in re-evaluating my whole demeanour towards my heritage. More importantly, I have developed a stronger attachment towards my culture over time which assisted me in my search for self-actualisation.