Mr. Nelson – Sociology 101

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Gender Assignment

In our course of gender studies we’ve addressed the following topics in class:

The Social Construction of Gender (POWERPOINT):

* Major sociological perspectives on gender (Interactionist, Functionalist, Conflict Theorist, and feminist)
* The Binary gender system in Western cultures
* Gender roles (how we’re socialized into gendered behaviors)
* Homophobia
* Sex typed activities and gender transgressions
* The transgendered and gender queer communities
* Gender stratification (lack of female access to power, the pay gap, women’s ‘second shift’)
* Gender violence (including abuse/rape on college campuses, etc.)
* Cultural beauty ideals

Female Body Image Through History (POWERPOINT):

* Differing cultural beauty standards
* Impact of media on perceptions of beauty
* Beauty standards in different racial/ethnic communities
* History of ideal body image throughout U.S. history
* Eating disorders

**Assignmen: Gender and Music Analysis:**

Choose any 2 songs whose lyrics pertain to several of the themes listed above.

List the lyrics (either a sample or the entire song – this doesn’t count towards the length of your paper, so it doesn’t matter. No need to censor the lyrics, it’s fine)

For **EACH** song, write a 1 page analysis (so 2 pages total – not counting lyrics) where you describe (specifically) how the lyrics in the song relate to themes of gender listed above.

\***I want to see the actual vocabulary terms and themes discussed in class.**

**Assignment Option 1: Gender and Music Analysis:**

Choose any 2 songs whose lyrics pertain to several of the themes listed above.

List the lyrics (either a sample or the entire song – this doesn’t count towards the length of your paper, so it doesn’t matter. No need to censor the lyrics, it’s fine)

For **EACH** song, write a 1 page analysis (so 2 pages total – not counting lyrics) where you describe (specifically) how the lyrics in the song relate to themes of gender listed above. **I want to see the actual vocabulary terms and themes discussed in class.**

**Assignment option 2: Why I Need Feminism**

Google “Why I Need Feminism” and see some of the media images. It’s essentially a campaign where both women AND men hold up signs indicating why feminism is important in our society. Choose any 5 of the printed signs and for EACH discuss the themes of gender that it pertains to, in detail. **(MINIMUM 2 PAGES)**

\***Extra Credit** – using the hashtag #feminismsoc101 (it doesn’t exist, I checked) – upload a picture of yourself with your own original “Why I Need Feminism” poster. Note if you took this option on your paper so I can check and give you extra credit.

**Assignment Option 3: TED TALK – “Violence Against Women – It’s a Men’s Issue”**

1.) Watch the video of the aforementioned title on either YouTube or the TED TALKS app (it’s free to download).

2.) Read any recent article on sexual assaults on college campuses

3.) Using **BOTH** sources, analyze the themes of gender as they relate to gender violence and sexual assaults on college campuses in the United. States. (MINIMUM 2 PAGES)