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SOCL105-05
Dr. Grether
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Writing Journal #2

Week: 2/3-2/10

1. What did we do related to a course specific outcome(s) (p.2 of the syllabus)?

- During this week, we studied socialization. This topic specifically connects to the first Course Specific Outcome on p. 2 of the syllabus: "Describe the disciplinary framework of sociology." Socialization is the heartbeat of sociology because it's the process where individuals internalize the values, beliefs, and norms of society. When discussing socialization, we talked about the core definition of the term, its limitations, agents, types, and three sociologists who studied socialization and broadened the field. We also looked at examples of socialization in the first installment of *The Hunger Games* film franchise.

2. What specific readings and classes related to a course learning outcome(s) (p.2 of the syllabus)?

- We were tasked with reading Davis' 2007 article, "Extreme Isolation" as our core text for socialization. This reading explored two similar cases in which young girls were raised in isolation for the first several years of their lives. Their names were Anna and Isabelle and each was discovered at roughly the age of six-years-old, severely behind in early childhood development. Anna unfortunately passed away at the age of ten and Isabelle is presumably still alive and progressing steadily. This article shows the implications of being separated from society early in life, as well as how much socialization truly does affect our development and how we progress in life. While we do require a guardian to teach us the individualistic aspects of everyday life, we need society to a certain extent as well. During this week, we also watched the first *Hunger Games* movie and looked at examples of socialization within the futuristic narrative. Such examples include: Haymitch instructing Peeta and Katniss about the rules of the Hunger Games; Effie teaching them about fitting in with the Capitol's excess; and Cinna helping Katniss project a false identity of herself to the people of Panem to garner support in the arena. This was definitely my favorite activity of the week because the series holds a

special place in my heart and I'm actually writing a seminar paper on the series in relation to the sociological lens of feminism!

3. What am I still pondering about class after this week?

- One thing I am still wondering about is how long-term separation from society could affect larger people groups. In the reading, we only saw how six years' separation affected two young girls. I'd be interested to see how larger groups such as Native Americans on reservations and Amish societies are affected by their choice to live separately. Does the fact that they *chose* to live in quasi-isolation differentiate their development from the study Davis talks about? I would also be interested in viewing more dystopian societies in film (either finishing the HG franchise or even viewing others such as *Divergent* or *The Giver*) and seeing them through the sociological eye.