

## Social Psychology: Exam Two

This exam will be due in class **October 14th** No late exams will be accepted. Students must select **Three** essay questions and respond to each question completely in a **2-3 page** paper for each question. The total exam will be 6-9 pages. Essays will be 12pt Times font, double-spaced.

1. Write a write a brief discussion reflecting on your parent's and grandparent's educational attainment. How has this, coupled with the information learned from the chapter shape your own educational position and career goals. If your parents had different level of educational attainment how might your position be different based on the theories provided in Chapter 4.
2. Discuss the three ways that interactionists view the development and maintenance of stratification in society. Outline each theory and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each position, as you perceive them. Which one do you find most compelling?
3. Review the basic tenants of identity theory. Where does society play a part in our identity formation and change? Define one of the three major dimensions of our self-concept (i.e., self-esteem, mastery, and mattering). What aspects of our social life have been shown to impact it? How has that dimension of our self-concept been shown to affect our lives, if at all?
4. *A group of neighbors gathered to discuss the strange behavior of another neighbor who had been arrested for the shooting of another driver in a traffic jam. Many were shocked to hear of her behavior because she came across as a dedicated family person. She was involved in the neighborhood association and was a member of the local (PTA). One of the neighbors commented that the violent neighbor came across as very quiet and reserved, not like a violent criminal. The others agreed, pointing to several examples of positive behaviors.*

Review the basic concepts associated with dramaturgical sociology (e.g., impression management, back stage and front stage). Discuss how this theory can be applied to the thoughts, feelings, or behavior of one or more of the people in this vignette.

5. Review how children's culture relates to adult culture. First, review the three ways that children adapt adult culture into their own routines. Second, apply this knowledge to understand the maintenance of racism or sexism in the world today.
6. Consider the importance of adult socialization. Select a socialization event you have undergone (i.e. beginning college, a job, ending a relationship). Write on both personal aspects and integrate your analysis into the life course perspective. Consider how your developmental stage and other outside social events (such as a recession etc.) might have shaped your experience.