ASA TRAILS Resources

*Our Social World 6e*

# Chapter 4: Socialization: Becoming Human and Humane

1. [Agents of Socialization Visual Sociology Group Project](http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=12901)

For this assignment students will deepen their understanding of sociological theory imploring visual sociology. Students will take 10 photographs of bumper stickers or tattoos. When a person sees a bumper sticker or a tattoo they associate the message or image with the car owner or person. When a person gets a tattoo or bumper sticker they consciously realize this association will occur. Therefore, bumper stickers and tattoos may depict things that are meaningful enough to an individual that they do not mind being associated with these images or ideas wherever they go. To this end, bumper stickers and tattoos can be predictors regarding the agents of socialization exerted and the subsequent influence. Students will work in groups to both collect and analyze photographs and present findings and observations.

**Resource Type(s):** Assignment

**Authors(s):** Temple Day Smith

**Date Published:** 6/25/2016

**Subject Area:** Visual Sociology

**Class Level:** Any

**Class Size:** Any

**Language:** English

2. [Understanding Your Upbringing: How Parenting Behaviors are Socially Formed?](http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=12691)

Many students who take a lower level Marriage and Family course are interested in understanding their own family lives. This writing assignment helps develop the students’ initial curiosity into a deeper sociological understanding of their own parent-child relationships. Specifically, this assignment is designed to help students (1) understand different methods of socialization to examine their own experiences of parent-child interactions; (2) gain sociological understanding of their own upbringing, as well as their actual or would-be parenting behaviors; and finally (3) foster their sociological imagination to see the link between the macroforces of society and the microeffects of individual parenting behaviors.

**Resource Type(s):** Assignment

**Authors(s):** May Takeuchi

**Date Published:** 3/15/2013

**Subject Area:** Family

**Class Level:** College 200

**Class Size:** Any

**Language:** English

3. [Presentation-of-Self Exercise](http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=12477)

In this in-class exercise students are sensitized to the presentation of self in a modified speed-dating setting and gain experience in qualitative research by engaging in participant observation. Students meet in pairs and talk with one another in back-to-back 3-minute interactions. Immediately following the meetings, they confidentially record “field notes” as they reflect on the social psychological processes of impression formation and impression management. The exercise, which also works well as an icebreaker early in the semester, is an entertaining and useful way to introduce principles of symbolic interaction and presentation of self in an interactive context.

**Resource Type(s):** Class Activity

**Authors(s):** Jeff A. Larson, William Tsitsos, Kalfani Ture’

**Date Published:** 7/25/2011

**Subject Area:** Introduction to Sociology/Social Problems

**Class Level:** College 100

**Class Size:** Medium

**Language:** English