

First Essay Assignment

Due Date: Oct. 9, in class, at the start of class

Write an essay answering the following questions:

Briefly summarize the main points in Candace West and Don Zimmerman's argument that we "do gender." In other words, explain what pushes us to do gender, or why we do gender, and also what we accomplish by doing gender. Then briefly (in a short paragraph) summarize Emily Kane's (2006) findings on fathers' reactions to their preschool-aged sons' nonconforming gendered behaviour. Kane develops an argument about why the fathers respond as they do. Finally, then, explain what assumptions (or points) from the doing-gender approach Kane uses to make sense of her findings about fathers and their sons – why fathers react as they do.

Write a proper essay. You should have an introductory paragraph that tells us how the paper is organized, and a thesis statement that tells us what you will argue. The paragraphs in the body of the essay should each have one main point (or one idea only) and the sentences in them should explain or elaborate on that point. The paragraphs should follow each other logically. You should finish with a concluding paragraph that summarizes what you have argued in a couple of sentences.

Requirements/Specifications:

Every essay should have a title page and a page of "References" (listing what you cited)

Page limit: 5 pages of text (not counting the title page and page of references)

Citation style: APA

Font (type size): 12 pitch (no smaller)

Spacing: double spacing only!

Margins: about 1 inch (2.2 cm) all around

Presentation: just staple your essay; do not use a binder of any sort

Be especially careful to avoid plagiarism. DO NOT COPY phrases or sentences from any source without properly citing it. That is, use quotation marks around phrases or sentences that you copy. (And be sure to cite the author's surname, the date of publication and the page number – in parentheses.) If you paraphrase from any source (i.e., do a close summary of a writer's work, or use a sentence very close to one written by someone else), or use a fact from something you read, you must also cite the author's surname, date, & page number(s) in parentheses. BUT try to use your own words unless you have a specific reason for quoting or even paraphrasing. (Avoid citing Prof. Fox.)

Be careful: Plagiarism is a serious academic offense, and will be taken seriously.

Then, using an additional page, list your Reference(s) at the back. (Look at how this is done in the readings in the Kimmel, Aronson and Kaler book.)

Do not use any sources other than course material!