Writing Assignment II:
Comprehending, Applying and Analyzing Culture and Socialization

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate your ability to define and identify cultural components as they relate to published literature and your own perspective.

THE TASK: Use the article Morals, Suicide, and Psychiatry (Young, 2002), as well as your Brym and Lie (2012) textbook and class-notes, to respond to all questions in Task A. Furthermore, respond to all statements/questions in at least one other Task (B or C). Make sure you define concepts before discussing them!!!

Submit your final draft by start of class Tuesday, April 14.

Task A. Connecting sociological dots from Chapter 2 to Chapter 1
1. What is culture? Provide an example of material culture and non-material culture from the Young article.

2. Young (2002) suggests that various cultural elements are associated with suicide in America and Japan. What are these cultural elements? How do these cultural elements impact each society's perspective on suicide?

3. According to Durkheim, what type of suicide is discussed in the Young (2002) article? Does Durkheim's theories about suicide even apply in a Japanese context? In other words, do you think Durkheim's theories about social solidarity are true in Japan?

4. How does the Young article qualify as sociology? How does the article not qualify as sociological research?

Task B. Culture as a freedom and constraint
1. Clearly identify two elements of your own culture (one material, one non-material): what are these elements specifically and how do they help you survive?

2. Search online for evidence of a society that is different from your own culture (be creative). Be sure to address, specifically, which society you are discussing and what cultural tools are used to improve survivability. Also, make sure you cite your internet source!

3. When studying culture, it is important to remain culturally relative. When might cultural relativism be difficult to utilize? What concept(s) from the Brym and Lie (2012) text might impair the ability to remain culturally relevant? Be sure to use a specific example.

Task C. Implications of social isolation and socialization
1. What is socialization? Explain how children raised in extreme isolation have contributed to our understanding of the socialization process.

2. Summarize the socialization theory known as "The Looking-Glass Self." Use a specific example from your own experience to address all three elements of the theory. How did you interpret others' perception of your behavior? Did you ultimately accept or reject your interpretation of others' perception?

3. Brym and Lie (2012) discuss four agents of socialization; which agent do they consider the most important and why? What is the most important agent of socialization in your life, currently, and how does it operate? Be sure to use terms/concepts from Chapter 3 to address the consequences of your association with particular elements of your society.
THE GRADE: Essays will consist of **two pages but no more than three pages** in length: writing on one side of a page constitutes one page; writing on the front and back side of a page constitutes two pages. Select Times New Roman, 12-point font with double-spacing. Grades primarily derive from student’s ability to comprehend textbook and lecture material while “breaking down” cultural constructs.

Heading information belongs in the top left corner should include:

Name

SOCI 1010

Writing Assignment 2: Culture and Socialization (Task A & B or C)

Date Submitted

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<th>Content</th>
<th>Grammar</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Formatting</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>“A-B” paper</strong></td>
<td>Respond to 2 tasks; at least 1 paragraph per question/statement</td>
<td>Fewer than 4 grammatical and/or spelling errors</td>
<td>A clear introduction and conclusion; one main theme per paragraph; logical flow.</td>
<td>A page length of 2 to 3 pages; proper heading information</td>
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<td><strong>“B-C” paper</strong></td>
<td>Respond to 2 tasks; all questions answered</td>
<td>4 to 6 grammatical and/or spelling errors.</td>
<td>An unclear introduction and conclusion; one main theme per paragraph; logical flow.</td>
<td>A page length of 2 pages; proper heading information.</td>
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<td><strong>“C-D” paper</strong></td>
<td>Respond to only 1 task; all questions answered</td>
<td>7 to 9 grammatical and/or spelling errors.</td>
<td>No intro or conclusion; general logical flow but not very well done, not consistent on paragraph theme.</td>
<td>A page length of 1 to 2 pages; improper heading information.</td>
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