

1. When you think of the term “Marxism” what kinds of images race through your head? Do you think that the connotation of “Marxism” has become so negative that people may not be willing to seriously consider Marx’s ideas?
 - a. In my mind, the first thing that comes to my mind when I hear the term “Marxism” is the similar idea to Communism. I have this idea that Marxist would greatly like the idea of sharing your wealth. Everything that you do, and everything that you make must go back into the pool pot and distributed amongst everyone. This would include the media and the idea that no one would really be able to voice their opinion because they would need to get approval from every single person at every level including the government. This is why I believe this term has such negative connotations for people to seriously consider Marx’s idea into fruition.
2. Likewise, what do you think of when you hear the term “feminist”? This word also has many societal connotations. Do these connotations prevent people from seriously considering feminist perspectives?
 - a. When I think of the term “feminist”, I immediately think of the feminist group and not actually the idea of feminism. Feminist from the feminist group are some of the most despised people in all of society. In my honest opinion, I believe it is because they are like the other groups found within our society such as the LGBT community and BLM community. While I agree with the idea and foundation all three of these groups were founded on, I absolutely hate the groups and what they stand for. The reason being is because they all pick and choose their battles and for how long they

fight for it. These groups are all phony and attention seekers. For the most part, they lost sight of the real reason why these groups were formed.

They will stand up and voice their opinions for specific occasions and just sit on their hands for other occasions. I believe this is why many dislike the groups themselves and do not consider the feminist group seriously.

People also forget that not everyone have the same motives as the majority of the group, but the bad outweighs the good. Thus, reasons why the group struggles to be taken seriously.

3. How does Stuart Hall's approach to hegemony differ from the original Marxist approach? Which, if either, do you feel is more accurate?
 - a. I believe that the Marxist approach is far more cookie cutter and tries to imply that everyone is the same and has the same meanings as everyone else. This approach also implies that each interpretation should be the same throughout, and that is just simply not the case here. With Stuart Hall's approach, it is more apparent that this idea is more accurate. There are many different ways to approach every situation. People can also look at everything from multiple different angles if they have the mindset and awareness to view things from different angles in such a way.
4. Do you feel that meaning lies in the text, in the user of the text, or in some combination?
 - a. I feel like meanings lie in the user of the text majorly. The first reason as to why I say this is because of people using the word "Nigga" as a term of endearment, and the word "Nigger" as a term of insult. Because of the

words history, many Black people tried to diminish all of the hurt and negativity out of the words themselves so that they no longer offend people when it is said to them. By using nigga as a term of endearment, they are trying to show that they no longer fear the word or get offended by them. The Black community really created an unwritten rule for these words that many people tend to follow and understand. If you use “nigga” you know that the person is cordial with you and not trying to be offensive, but if you get called a “nigger” then chances are the person is trying to hurt feelings no matter the context. The second reason is love. People can write that they love someone, but then do things that are the complete opposite. So, they might claim it all they want, but if their actions do not align with their words then one would know what they wrote were meaningless.

5. Do you feel that representations of others in media—from news to billboards—are just and equitable, fair to all involved?
 - a. I completely disagree with this statement for a few reasons. The first reason being that some of these billboards have ulterior motives and will use people for their own personal benefits. I believe a few years ago the clothing company H&M was in some hot water for their newly released advertisements of their kids hoodies. They had Black children model in their new monkey hoodies. While H&M claimed they were being more inclusive and diverse by including people of color as some of their models, they completely failed to acknowledge the obvious underlying racism

present. That is just one of many instances where people try to claim that they are trying to represent all people involved in society. So, to answer the question upfront, no I do not feel that representations of others in the media are just and equitable, fair to all involved especially towards Black people and other peoples of color.

6. If you accept critical theory's goal of equality and resistance to traditional power structures, what implications would that have on the media texts (news articles, photographs, web pages, and so on) that you produce?
 - a. I do accept critical theory's goal of equality and resistance to traditional power structures. I believe it is starting to make people rethink all of their thoughts and previous views of life. I believe that they could potentially make the change in society that they are so desperately looking to make. People now realize that whatever they post is permanent, so they would also double check their sources and make sure that they do not offend anyone or say anything that could be remotely offensive. People like to protect their image, so people are starting to change in order to not make themselves look bad in front of others.