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Gender Studies

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Gender Studies Annotated Bibliography

Lorde, Audre. “Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power.” *Women’s Lives: Multicultural Perspectives.* Ed. Gwyn Kirk and Margo Omazawa-Rey. McGraw-Hill Education, 2012. Print.

In Audre Lorde’s text “Uses of the Erotic,” she discusses how the term “erotic” has been used to sexualize and objectify women in the industry of pornography. Lorde goes on to state that “the erotic” refers to self-fulfillment and empowerment of all beings. This text is important to gender studies because it reveals how so many terms have been misnamed by men and how this in turn has led to the complacency of so many women.

McIntosh, Peggy. "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack." *Race, Class, & Gender: An Anthology*. Ed. Patricia Hill Collins and Margaret L. Andersen. Belmont: Wadsworth Publishing, 2010. Print.

Peggy McIntosh’s text, “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack,” she explains how white privilege is a deliberate manifestation of the racism that still exists in social institutions. Moreover, she describes the ability of privileged groups to effortlessly overlook their privilege. This text is important to gender studies because it forces you to look at race and its relationship with gender.

Patricia Hill Collins. "Systems of Power and Inequality." *Race, Class, & Gender: An Anthology*. Ed. Patricia Hill Collins and Margaret L. Andersen. Belmont: Wadsworth Publishing, 2010. Print.

In the article, “Systems of Power and Inequality” by Patricia Hill Collins, she addresses the intersectionality of different systems such as race, gender, and class. In other terms, social structures can not be looked at as independents because on the basis of race, gender, sexuality, and class, individuals can be oppressed and privileged simultaneously.

Pough, Gwendy. "Love Feminism, But Where's My Hip Hop?" *Women’s Lives: Multicultural Perspectives.* Ed. Gwyn Kirk and Margo Omazawa-Rey. McGraw-Hill Education, 2012. Print.

In “Love Feminism, But Where’s My Hip Hop,” Gwendy Pough discusses how hip hop has created a tainted image of the black female identity. Pough addresses homophobia, heterosexism, and the objectification and disrespect of black women in hip hop. This article was particularly important to me because it really helped me to realize how even the music I listen to is used to police my identity as a black woman.

Thelma & Louise. Perf. Geena Davis, Susan Sarandon. 1991. Film.

Thelma & Louise is a film about two best friends who go on a roadtrip that defies patriarchal standards and gender norms. This film forced me to extend my thinking on the portrayal of the supposedly “empowered” women in films today. I have realized that so many films perpetuate the idea that the happiness of a woman is subservient on a man.