

SOCI 2700 – POWER & EVERYDAY LIFE

ASSIGNMENT # 2 – EVERYDAY STRATEGIES & TACTICS

DUE NOVEMBER 23, 2007

This assignment requires that you conduct basic library research and write three (3) short essays.

Essay 1—Mandatory

Using examples from at least two academic sources, explain the differences between De Certeau's "strategies" and "tactics" and how they can help people understand—and negotiate—relations of power in their everyday lives.

Essays 2 & 3—Please choose two (2) of the following three (3) options.

Option 1

Drawing on assigned readings and class lectures, summarise the main arguments in Debord's "society of the spectacle" and Vaneigem's "revolution of everyday life." Using concrete examples, discuss how Situationist tactics like *dérive* and *détournement* could serve to reconfigure relations of power in your everyday life.

Option 2

Using examples from assigned readings and class lectures, discuss the impact that feminist perspectives have had on theorising everyday life. Using examples from your own life, discuss the kinds of women's knowledge and experience that have helped shape your understanding of power relations in everyday life.

Option 3

Drawing on assigned readings and class lectures, describe some of the ways in which people critically and creatively use the objects around them to reconfigure relations of power. Using examples of things you have made or modified, discuss some of the ways you subvert and resist social and cultural expectations.

Evaluation

Each assignment must include:

- 1) A cover page;
- 2) three essays (each 2 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt. font); and
- 3) a bibliography in ASA or APA style at the end of each essay.

Each essay is worth 15 marks:

Content (10 marks)

Essay reveals clear evidence of research, either library-based or reading and lecture notes; demonstrates comprehensive understanding of the relevant theories and theorists; critically and creatively applies this research and understanding to social relations and interactions, and personal experiences.

Structure & style (5 marks)

Essay uses proper spelling and grammar; includes a descriptive title, introduction, body and conclusion; includes properly formatted citations and bibliography.

Total:

45 marks – 15%