



FLESHED OUT

The Body Politic

2016-17 Interdisciplinary Investigation Series

HOW DO WE CONTROL “DANGEROUS” BODIES?

March 2

Thirsty Hippo, Downtown Hattiesburg, 5:30 p.m.

usm.edu/interdisciplinary-studies/interdisciplinary-investigations

How do we know a body is dangerous??



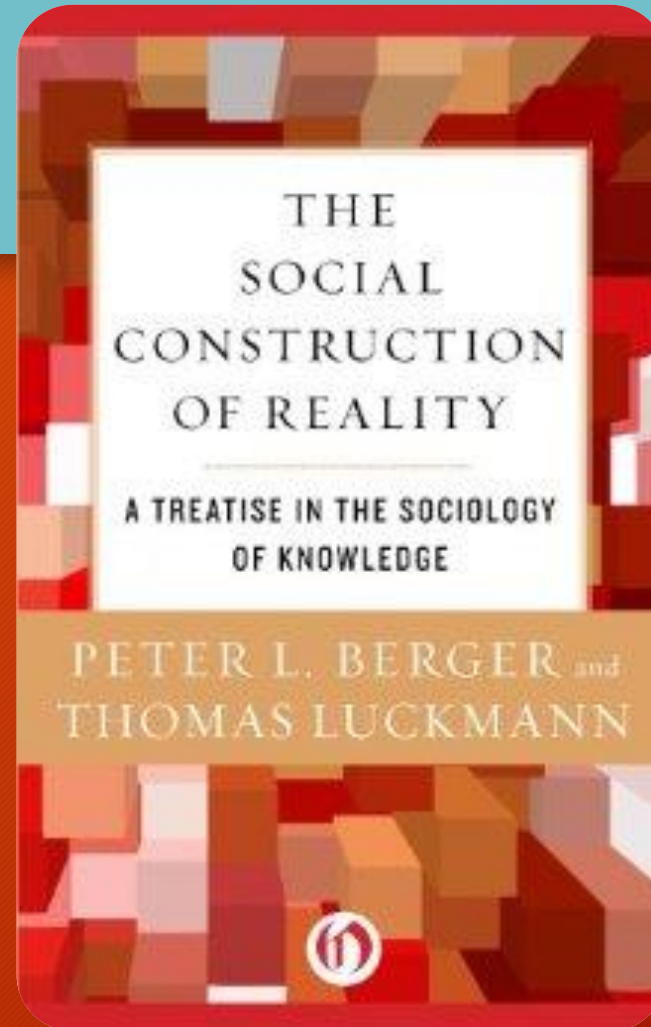
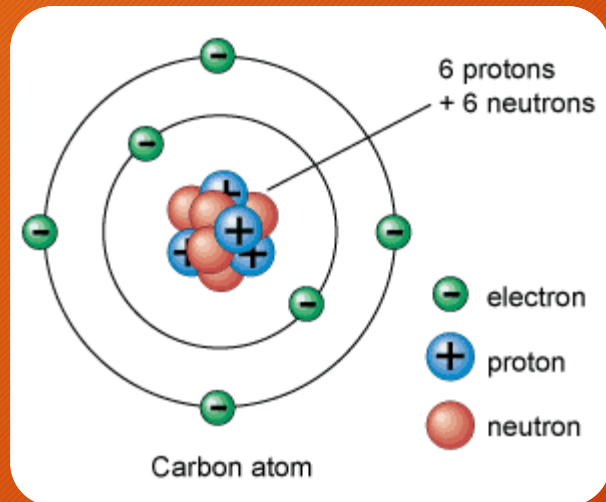
Dangerous??



Dangerous??

How do we know anything?

- What is reality?

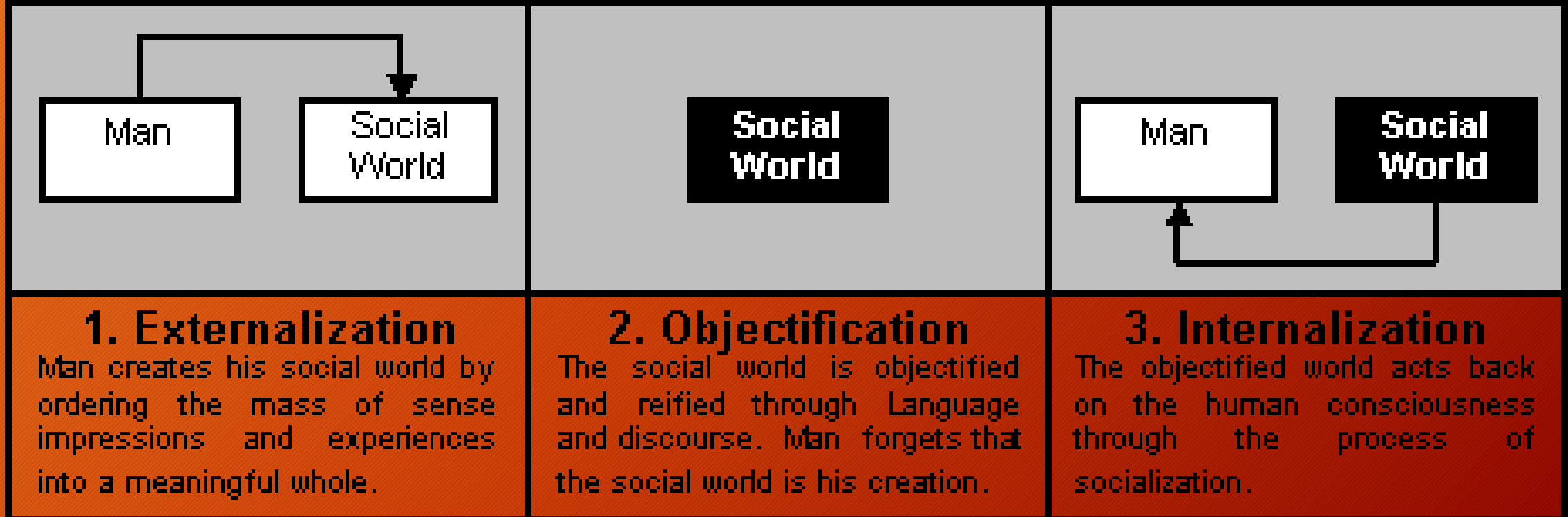


Social Construction of Reality

It is our contention, then, that the sociology of knowledge must concern itself with whatever passes for 'knowledge' in a society, regardless of the ultimate validity or invalidity (by whatever criteria) of such 'knowledge'. And in so far as all human 'knowledge' is developed, transmitted and maintained in social situations, the sociology of knowledge must seek to understand the processes by which this is done in such a way that a taken-for-granted 'reality' congeals for the man in the street. In other words, we contend that *the sociology of knowledge is concerned with the analysis of the social construction of reality.*

Social Construction of Reality 1966

BERGER AND LUCKMANN'S SCHEMA



The problem of “relativity”

- We create a meaning system
- We impose order on the world
- We internalize order through socialization
- BUT meaning/order is able to be changed



Dangerous Bodies

- The internal body
- The external body
- The adorned body

The Internal Body - Menstruation



#15GIRLS

A Girl Gets Her Period And Is Banished To The Shed: #15Girls

October 17, 2015 · 6:34 AM ET
Heard on Weekend Edition Saturday

Ancient Hindu scriptures say women are highly infectious during their periods, that "all her body is so weak that viruses come out of her mouth and her limbs," says Mukunda Aryal, who has studied Hindu culture for 40 years.

WOMEN & GIRLS

A Young Woman Died In A Menstrual Hut In Nepal

November 28, 2016 · 1:51 PM ET

The Internal Body - Menstruation



The Internal Body - Menstruation



Kiran Gandhi, a drummer for singer M.I.A. and Harvard Business School graduate, was called “disgusting” and “unladylike” after she ran the 26.2-mile race in April with blood running down her legs. She said she did it to raise awareness about women around the world who have no access to feminine products and to encourage women to not be ashamed of their periods.

“You see, culture is happy to speak about and objectify the parts of the body that can be sexually consumed by others,” she told PEOPLE. “But the moment we talk about something that is not for the enjoyment of others, like a period, everyone becomes deeply uncomfortable.”

She added: “Women’s bodies don’t exist for public consumption.”

The Internal Body - HIV

- What does someone with HIV look like?



Michelle



Alora



Precious



Nina



Gracia



Loreen

The Internal Body - HIV

- What does someone with HIV look like?

Q body of an hiv infected person

Dec 12, 2010

would like to see how an infected person looks like

A Response from Dr. Frascino



Robert J Frascino, MD
The Robert James
Frascino AIDS
Foundation

Hi,

Sure. Take a peek at my smiling photo on this site. That's how an HIV-infected person looks.

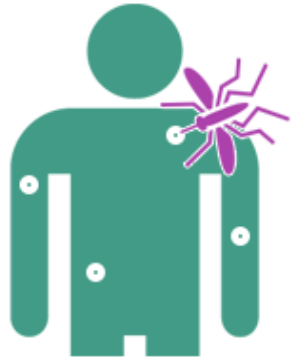
Dr. Bob

Dr. Bob

The Internal Body - HIV

- How is HIV transmitted?

HIV IS **NOT** TRANSMITTED BY...



Insect bites



Toilet seats



Kissing



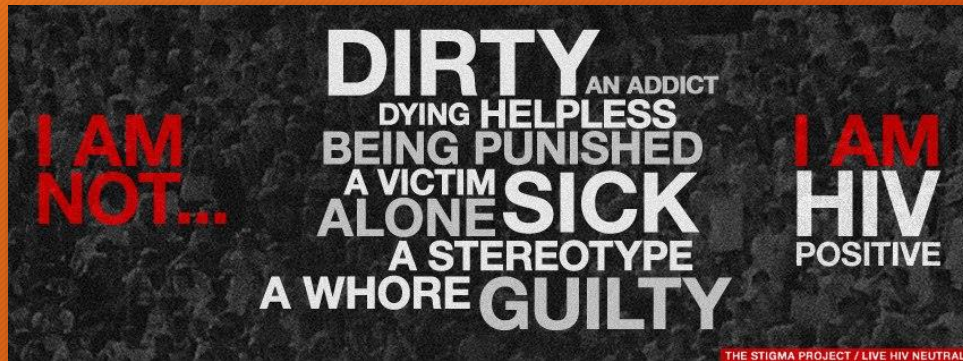
Sharing cutlery



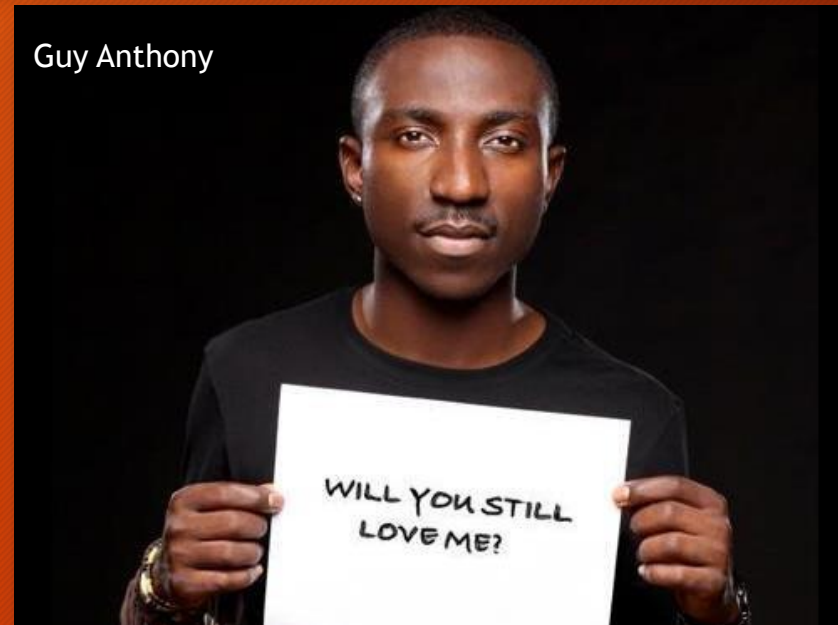
Touching

The Internal Body - HIV

- The stigma of HIV



Guy Anthony



"I was more so afraid of the stigma attached to the disease than the actual disease," he says. "You know, because every day I have to sort of wake up and deal with the fact that I am a black gay man in America. And that's difficult in itself. So, to add, HIV positive serostatus onto that, it can be a lot."

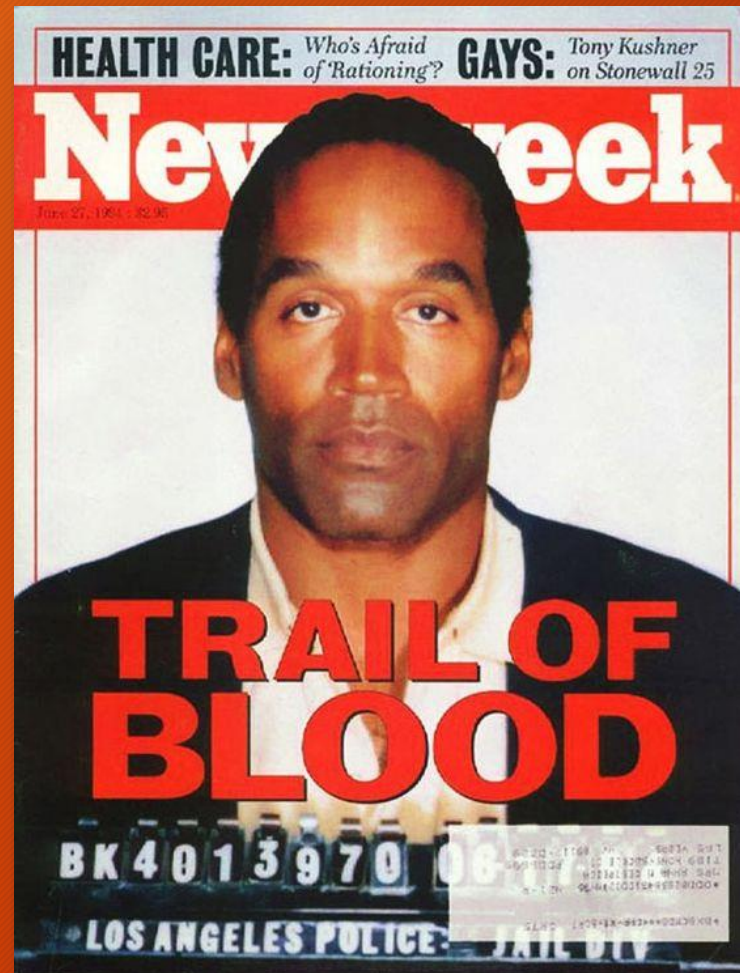


ASC

AIDS SERVICES COALITION

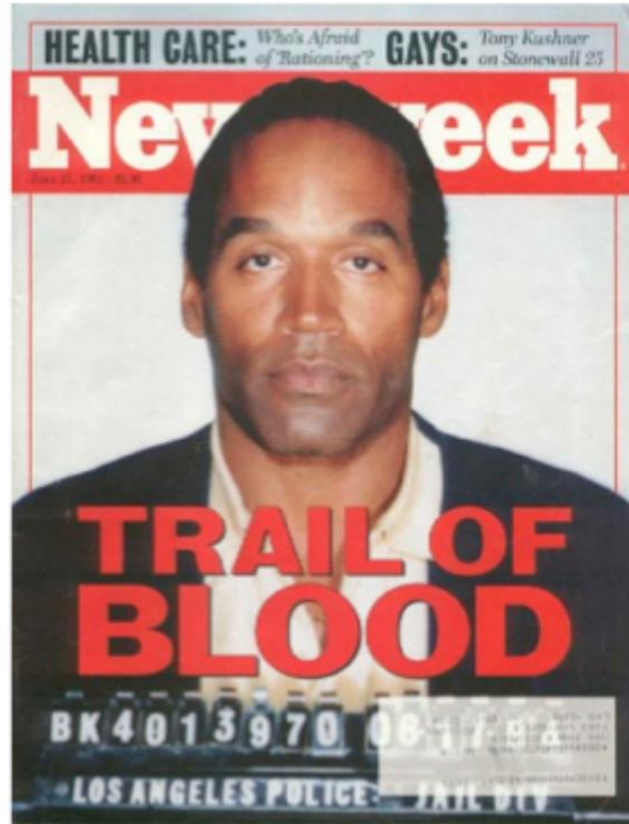
ASC is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide services and support to those persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

The External Body - Skin Color



June 27, 1994

The External Body - Skin Color



The External Body - Skin Color



Henry Louis Gates, Jr.



July 16, 2009

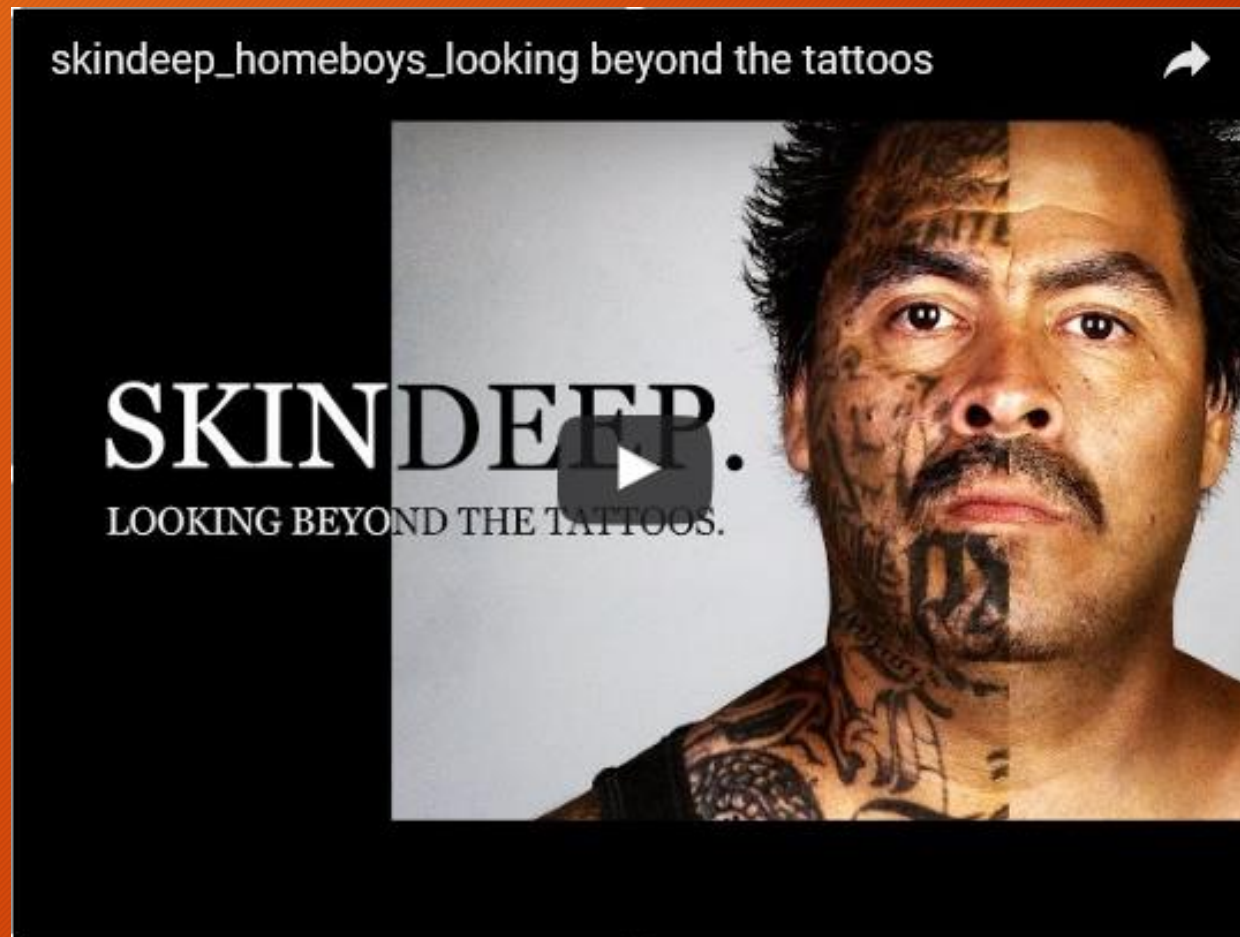
The External Body - Skin Color

- **Criminalization:** the inability to separate a person from criminality based on their group identity
- **Black skin** is the schema that we use to evaluate whether a person should be criminalized. (Rashawn Ray, University of Maryland)

The External Body - Skin Color

- **Routine Policing** - “stop and frisk” - NYC
- In 2015, New Yorkers were stopped by the police 22,939 times.
 - 18,353 were totally innocent (80 percent).
 - 12,223 were black (54 percent).
 - 6,598 were Latino (29 percent).
 - 2,567 were white (11 percent).
- 90% of Black men were innocent
- Profiling → Racial bias
- Creating socially destructive relationships & cycle of distrust

The Adorned Body - Tattoos



youtu.be/Rj9tc5KnHd4

Social Construction of Dangerous Bodies

- We create a meaning system
- We impose order on the world
- We internalize order through socialization
- BUT meaning/order is able to be changed



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

FLESHED OUT

The Body Politic

- **WHAT IS A "BODY"?**
September 15
- **HOW DO BODIES PERFORM?**
October 13
- **HOW ARE BODIES SHAPED BY TECHNOLOGY,
AND HOW IS TECHNOLOGY SHAPED BY BODIES?**
November 3
- **HOW DO WE BRAND THE BODY?**
February 9
- **HOW DO WE CONTROL "DANGEROUS" BODIES?**
March 2
- **WHAT IS AN "ABNORMAL" BODY?**
April 13



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