Contemporary Social Problems

SYG2010001
Summer 2016
MWF 11:00 - 1:20

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Required Readings

Course Overview

Throw a stone like a girl. How would you do that?
That person is not a real American. What does that mean?
He is not masculine enough or she is not feminine enough. How do you measure that?
S/he is poor because he has not worked hard. Is this the only reason for one’s poverty?

In this course, we will try to learn about theories and methodologies which help us to tackle these questions. We will work together throughout the semester to use our sociological imagination in order to gain an in-depth knowledge about a variety of social problems. We will question the taken-for-granted, de-construct discourses, and critically examine the reasons behind the development of social problems. We will also try to see what the proper steps towards addressing these problems are. To do so, we will draw on a variety of sources, watch documentaries, write reflective essays, do outdoor activities, and group works.