CONTEMPORARY ISSUES:
SOCIOLOGY OF PREJUDICE AND HATE

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PREJUDICE AND HATE
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1) A paper of approximately 10-15 pages in length. Please have topic approved before you begin. Make sure that the library research for your paper includes at least some of the readings required for the course--actually, the more the better. Illustrative topics: explanations of hate and prejudice, the role of the spectator in the acceptance of the Nazi Holocaust, the functions of stereotyping, personality factors in the maintenance of prejudice, justifications for hate crime legislation, economic factors in the genesis of discrimination, childhood variables associated with hatemongering, skinhead culture and the internet, the causes of race riots, murder committed by organized hate groups, and so on. As an alternative to a library paper, it is acceptable to conduct a small study and report your results in the form of a mini-journal article consisting of a brief review of literature, method, results, and discussion. I would be happy to provide guidance and direction.

2) A weekly one-page paper in which you begin to answer a question related to the assigned readings. Please make sure that your papers include at least some of the ideas presented in the articles you are asked to read.

3) Required Readings. Photocopied materials, available from GnomonCopy, 325 Huntington (across from quad), 617-536-4600

SOC3410
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES:
SOCIOLOGY OF PREJUDICE AND HATE
A. Prejudice and Hate—Defining Terms (prejudice/ hate/ hate crimes/ discrimination/ stereotypes)


B. Trends in Prejudice and Hate—and So What?


C. Hate Crimes and the Law


D. Explaining Prejudice and Hate

*Benign Prejudice?*


*Culture*


*Personality*


*Social and Economic Factors*


E. A Typology of Hate

24-Franklin, “Antigay Behaviors Among Young Adults,” *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* (April, 2000).

F. Organized Hate


G. Hate in International Perspective


H. Reducing Prejudice and Hate


32-Aronson, “Building Cooperation, Empathy, and Compassion in the Classroom,” *Nobody Left to Hate: Teaching Compassion After Columbine* (New York: Freeman, 2000)


34-Levin, “The Production of Rebels, Deviants, and Other Decent People,” *The Violence of Hate* (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2002).