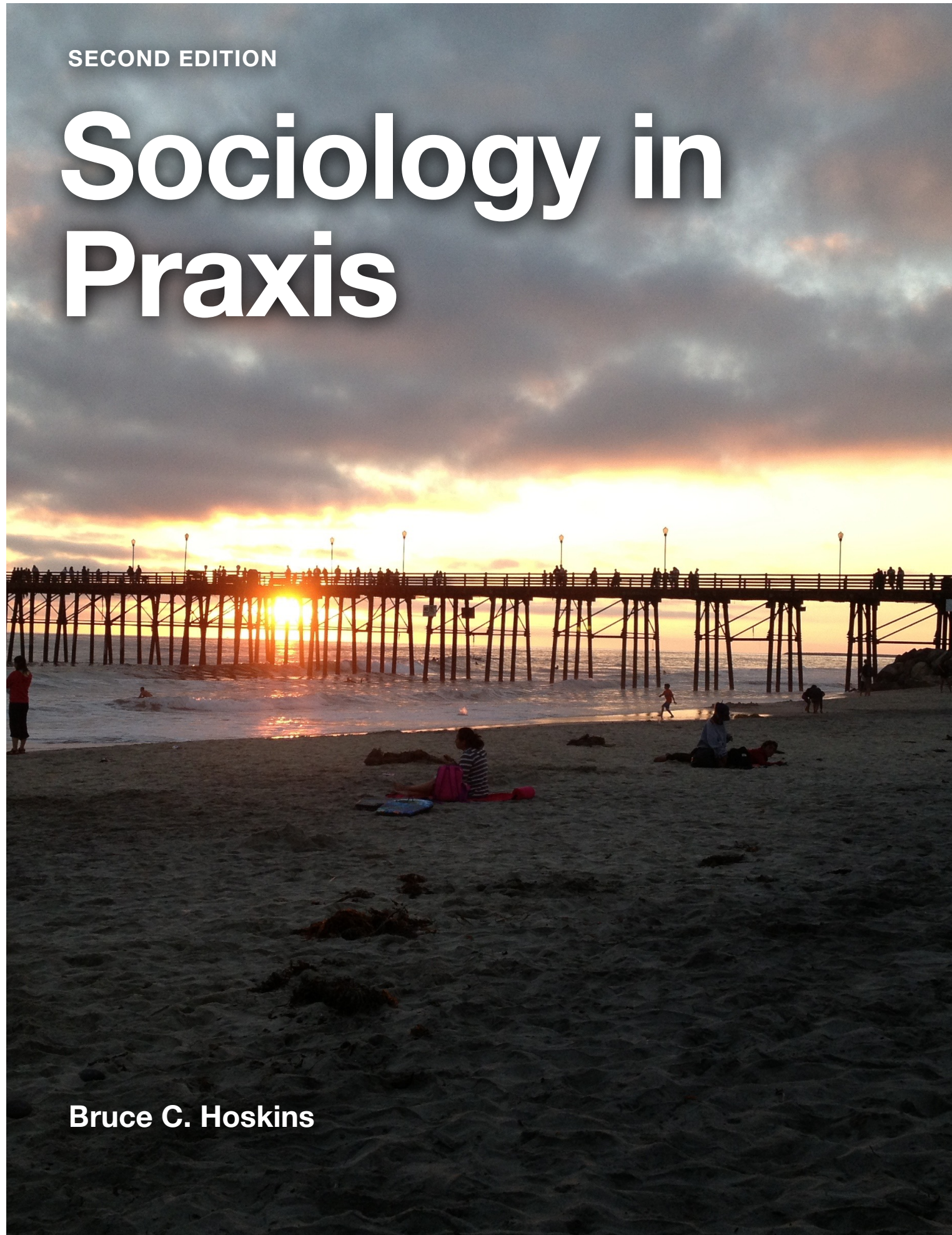


SECOND EDITION

# Sociology in Praxis

Bruce C. Hoskins





## Chapter 2

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# Sociological Research







## Section 1

# Sociology as Science

Although many people believe that sociology is the “science of common sense,” this does not take away from the fact that sociology is indeed a science. As a discipline, we examine social behavior using the **scientific method**, which is a systematic, organized series of steps that tries to obtain maximum objectivity and consistency in researching a problem. Therefore, the findings that are produced are not a result of our opinion about a matter, but about data-driven research.

Sociologists use the scientific method for *three* basic purposes. *First* is to help with identifying social patterns, e.g. Do women get paid less than men? *Second* is to assist in the process of determining possible causes of the occurrence, e.g. Is the real reason women get paid less because they are concentrated in jobs that do not pay well? Do women take more time off of work to raise children than men? Are women more likely to engage in part-time employment than men? (see Chapter 8: Sex, Gender and Sexuality) *Third*, and perhaps most important, is so that other researchers can try and replicate the proposed findings, e.g. After controlling for all of these factors and many others, social scientists continually find that women are paid

approximately \$.79 to the male dollar. Although statistics do not account for the exceptions to this rule, i.e. Oprah and J.K. Rowling to name a few, it does **CLEARLY** identify the social pattern that the vast majority of women face on a day-to-day basis.

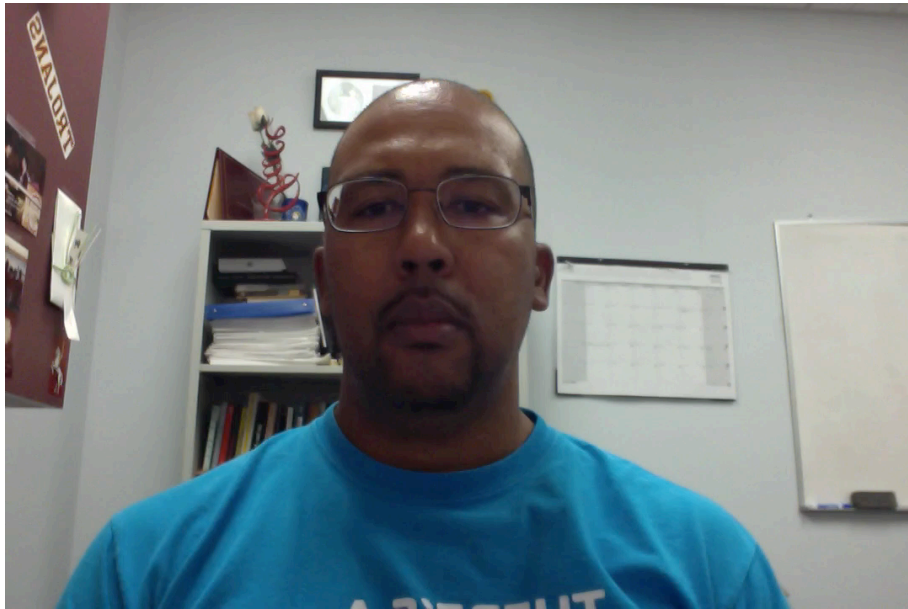
### Steps in the Research Process

To systematize the research process, the sciences developed five basic steps that add order to investigating social phenomenon:

- 1) **Defining the problem** - heavily depends on how you view the social situation that you are investigating. **Standpoint theory**, states that an individual's perspectives are shaped by his or her experiences in social locations and social groups. For many people defining the problem is the most challenging step in this process because what you may perceive as a problem does not ensure that others will agree with your perspective. (*Watch Movie 1.1*)

## Movie 1.1 Is Homosexuality a problem?

New York Times June 12, 2016



1) <https://youtu.be/BHt4rNkDdn0> - Video

2) *What is the main point of this video?*

3) *What example(s) did the author use to illustrate his point? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.*

4) *Can you think of any other examples of problems that not everyone would agree with?*

2) **Reviewing the Literature** – is necessary to uncover how much your topic has already been researched. You will find tons of articles and books on subjects such as poverty, race relations and the oppression of women because they have been heavily researched. Although it is often difficult to do original research in these areas, doing a thorough review of the literature will

help refine your research question so that you may make an original contribution to the discipline.

3) **Formulating the Hypothesis** – usually starts with a **theory**, which is a set of statements regarding problems, actions and behaviors that are organized in a way that explains the relationships among them. People may have personal theories as to why things happen, and if these opinions become familiar, then they become public theories. In other words, **personal theories** are people's opinions, while **public theories** operate much like common sense. However, sociological theory is established through the scientific method by formulating a **hypothesis**, which is an expectation or prediction that derives from a theory that can be quantified and tested, so that a theory can be investigated.

A theory could be that a person's socioeconomic status (SES) can affect their health. In this formulation, SES is the **independent variable**, the presumed cause of the relationship, while their health is the **dependent variable**, the presumed effect of the relationship. With this theory a testable hypothesis could be, does someone's SES affect how many days he or she misses work in a month? Does someone's SES affect if they have healthcare? Does someone's SES affect how they eat on a regular basis? Or does someone's SES affect the environmental toxins in their neighborhood? These hypotheses are directly

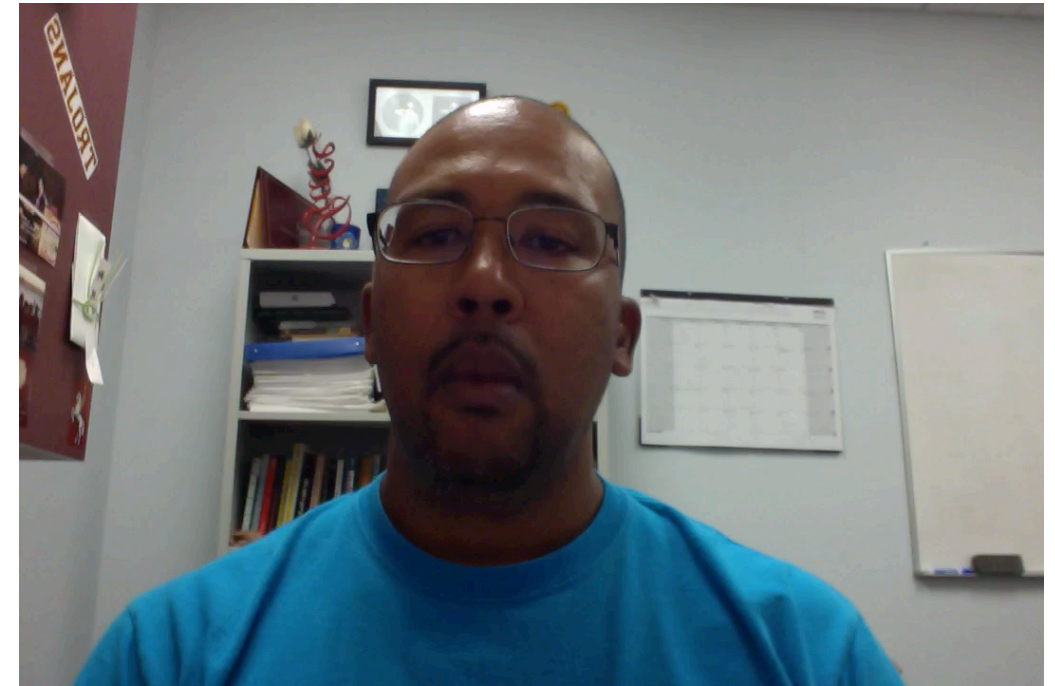


testable and the results will either support or not support the theory.

4) **Collecting and Analyzing Data** - is what separates public opinion from sociological research. The hallmark of using the scientific method is for its **reliability**, the degree to which an assessment tool produces stable and consistent results. In other words, if other people read your research and follow the methods that you outlined for your investigation then they should be able to replicate your findings. For example, if your research demonstrated that women earned higher incomes than men, but no one else could produce the same results using the methods that you used then your initial results would be put into question.

Just as important as reliability is **validity**, which is how well a test measures what it is purported to measure. It does not matter how many times you can reproduce a result if it is interpreted incorrectly. For example, you can reliably demonstrate in a college-campus survey that about 50% of students who have tried marijuana have also tried other illicit drugs, i.e. ecstasy, cocaine, heroine. However, it is not valid to suggest that this finding proves that marijuana is the “gateway” drug. This finding would establish that there is a relationship between these two variables, but for you to state that marijuana is a gateway drug you must prove that people used marijuana before they used the other illicit drug. (Watch Movie 1.2)

## Movie 1.2 Is Common Sense Common?



1) <https://youtu.be/fPAwWcQ5UgE> - Video

2) *What is the main point of this video?*

3) *What example(s) did the author use to illustrate his point? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.*

4) *Can you think of any other examples of what you think should be considered common sense but it is not?*

5) **Developing the Conclusion** – should rely heavily on your data. In this step, you would state whether your results support your hypotheses. If your findings do not support your hypotheses it is appropriate for you to suggest alternative methods to try and support your original hypotheses or you may indicate that your results support a whole new way of approaching your research question. (Watch Movie 1.3)



## Movie 1.3 Poetry in Praxis

*Shattered* by Rudy Francisco



1) <https://youtu.be/YVv04Vgl0C0> - Video

2) *What is the poem about?*

3) *What larger social factors is the poet concerned about?*

4) *What do you think the poet believes is the problem?*

5) *Is the poet suggesting a solution? If so, do you agree or disagree? If not, what do you think might help?*



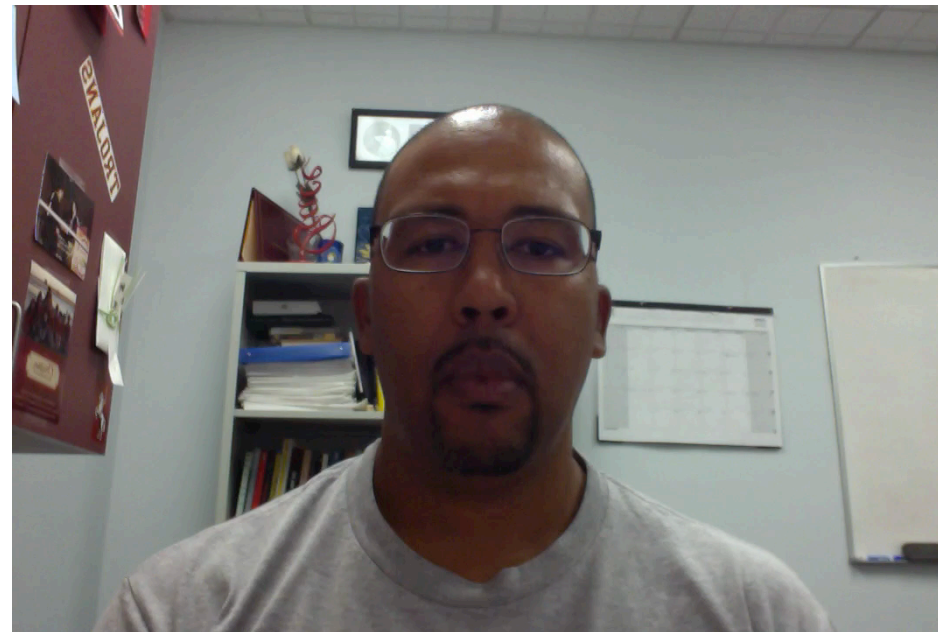
# Major Research Designs

A **research design** is a detailed plan or method for obtaining data scientifically and is like following a recipe in a cookbook.

**Quantitative research** collects relatively large amounts of numerical data and focuses on generalizable social phenomenon. This type of investigation relies on statistical methods to reveal important patterns about social behavior. The approach that we see on a daily basis is percentages derived from polling data. However, the cornerstone of quantitative research is **inferential statistics**, mathematical techniques used to make predictions based on scientific research. An example of this would be constructing a research model to try and predict

someone's grade by taking their age, race, SES, amount of time they spend studying, the number of units they are taking, how many hours they work for wages, and their mother's and father's education levels. (Watch Movie 1.4)

## Movie 1.4 Do people of Hispanic heritage in the US have bigger families?



1) <https://youtu.be/2hAxFpVyBng> - Video

2) *What is the main point of this video?*

3) *What example(s) did the author use to illustrate his point? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.*

4) *Can you think of any other examples that should like stereotypes but can be statistically demonstrated?*

**Qualitative research** collects data on a relatively small scale and reports general patterns but do not seek to generalize their findings to the entire population. These research techniques are designed to obtain the meaning behind specific social behaviors.

A. **Participant Observation** is where the researcher immerses themselves in the natural settings of the group to be studied to understand the meaning behind



common cultural practices. An example of this would be if a researcher wanted to study skateboarding culture they would go to a skate park and observe their actions, behaviors and attitudes towards each other and to “outsiders.” If they wanted to go in deeper, they could interact with some skateboarders and talk to them about why they do what they do. And the researcher could go even deeper if they were to dress like a skater, buy a board and learn how to skate.

**B. Content analysis** is the systematic coding and recording of data from books, music, works of art, movies, TV shows and other media sources to uncover larger social patterns. Parents all over the world use this technique when they listen to the music that their children are listening to or the TV shows they are watching to uncover the social messages that their children are receiving on a regular basis. Researchers could analyze how gender is portrayed on children’s shows,

how social justice is dealt with in hip-hop music, or how love is demonstrated in the *Twilight* book series. (*Watch Movie 1.5*)

**C. Interviews** are where the researcher poses questions to the respondent and actively listens to responses to formulate more questions for the subject to answer. Interviews are the most common qualitative technique and can be seen every day on talk shows and news reports.

Most sociologists prefer one research design to the other, but qualitative and quantitative methods are meant to inform each other. Quantitative methods focus on pattern recognition, but what do these patterns mean? Qualitative methods focus on meaning, but how broad is the social pattern being observed? Although there is value in using

these techniques separately, some of the best research uses both methods to support their conclusions.

### **Movie 1.5 *Dora the Explorer* versus *Go Diego Go***




1) [https://youtu.be/ ihRoyld9yk](https://youtu.be/ihRoyld9yk) - Video

2) *What is the main point of this video?*

3) *What example(s) did the author use to illustrate his point? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.*

4) *Can you think of any other examples of TV shows that send a clear message about gender?*





## Section 3

# Research Ethics

**Ethics** are a set of guiding principles constructed by a governing organization that is used to determine appropriate behavior or proper conduct. These standards are not designed to control what is considered a scientific question, but to regulate the manner that the question is researched. Wanting to know how a human body experiences and endures severe cold is a valid scientific question. Asking people to volunteer to participate in an ice bath under controlled circumstances to reduce the possibility of injury would be an ethical way to proceed. However, forcing unwilling human subjects to endure a blizzard in Antarctica in bathing suits would not be ethical for two reasons. First is because the subjects were forced to participate. And second, the participant's safety could not be reasonably assured.

Research ethics are very different from **morals**, which are belief systems, usually religiously dictated, that center around what is considered good or evil. In Milligram's experiment on obedience, researchers wanted to know if a person would follow instructions from an authority figure even though they were seemingly putting someone's life in danger. Ethically, the participant was told what they needed to do to be part of the experiment and with this

information they gave their permission to be a test subject. However, many people may question this research on moral grounds because this experiment allowed the test subject to believe that they were torturing another human being. There was also the possibility that the person thought that they had possibly killed someone. The study strongly suggested that under the right circumstances the experimental subject could be an accessory to murder. (*Watch Movie 1.6*)



## Movie 1.6 H.I.V. experiments in Thailand, Africa, and the Dominican Republic

*New York Times September 18, 1997*



- 1) <https://youtu.be/v-OsaMzIEaU> - Video
- 2) What is the main point of this video?
- 3) What example(s) did the author use to illustrate his point? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
- 4) Is this unethical to you? Is this immoral? Explain

Science has developed a code of ethics that centers around **informed consent**, that a person must be informed of an experiment before they can give their consent to participate. Two major historical events helped to construct our current model of ethical behavior:

A. **Jewish Holocaust of WWII** – was a time where scientists conducted experiments on many unwilling captives of Jewish

heritage in Nazi death camps. Researchers wanted to evaluate the lethality of biological weapons, explore different torture techniques for effectiveness and examine the effects of severe heat on the human body. All of these questions were valid on a scientific level and critical to the German objective of winning the war; however, forced participation and the blatant disregard for human life is at the very least unethical behavior, while many people would state that these were immoral or even evil acts. (Watch Movie 1.7)

## Movie 1.7 Poetry in Praxis

*Holocaust Joke* by Eden Rousso



- 1) <https://youtu.be/KkdO7gCR8sU> - Video
- 2) What is the poem about?
- 3) What larger social factors is the poet concerned about?
- 3) What do you think the poet believes is the problem?
- 4) Is the poet suggesting a solution? If so, do you agree or disagree? If not, what do you think might help?



## **B. The Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro**

**Male** – was conducted by the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) between the years 1932 – 1972 to uncover the advanced stages of syphilis in African American males. Although 600 Black men seemingly “volunteered” for the study, further investigation found that they were never properly informed of the name and purpose of the experiment and the possible ramifications of their involvement on their wives, children and community. The most unethical, and many would say immoral, component of this research was that 399 of the 600 African American men in the experiment (the other 201 were used as a control group) were not treated for syphilis although a cure came into existence in 1947, only 15 years into the experiment. In other words, 25 years passed where the men in this research were willfully denied a cure for their condition.



## Section 4

# Social Movements and Research

So what do you do when the research is completed? Should research be done just for the sake of furthering knowledge? Or should there be a practical application for our findings? Paulo Freire author of, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, addresses this concern with the concept of **praxis**, which states that we should reflect and act on the world to transform it. In other words, the research that we produce should inspire people to act positively to create change. Sociologists, more than any other discipline, conducts research to create **social change**, which involves significant alterations of social, political, economic and cultural aspects of society over time. (Watch Movie 1.8)

### Movie 1.8 Poetry in Praxis

*John Carlos and Tommie Smith* by Ant Black and Tarez Lemmons



- 1) [https://youtu.be/I\\_7QWpw9dzA](https://youtu.be/I_7QWpw9dzA) - Video
- 2) *What is the poem about?*
- 3) *What larger social factors is the poet concerned about?*
- 4) *What do you think the poet believes is the problem?*
- 5) *Is the poet suggesting a solution? If so, do you agree or disagree? If not, what do you think might help?*

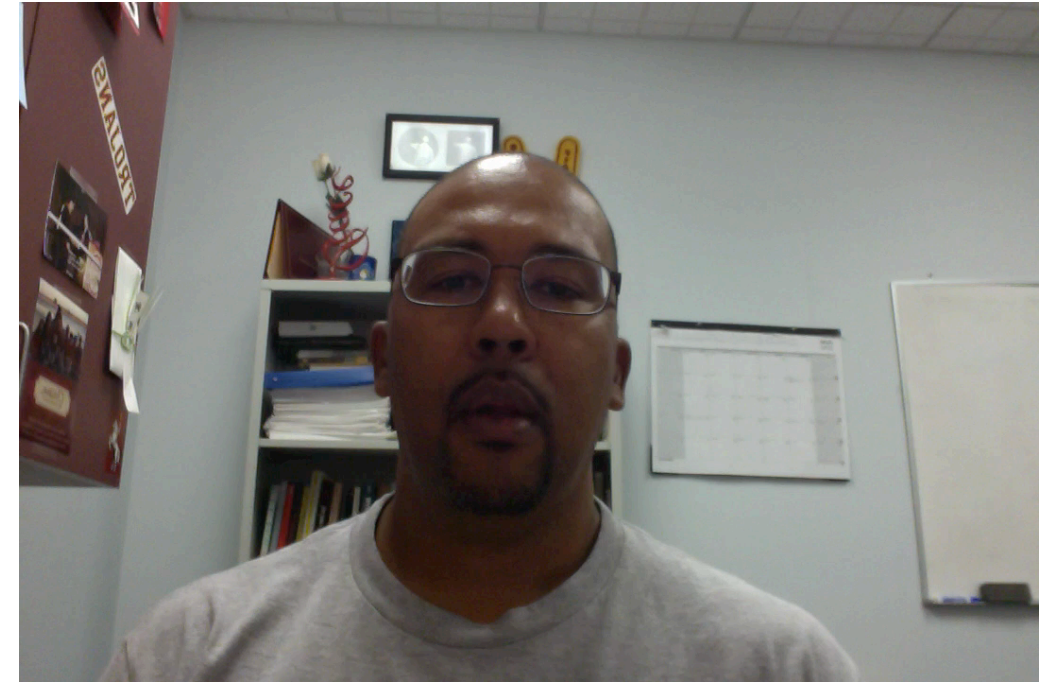
When enough people desire a social change it becomes a **social movement**, which is an organized set of collective activities used to bring about or resist fundamental change in an existing group or society. Large-scale movements usually require its adherents to believe three basic premises. *First*, is that the group is confident that they have a right to have what they are demanding. Homosexuals demand the right to get married; women demand equal wages and black people fight against police brutality because they believe they should be equally protected under the law. *Second*, the group accepts that they cannot accomplish their goal(s) within the system. The Occupy Wall Street movement did



not have faith that the government would stop corporate greed, so it took over the offices of executives to bring attention to their social issue. *Third*, the group firmly believes that they can accomplish their goal(s) to some degree. People want to believe that they can make a difference in how the world operates. They believe that their **civil disobedience**, which is a group's refusal to obey a law because they believe it is immoral to do so, along with other types of resistance efforts (i.e. rallies, sit-ins, etc.) will make people aware of what they perceive as the facts and if people have this knowledge then they will act in an ethical manner.

Social movements usually arise in two basic manners. **Relative deprivation** refers to social movements that use the conscious feeling of a negative discrepancy between legitimate expectations and present actualities to produce social consciousness and affect social change. Research has uncovered that women are discriminated against in the job market, and so they fight against their deprivation. However, social scientists have found that a measurable deprivation is not necessary to create social movements, but only the perception of deprivation needs to exist. An example of this would be the White Arian Resistance (W.A.R.) believes that their right to rule over people of color, homosexuals and people of Jewish heritage has been undermined by the government and seek to restore their supremacy. (*Watch Movie 1.9*)

### Movie 1.9 Recent Examples of Civil Disobedience



- 1) <https://youtu.be/D3BIZ0KLbMQ> - Video
- 2) *What is the main point of this video?*
- 3) *What example(s) did the author use to illustrate his point? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.*
- 4) *Can you think of any other examples of civil disobedience? Explain.*

The second way social movements occur is through **resource mobilization**, which refers to the way resources such as money, political influence, access to the media, and personnel are utilized to produce social consciousness and affect social change. Many people thought that the unequal treatment of women and people of color was wrong, but when people within the media constructed sympathetic views of the Feminist and Civil Rights

Movements this generated empathy for these oppressed groups, but also financial support. This insight allowed even more resources to be mobilized and created enough discontent that eventually the government passed laws against this type of discrimination.

### **Sociological Perspectives on Social Change**

**Functionalists** would suggest that social change is difficult to achieve because the equilibrium model states that as changes occur in one part of society, adjustments must be made in other areas. For example, when scientists accumulated enough data to support global warming what did society change as a result of this research? Media outlets reported on the challenges of global warming and movies such as *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Water World*, and *An Inconvenient Truth* would be produced to bring this problem to public attention. Our education system introduced global warming to children in the K-12 curriculum and created entire courses in college to address this issue. Our government was affected because it needed to create policies and make laws that protected our environment. Lastly, the economy was affected because the auto industry had to create cars that had lower carbon dioxide emissions and better gas mileage. Therefore, making these changes helped us stay in equilibrium after society acknowledged that global warming was real and treatable.

**Symbolic Interactionists** focus on the process of how social change requires **value generalization**, which is the development of new values that legitimate a broader range of activities, and how this is achieved. How did women create a need for social, political and economic equality when the Declaration of Independence only speaks of the equality of men? How did African Americans generate enough desire for fairness to change centuries of racial oppression and discrimination? In both cases, this perspective would be interested in the role of the media in creating the moral imperative to facilitate social transformation without alienating the very people that were needed to make the changes required, i.e. men and white people.

**Conflict theorists** suggest that social change is difficult to accomplish because of the existence of **vested interests**, which refers to those people or groups who will be challenged most severely in the event of social change and are committed to maintaining the status quo. The automotive industry continues to resist global warming research, because of the enormous costs it would take them to research and develop cars with lower emissions and the drastic changes they would have to make to their manufacturing process. Men did not want women to participate equally in the workforce because they would drive down wages. White people did not want to treat people of color fairly because centuries of socialization convinced them of their superiority. (Watch Movie 1.10)



## Movie 1.10 Poetry in Praxis

*Mandela's Smile* by Ant Black



1) <https://youtu.be/CoQlrZBBhXg> - Video

2) *What is the poem about?*

3) *What larger social factors is the poet concerned about?*

4) *What do you think the poet believes is the problem?*

5) *Is the poet suggesting a solution? If so, do you agree or disagree? If not, what do you think might help?*

# Chapter Summary

## **Chapter Vocabulary** \*\*\*parentheses indicate page number\*\*\*

Scientific Method (2)

Standpoint Theory (2)

Theory (3)

Personal Theories (3)

Public Theories (3)

Hypothesis (3)

Independent Variable (3)

Dependent Variable (3)

Reliability (4)

Validity (4)

Research Design (5)

Quantitative Research (5)

Inferential Statistics (5)

Qualitative Research (5)

Participant Observation (5)

Interviews (5)

Content Analysis (6)

Ethics (8)

Morals (8)

Informed Consent (9)

Praxis (11)

Social Change (11)

Social Movement (11)

Civil Disobedience (12)

Relative Deprivation (12)

Resource Mobilization (12)

Value Generalization (13)

Vested Interests (13)

## **Key Terms** \*\*\*need to illustrate concept with an example\*\*\*

Standpoint Theory

Praxis

Social Movement

Relative Deprivation

Resource Mobilization

Value Generalization



### ***Bullet-point answer questions:***

- What are the five steps in the research process?
- Name three social movements that have happened in the history of the United States.
- What two experiments were primary in developing our current code of ethics in the sciences?

### ***Short answer questions:***

- What is the difference between a personal theory and a public theory and give an example of both?
- What is the difference between reliability and validity and give an example of both?
- What is the difference between quantitative methods and qualitative methods and give an example of both?
- What is the difference between ethics and morals and give an example of both?

### ***Critical thinking questions:***

- How was the ethical concept of informed consent developed?

- In your reflections on the Thailand Experiment video, do you believe that this was an ethical thing to do? What about morally? Explain.
- Define the sociological imagination and explain how your morals were developed by wider social forces.
- Choose a social movement and describe how each of the three sociological perspectives would evaluate it.
- What is standpoint theory and explain why this concept often makes it difficult to define a social problem?

# Transcripts

### Movie 1.1 Is Homosexuality a problem?

*New York Times June 12, 2016*

Early Sunday morning on June 11 2016 a horrific crime happened in Orlando Florida a man by the name of Omar Martin who is American with parents who were born and raised in Afghanistan went into a gay nightclub called the pulse and shot and killed 49 people injuring many others in that horrific aftermath and it's been called the largest mass shooting in United States history and so the reason why I am bringing this up is to talk about how we identify what the problem is in this particular crime and so a lot of people who just point to Omar Martin's faith that he practices Islam and Islam it is taught that homosexuality is an abomination to nature and it is a sin against God and so this also happened at a gay bar and it also happened in the month of June which is also gay pride month and so therefore to me it seems relatively easy to point to the motivation of this crime being that of a hate crime toward homosexuals alright so but there's also other perspectives and so some people would also argue a lot of politicians that I'm hearing are arguing that the perspective that this is actually an act of terrorism and that

radical Islamic terrorists are targeting Americans and that being homosexual was just a target of convenience if you would that it wasn't the main thing that it was actually radical Islamic terrorism that was the main problem the main concern in this space well then also even others are arguing about gun control or the lack thereof from their perspective and so when it comes to the gun control argument to say that gun control is actually the biggest problem you'd have to say that something like this that in your mind you could be thinking that although you can be homophobic and you could be a radical Islamic terrorist if you don't have guns then it would be very difficult to kill to shoot and kill 49 people and injure numerous more people in such a short period of time if you don't have guns and so the question then becomes who is correct in identifying the source of this problem and as a sociologist I would have to say all of the above

### Movie 1.2 Is Common Sense Common?

So what would your common sense tell you is the best model to raise children in I believe that it's pretty simple and relatively straightforward that most of us would think that the two parent biological family would be the best environment and statistically



speaking that is absolutely correct that is well supported with the research however I want to push your common sense and ask you then who do you think performs better single mothers or single fathers well I think common sense would tell us that because of the social constructed nature of mothering that women that mothers would be the better person to raise children however what research is finding out is that single mothers and single fathers tend to have the same outcomes when it comes to raising children and so the bad thing is that this common sense notion that women are supposed to be better mothers is structurally built into our society this is clearly evident in the legal system where mothers are far more likely to receive custody and or full custody of their children over fathers this is so much the case that a lot of men are now fighting legally for their right in order to have custody of their kids and there's lawyers that even specialize in the field of getting men custody of their children right? and so then what I would suggest of common sense then is that we need to test our common sense and so the two parent biological family that's surely fits our common sense but after that what else happens with our common sense and that we need to test these common sense notions that we have and that also I would argue is to retest them ten years twenty thirty years later because the common sense we have now may not be the common sense that we have 30 years from now

## **Movie 1.3 Poetry in Praxis**

*Shattered* by Rudy Francisco

One day, I woke up in the middle of a train station that belonged to a city that I've never even been to. And when I pulled apart the curtains, that covered the windows to my soul, I saw this girl standing over me. She had my mother's smile. She had my sister's eyes. She was wearing this perfume called 1620 and the scent reminded me of a slave ship. She had middle passage stamped to her back, a noose around her neck, and a shackle still dangling from her left wrist. I grabbed her by the arm, whispered in her ear; I said "sweetheart, no one escapes history". See, our ancestors, they had wings like butterflies and we are just tornadoes on the other side of the planet disconnected from our story. And this girl, she wears the generation gap like she bought it next to Banana Republic. I found this poem, I found this poem in the basement of her self-esteem, it was mounted to the wall right next to her ethnic background, as if they were both hunted for sport. She wears these coats, made with the skin of black men that have found her attractive. Shoot them down like LAPD. She's the KKK stunt double. A minstrel show turned upside down in white-face, lip-gloss, and Ugg boots. She's a blonde haired, blue eyed, black girl, praying for lighter skin. Tells me that she is so fucking tired of being ugly. And I know, I knew that she was drunk on the Molotov cocktails the media has thrown through her eyelids. Deep down inside, really I wanted to blame it on the

alcohol. But when she said those words, I felt like she stabbed me in the chest with a sharp stake made out of her broken heart. I felt like she sliced my throat with the jagged edges of her shattered dreams. I was hurt. And it took everything in my power to try to hold back the tears but they were stronger than me. My eyes felt like 300 Spartan soldiers try'na hold back the Persian army. That day, that day I cried for her. I cried so hard that my eyes bled three frozen lakes and gave birth to the coldest winter ever. And despite my mixed emotions, despite our differences, I still spread my branches as far as I possibly could and offered to keep her warm. But she said, she looked at me and said "I would much rather die."

#### **Movie 1.4 Do people of Hispanic heritage in the US have bigger families?**

so in answering the question do people of Hispanic Heritage tend have bigger families in the United States we can see how we can use quantitative and qualitative measures in order to answer this question quantitatively what we know is that yes people of Hispanic heritage tend to have a 3.23 children according to united states census don't ask me how you can have . 3 children we can answer that question my stats class later on and that people are not Hispanic heritage tend to have 2.43 children per household and so what we know also quantitatively is that people of Hispanic Heritage United States tend to be from lower socio-economic statuses and all across the world people lower of social

economic statuses tend to have big families this probably has something to do with higher infant mortality rates for the poor quality or poorer quality of healthcare in those particular nations but also what we know quantitatively as that of that people of Hispanic Heritage tend to also be Catholic and that Catholics all across the world tend to have big families however to really get at the meaning of bigger families though you have to use some qualitative methods you actually have to look at the cultural products that are happening in that space and investigate them and so what we find out what we do that investigation is that of people from Hispanic origins or Hispanic cultures tend to emphasize a family unit that not only teaches that not only do they emphasize family but they also emphasize extended family and interdependence on family while the United States we tend to focus much more on individuality and independence versus interdependence right and so then when you look at the media sources that produce things for Hispanic folks or from Hispanic folks what you see then is TV shows like Dora the Explorer go Diego go or Maya Miguel or TV or movies this is old school but it's a favorite of mine of my family me familia of what you see that is an emphasis on extended families like aunts and uncles and also but especially our grandparents

#### **Movie 1.5 *Dora the Explorer* versus *Go Diego Go***

Alright so what can a content analysis that tell us about gender roles and what we teach young boys and girls if we were to



examine Dora the Explorer versus Go Diego go right? Okay so we look at Dora Dora has a constant companion in that show and his name is Boots right? Boots is someone that she interacts with heavily she talks to him all the time and she's very cooperative with him right? and so but on Diego's side even though he has Jaguar by no means is Jaguar as important part of Diego's show as Boots is to Dora's show and so Diego is then designed to be much more independent right because that is something that we teach young boys to be another thing about Diego right is that he has a job, oh my goodness so Diego has a job let's not even talk about child labor laws okay but anyway Diego has a job and not only does he have a job but his sister works for him well Dora she's an explorer and at best that's a hobby but you don't really get any points or pay for being an explorer and lastly when Dora gets items she gets them out of this kind of magical backpack and things like that you know and that even the stars there's all this magical stuff that's how Dora gets her belongings while Diego since he has a job he has headquarters with all this sophisticated equipment in it and so what does that tell us about gender roles in regards to how we think about what we're teaching young men and women young boys and girls if you would in our society

## **Movie 1.6 H.I.V. experiments in Thailand, Africa, and the Dominican Republic**

so this is a serious note here and the question that I have for you is that are the experiments that are being done in poor countries to try to stop the transmission of HIV from the mother to the child are those ethical now here's the deal what we see in places like Thailand in other countries that are you know poor third world countries of that they have that HIV runs rampant in their countries to the degree that people really have given up on the adult population so now we're trying to save the children what we know in United States and other developed countries know that there's a certain level of AZT that you can give and AZT is a specific drug i don't know what it stands for right but there's a certain level of AZT that you can give that will give the child that's being born to the mother that has HIV like a 50-percent shot of not contracting HIV now the bad thing is that Thailand and other poor countries cannot afford this treatment at its full cost so this is what's happening what's happening then is that these countries that are more developed in a better way better off they're actually doing experiments on Thailand's population to try to see if they can give less AZT to the mothers so that the children will have less of a chance of developing of having HIV now the question is is that ethical right how do we treat poor people of color if our world not just in the United States but in our world and is this okay

## Movie 1.7 Poetry in Praxis

### *Holocaust Joke* by Eden Rousso

This is called Holocaust Joke Why did so many Jews go to Auschwitz? The tickets were free Why don't Jewish Cannibals eat Germans? They give them gas. What's the difference between the Jews and Santa? Santa goes down the chimney. Last night at dinner this girl remembered a Holocaust joke her boyfriend told her last fall. The punch line is cheap she says and everyone laughs while I excuse myself to go to the bathroom so I can go sob and stall because unlike them I am reminded of the half of my family killed in Greece in the 1941 German Fall of my Grandmother of my families last survivor dying on the other side of my bedroom wall of how being the Jew can be so fucking lonely because nobody wants to be in the minority in saying I am Jewish is like saying I'm creepy or I have leprosy or I am too fucking stupid to realize that Jesus saved me why was the black Jew crying? he had to sit in the back of the oven. But no one feels bad for the Jews right because they own the Hollywood Lights they're rich cause they Steal and they keep their wads tight you can tell a girls a Jap if she's too uptight a conspiracy theory of Jewish domination gives sane people a rational fright and it doesn't matter where you're from because if you're Jewish you sure as hell aren't white so no one gives a flying fuck about the so called Jewish plight how did a German guy pick up a Jewish woman? with a broom and dust pan. Now I am not here to preach

about the history of the Jewish state. What I know about Israel is not up for debate when someone spray paints a swastika on a Jewish fraternity house and on my best friends drive way and on my high school locker I need Israel when I see people applauding the Isis flag and shouting profanities at the Israeli flag I need Israel when a kid at school throws a penny and my feet and yells get it Jew I need Israel when someone tells me that the holocaust never happened I need Israel and when someone laughs at a holocaust joke I need Israel What do you call a flying Jew? Smoke anti Semitism is thriving and healthy I have no hope for it to ever fully disappear maybe someday all the biases and prejudice and bigotry and intolerance will be erased from our dictionary but I know this will not happen while I am here How do you get a Jewish girls number? Roll up her sleeve. Men fight for women's rights Wealthy politicians are solving income inequality white girls are instagraming #blacklivesmatter yet if I mention on word about bias and anti-Semitism I always here the same damn thing oh I don't know about all that I'm not Jewish bitch I'm not asking you to convert just to be understanding what I want is for people to admit that anti-Semitism is still a fucking thing I don't need a perfect world I just need some validating so that I don't feel so alone in a minority that is slipping what's the difference between a pizza and a Jew? a pizza doesn't scream when you turn up the heat in the oven how many Jews can you fit in a Volkswagen? 2 in the front 2 in the back and 6 million in the ash tray how do you know if a joke is a holocaust joke? it isn't fucking funny



## Movie 1.8 Poetry in Praxis

*John Carlos and Tommie Smith* by Ant Black and Tarez Lemmons

They wonder why we like to throw up a fist when the sound of patriotism silenced our speech you raise the echoes of our voices clenched tightly black glove over a closed fist and held it like a conversation that didn't need words John Carlos Tommie Smith there was a time when it didn't matter if blacks were in courts with judges or on courts with rims with rims or if they were in fields to pick cotton or to pick off footballs athletes were slaves to the racism around them I bet your father didn't tell you that in 20 point 10 seconds you can run from Harlem to hero that the length between innocence and infamy was only 200 meters he couldn't explain that medals made of gold made of silver made of bronze could weigh infinitely more than the shackles of slaves that is if you wear a medal the right way, jacket open beads dangling head bowed just in case they confused your power for bravado you didn't listen when they told you that sports was no place for politics that the only difference between Calvary hill and Olympia is whether one possesses a torch or a cross they nailed you to a crossroads wearing the spikes on your feet as a crown of thorns John Carlos Tommie Smith Sprinted off the blocks with the sort of speed we wish all change would come with others ran to break records you ran to break barriers you won the races just to beat the racists just to prove a point the blacks, blacks should not have to wear first place medals just to be more than second class

citizens remind us that we are not human capital we are not replicates programmed with history we are not mindless victims of internal colonization 1968 exists in the screams swallowed by the Atlantic ocean 1968 exists in the abolitionists and in the panthers 1968 exists in a black kid that turns a track scholarship a football scholarship into a mother fucking PHD John Carlos Tommie Smith John Carlos Tommie Smith You ran every foot strike as if your spikes had the power to liberate people from violence and oppression unzipped jackets for the mistreated workers in America beads dangling for the souls of black folks lynched folks killed folks silenced folks you caused the world to spin backwards caused your fusion in the cosmos caused moons and oceans and plants and planets to stand with peter Norman in solidarity, black shirt black gloves black socks black skin black fist holding our voices in the air careful not to let a single echo melt in the backdrop of an American flag honest to god and your pumas to the comrades and the freedom fighters at San Jose State university when they institution 3/5s you with locks around your neck when microaggressions cover your campus it makes it hard for you to breath even if they take your voice you are always able to speak

## Movie 1.9 Recent Examples of Civil Disobedience

some of the best examples that we have of civil disobedience have actually happened in a 21st century with the Occupy Wall Street movement what we saw were a lot of average everyday

citizens going to camp out in public spaces near wall street in order to protest how big businesses were privileged in the United States and so what followed was there were a lot of mass arrests that happened so people were going to jail over this in order to demonstrate their discontent right? another case would be with the united states supreme court when they legalized same-sex marriages there were a lot of civil servants who worked at courthouses who refused to give marriage licenses to same-sex couples stating that their religious beliefs dictated that they could not support same-sex marriages but maybe arguably one of the biggest protest that's happening and continues to happen in the United States is #blacklivesmatter now whether you agree with this or not what they are is a clear example of civil disobedience right and that what you have seen is a protest you've seen Die Ins and you've also seen entire demonstrations where they have blocked off access to freeways and whatnot with their bodies of and so then what we can see that's happened that there is actually tangible evidence that especially in this last case with the #Blacklivesmatter that there has actually been some progress some would argue not as much as you know that as much as others but there's definitely been progress and that what we've seen recently is that there have been a lot more police officers who have been brought up on criminal charges after the death of a person of color and so although of progress can be slow at times civil disobedience still remains one way that we can see social change happen

## **Movie 1.10 Poetry in Praxis**

### *Mandela's Smile* by Ant Black

I have read 12 of the 278 biographies watched 34 speeches and 4 documentaries of his life I have sat in 27 hours in silence counting the minutes as days and the hours as years and I have yet to figure out the smile of Nelson Mandela it is a smile that bends joy through the darkness of humanity finds the peace of god in the worst of system folds love and truth into the power of fists strikes fists at injustice it is a smile that dares hate to penetrate its glow it is a smile that speaks pride through our skin speaks Africa in the movement of our bodies faces our future in confidence knows oceans and continents and nations and harmony a smile that hates it hates apartheid hates disenfranchisement hates resettlement hates splintering wood in benches reserved for non whites only hates black hates colored hates white hates Indian but it is a smile that loves Africans regardless of their skin color Nelson Mandela's smile reads like a math equation four double six six four an algebraic formula to solve the crisis of colonization Nelson Mandela's smiles is a medicine it is the education of the poor it is the pardon of the innocent it is the land of the displaced it is the research of AIDS it is the rugby championship game it is a smile that brings the nations of his enemies and allies together in celebration I do not know if historians or biographers or the documentaries can truly capture what it means when a person smiles but if you ever want



to know about nelson Mandela wait for my lips to bend and look  
into my eyes