

## APPENDIX D

### CULTURAL ARTIFACT ASSIGNMENT

#### WHAT IS IT IN GENERAL?

- ◆ A printed *image* of something from your past that has played a role in your socialization.
- ◆ Represents a piece of yourself, perhaps relating to your hobbies, career goals, education, etc.
- ◆ Allows the viewer of the artifact to know something about you by the image and critical reflection.

#### WHAT IS IT PHYSICALLY?

- ◆ Can be a *picture* of a book cover, film, album, toy, game, musical instrument, etc.
- ◆ A picture of an *object*, and not a picture of an entire environment, place, or person.
- ◆ Can be a whole printed page, or just a *half-page* with the *half-page* reflection below it.

#### WHAT IS THE REFLECTION?

- ◆ **Length** – A *half-page* or more summary and reflection of *what* the artifact is, *what* it means to you in terms of your development/socialization, and *how* it ties in with class themes, issues, and terms.
- ◆ **Terms** – Should utilize at least *two* class key terms or concepts in each reflection that tie into the object's cultural and developmental meanings to you, thus relating to basic class themes.
- ◆ **Format** – Should be *single-spaced*, typical *12-point font*, and in *formal academic writing* that is not so much conversational as it is reflective, sincere, intelligent, and proofread.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

- ◆ To get you thinking critically about the composition of yourself, as “critical thinking” is the theme of this class and requires you to understand the factors of individual development.
- ◆ To point out some aspects of how you were raised, how you discovered hobbies or interests, how you grew to *internalize* various viewpoints and values, and it will thus be a window into the “self.”

#### WHAT WILL IT ACCOMPLISH?

After each reflection, it should become clearer to you how you were and are socialized, which will help you understand that each individual is composed by a variety of factors which constantly evolve us in terms of our surroundings. With a better understanding of such socialization, we can better place ourselves in the shoes of others to think critically

about *their* socialization, viewpoints, and traditions. Essentially, we are, in part, seeking to understand ourselves better to improve interactions with other individuals and societies who will have a variety of conflicting ideologies.

### **WHEN AND HOW IS IT DUE?**

- ◆ **When** – Drafts are due in class, specified on the schedule, and all together in the final portfolio.
- ◆ **How** – In your *portfolio* (see handout), with other documents, as discussed.
- ◆ **Questions** – While I have tried to cover everything, I welcome further questions via email or in class!