

## RIDING THE ELEVATOR BACKWARDS (20 POINTS)

**Premise:** An exploriment is a chance for you as a budding sociologist to experience firsthand the constraints of society by breaking a folkway and recording what you learned about society from this experience.

**Goal:** Understand society by seeing how society is structured and why it works the way it does by experiencing its constraints on you firsthand.

### Directions:

#### **Activity**

In this exercise, you will alter a small piece of behavior, namely the way you ride an elevator. Whenever you ride an elevator, you are to enter it as usual, but simply go to the rear and DO NOT turn around and look at the front numbers. I ask that you remain facing the rear of the elevator the entire time. Observe what goes in within you and what goes on without you.

#### **Duration**

This should be a daily activity for an entire week.

#### **End Product**

Write your observations at the end of the week in a 1-page, Double Spaced, 12-Point Font, Typed Write-Up paper. Try to connect your individual experience to the larger society.

- A **maximum of 3 sentences** describing your experience.
- The rest of the paper devoted to connecting your personal experience to sociological topics (from class or the book) of your choice. You must **use at least 2 class concepts**.
- Say what your individual experience says about the larger society.

#### **Grading**

A perfect score is very attainable on this assignment!

- Full Credit:
  - Discuss how the experience made you feel in a **3 sentences MAXIMUM**.
  - Use **at least 2 sociological concepts** from class correctly to discuss your personal experience.
  - Connect your individual experience to something larger in society.
- Partial Credit: (the point value varies depending on the paper)
  - Discussed how the experience made you feel.
  - Missed some or all the aspects needed for full credit.
- No Credit: This is only possible if you do not turn in the assignment.