

Study Guide
Anthropology
Film: "Wage Slaves" part 1

1. poverty and the "invisible poor"
2. poverty line (original measure: food costs)
3. rising housing, fuel, transportation, child care and health care costs
4. "outsourcing"
5. break down of union shops
6. minimum wage vs. "supply and demand"
7. gap between rich and poor (CEO to worker --- from 15 to 1 in 1960s to 500 to 1 in 2000)
8. 70 million Americans at or near poverty
9. service sector jobs (*Fast Food Nation*) --- "zero training"

10. 1 in 7 American children in 1967 --- 1 in 5 American children below “poverty line” in 2000

11. poverty and race/ethnicity

12. “not the fringes but the fabric”

13. \$15,000/year average for family of four (working poor) --- well below subsistence for family of four

14. 75% of working poor are high school level education or less

15. “two or more jobs”

16. 2 paychecks from homelessness?

17. Barbara Ehrenreich

18. “hard work” & “getting ahead”

19. relative poverty/aggregate material comfort

20. personal responsibility/success myth

21. “poverty is a state of mind”/psychic alienation

22. stress, anxiety

23. alienation?

24. dignity, individualism, honor, fortitude, patriotism

25. Ronald and Lamar

26. an organic society?

27. prisons, police forces, emergency rooms

28. military budgets

29. who are the soldiers?

30. "class warfare"?

31. Martin Luther King, jr.

Study Guide

Anthropology

Film: "Wage Slaves" part 2

1. Sandra Gayle's daughter's 8th birthday
2. How mothers feel about themselves
3. treadmill/dead-end jobs for persons with low level educations
4. downsizing --- good jobs hard to find
5. temp agencies --- labor as renewable resource
6. Ronald Rooney as "independent contractor" (State of California)

7. "Will Teach for Food"
8. Stress --- drug tests, surveillance, psychological profiles/personality tests, invasions of privacy/intrusive questions
9. workplace conditions --- unpaid overtime
10. Welfare Reform 1996 ---- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (5 year cap)
11. "culture of dependency" --- "hand out programs"
12. many working poor refuse subsidies/difficult to acquire (e.g., only 12% of eligible families receive child care subsidies)
13. "living wage"
14. Harvard sit-ins
15. A permanent underclass or social mobility?

16. Are low wage workers better off than in previous generations?

17. Pride, determination --- “rich is also a state of mind”

18. “Blame is worthless. It’s not going to pay the rent.”

19. The nation’s working poor as philanthropists

20. Robert Nichols

21. Robert Rooney

22. Virginia Perry

23. Sandra Gayle

24. Sophia Acosta

25. Getting better or worse?

