

## “Exploriments” in Sociology

### EXAMPLES OF NORM VIOLATIONS

#### **Option 1 - PUBLIC BEHAVIOR**

- ❖ WALK ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE SIDEWALK
- ❖ HAVE AN ANIMATED CONVERSATION WITH YOURSELF IN PUBLIC
- ❖ LOOK UP ALL THE TIME
- ❖ SAY HELLO TO EVERYONE
- ❖ WHEN PEOPLE ASK YOU HOW YOU ARE DOING, TELL THEM ABOUT YOUR WHOLE DAY
- ❖ WEAR YOUR CLOTHES BACKWARDS
- ❖ DON'T TAKE YOUR HAT, COAT, & GLOVES OFF, EVEN INSIDE.
- ❖ VIOLATE PEOPLES PERSONAL SPACE
- ❖ WHISPER TO WHEN YOU TALK
- ❖ YELL WHEN YOU TALK
- ❖ ASK STRANGERS IF YOU CAN CUT IN LINE. IF THEY ASK WHY YOU NEED TO, THEN SAY YOU DON'T REALLY FEEL LIKE WAITING FOR VERY LONG.
- ❖ AT YOUR PARENTS HOME ASK FOR PERMISSION TO DO EVERYTHING (GET A DRINK, USE THE BATHROOM, WATCH TV, ETC)

#### **Option 2 - BATHROOMS**

- ❖ DON'T FLUSH WHEN YOU ARE DONE
- ❖ TALK TO OTHERS WHILE THEY ARE BUSY
- ❖ TALK TO SOMEONE IN ANOTHER STALL
- ❖ ASK FOR THEIR TOILET PAPER

#### **Option 3 - ELEVATORS**

- ❖ TALK TO STRANGERS
- ❖ FACE THE BACK OF THE ELEVATOR
- ❖ PUSH THE BUTTONS FOR FLOORS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO
- ❖ NEVER GET OFF
- ❖ SAY YOU WILL "WAIT FOR THE NEXT ONE" WHEN ONLY ONE PERSON IS ON IT
- ❖ GO ELEVATOR SURFING
- ❖ STAND RIGHT BY SOMEONE EVEN WHEN YOU ARE THE ONLY 2 PEOPLE IN THE ELEVATOR

#### **Option 4 - CLASSROOM**

- ❖ SIT IN OTHER PEOPLE'S CHAIRS EVERY DAY
- ❖ MAKE CONSTANT EYE CONTACT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR
- ❖ NEVER MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR / NEVER BREAK EYE CONTACT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR
- ❖ TALK AND THEN RAISE YOUR HAND
- ❖ SIT ON THE FRONT ROW AND PICK YOUR NOSE
- ❖ NEVER BRING A BOOK, PENCIL, OR PAPER
- ❖ READ A NOVEL DURING CLASS

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### **Option 5 - DINNING**

- ❖ EAT SOUP WITH A FORK
- ❖ EAT DESERT FIRST
- ❖ EAT STEAK WITH A KNIFE AND SPOON
- ❖ EAT WITH YOUR HANDS
- ❖ EAT OFF OTHER PEOPLE’S PLATES
- ❖ USE OVERLY FORMAL EATING ETIQUETTE WHEN EATING WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY
- ❖ BE RUDE TO THE WAITER AND THEN APOLOGIZE AND THEN BE RUDE AGAIN
- ❖ BRING YOUR OWN CHEESE AND ASK THEM TO PUT IT ON YOUR HAMBURGER.
- ❖ WALK THROUGH THE DRIVE THROUGH
- ❖ DRIVE BACKWARDS THROUGH THE DRIVE THROUGH
- ❖ ORDER FOOD THAT IS NOT ON THE MENU
- ❖ ASK FOR SUBSTITUTIONS EVEN WHEN IT SAYS "NO SUBSTITUTIONS"

### **Option 6 - PHONE**

- ❖ SAY GOODBYE WHEN YOU ANSWER THE PHONE
- ❖ SAY HELLO WHEN YOU HANG UP
- ❖ SAY "I LOVE YOU" WHEN ENDING A CONVERSATION EVEN WITH FRIENDS AND STRANGERS
- ❖ REFUSE TO TAKE A MESSAGE
- ❖ ANSWER THE PHONE AND WAIT FOR THE OTHER PERSON TO SPEAK FIRST.
- ❖ DON’T ATTEMPT TO FILL IN, UNCOMFORTABLE PAUSES IN CONVERSATIONS
- ❖ PRETEND YOU ARE AN ANSWERING MACHINE
- ❖ WHEN PEOPLE CALL WITH WRONG NUMBER TELL THEM THAT THE PERSON THEY ARE LOOKING FOR WAS ARRESTED, THAT YOU’RE A COP, AND YOU HAVE SOME QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASK
- ❖ ASK TELEMARETERS IF YOU CAN CALL THEM BACK