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Oral Presentations: Social Sciences II

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Pearl River Community College

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MUHC 2022: Oral Presentations Social Sciences II

Sachi Ajmera, Pearl River Community College

How Social Media Creates Political Polarization in America

Social media apps and websites are purely programmed to suck in a user for as long as possible by any means necessary. These “means” are primarily based on showing users personally tailored content to create an addiction fueled by a cycle of confirmation bias and dopamine. This bias creates disillusionment of one’s personal views being the extent of reality, and in a society where half the world uses social media, a small percentage of extreme opinions can effortlessly cause disruption in society. Furthermore, many people who oppose America, whether within the country or not, have learned how to manipulate this confirmation bias to cause politically neutral users to have extreme views.

Emily Tannehill, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Students and Cancel Culture: The Digital Divide

Cancel culture is a prevalent setback in today’s society. It affects politics, careers, and most importantly, adolescents. As technology improves, so does the progression of social media. While social media continues to advance and get better over time, the social constructs in today’s society are constantly changing. Not only this, but the way these rules are being enforced online is getting more and more strict. This is called internet accountability, but it is more commonly known as cancel culture. Cancel culture has recently been taking the world by storm. Those who are cancelled are publicly shamed online, and by popular opinion, it is usually well-deserved. However, long term effects of internet accountability have been known to cancel a person for life, making people live in shame for years. This is not a world we want our youth to grow up in. Though bullying in schools has always been an issue, cancelling others is an activity a majority of adolescents partake in. There are various different solutions that will be discussed that would rid society of this issue. However, unless many people partake in this action against cancel culture, it will continue to infest society, schools, and teenagers.

MyKayla Williamson, University of Mississippi

By Her Hands: An Analysis of the Hidden Labor of Black Women at the Hugh Craft House from 1850-1900

This project considers the gap in theorizing the hidden labor of Black women in the seldom-researched setting of urban slavery. The project unearths the hidden labor of Black women by analyzing architectural, primary, and secondary documentary evidence surrounding the urban antebellum Hugh Craft House site in Holly Springs, Mississippi. It draws on household and Black feminist archaeology theories to uncover the hidden labor in the domestic spheres that the enslaved women were actively shaping. Research methods included watching clips of Behind the Big House tour interpretations; taking a Craft House tour in Holly Springs; looking at primary sources like Works Progress Administration narratives and federal census records; and consulting secondary sources on antebellum households, household archaeology, and Black feminist archaeology. This research finds that the layout and architecture of the site were designed to give Black women restricted and hidden access to the main house. It also shows that although the Craft family and descendants still relied on Black labor after the Civil War, the expectations for their labor were different.