

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

SPRING 2010

ETHNOGRAPHIC CRITICAL REVIEW

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. A clear statement of the central thesis, focus, issue or problem the ethnographer investigated
- B. Who was studied, where is the studied group located? How does the group identify itself? Describe a typical day for a woman, young girl, man, young man the elderly and children. What is the economic system i.e. how does the group make its living? What are some important rituals?
- C. Methods: Describe the methods the Ethnographer used to collect data i.e., interviews, census, participant observations genealogies and techniques used to analyzed the data

II. Body of Paper(about 2/3 of discussion)

- A. Provide a chapter by chapter summary(brief, or an overview of major themes discussed within a chapter) of the contents of the ethnography and evaluate how well it supports the stated goal(s) of the ethnography
- B. How would you fare if you did fieldwork in this culture. Besides physical comfort issues what aspect of field work would give you the most trouble and where do you think you would very well? Explain
- C. Discuss the most important issues of the ethnography and relate them to your own culture
- D. How does the ethnography help you understand more deeply something about a culture so different from your own?
- E. How does the ethnography help you understand more deeply something about your own culture?
- F. Describe how you would react to some of the things you described if you were to live in this society for a year.
- G. Tell what you learned about yourself and your society from a study of this group/people.

### III. Conclusion

- A. What do you think is the value of this ethnography to anthropology?
- B. What do you think is the value of this ethnography to its readers and potential readers
- C. What is the one comment, impression, idea or reflection you take away from this ethnography?

### NOTES

1. Write your paper as if you were writing a long letter to a friend who has never heard of this book or the people studied in the book.
2. Describe things clearly in your own words. Be sure to footnote each paragraph that contains information from the book.
3. Your final paper must be between 5 and 7 pages long. To earn full credit, you must clearly describe the particular topics you picked out from each section of the book. I suggest you write an outline and then a rough draft. If you like, I will read your rough drafts.

### TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

Use one inch margins all around and use a 12 point font. Line Spacing is set at 1, 5. No need for a title or cover sheet. Place your name in the upper left corner, drop a space and write "Ethnographic Critical Review." Drop a space and place the title of the ethnography. Paper should be between 5 and 7 pages long.