

The background of the slide is a green topographic map with white contour lines. The lines are more densely packed on the right side, indicating a steeper slope, and more spread out on the left side.

# **SOCY 105B week 6:**

intelligibility //

authoritarian ideology

## (RE)INTRODUCTIONS

- name + pronouns
- 1x thing you'll do this weekend to rest & recharge from school/work/everything else

## PAPER #2:

**\*DUE MONDAY, MAY 12 by 11:59pm\***

Choose either "The Lived Experience of the Black Man" (Fanon), "Feminism is Sensational" (Ahmed) or "Doing Justice to Someone" (Butler) to work with. Write a thesis-guided mini-paper that relates to these specific questions: **How does the scholar theorize the relation between self (or, one's sense of self), their body, and the society they live in? Specifically, what is the role of recognition, the absence of recognition, or a constrained type of recognition in the formation of the self?** Be as precise as possible in how the subject of the essay (i.e., the authors themselves, or in the case of Butler, David Reimer who was referred to as the pseudonym "the John/Joan case" at the time Butler wrote this essay) is denied the fullness and complexity of their being. **600-800 words.**

- **NO INTRO:** \*but\* make sure you include your thesis at the top of your paper.
- **BODY:** 2+ body paragraphs that analyze 2-3 quotes to argue your thesis
- **CONCLUSION:** 3-4 sentences max, where you (1) restate your thesis and (2) summarize the arguments you made in your body paragraphs



INTELLIGIBILITY  
POLITICS of TRUTH  
"NORMATIVE" GENDER  
"NATURAL" GENDER  
EXCEEDING the NORM

**JUDITH BUTLER**





**What Is  
Gender?**

“On the one hand, **we have a self-description**, and that is to be honored. These are the words by which this individual gives himself to be understood. On the other hand, **we have a description of a self that takes place in a language that is already going on**, that is already **saturated with norms**, that **predisposes us as we seek to speak of ourselves**. Moreover, we have words that are delivered in the context of an interview, an interview which is part of the **long and intrusive observational process** that has accompanied **Brenda’s formation from the start.**”

(Butler, 2004, p. 69)

**What nuance/complication is Butler adding to the notion that self-description alone gets at the “truth” of gender?  
Does this resonate with your own experience?**

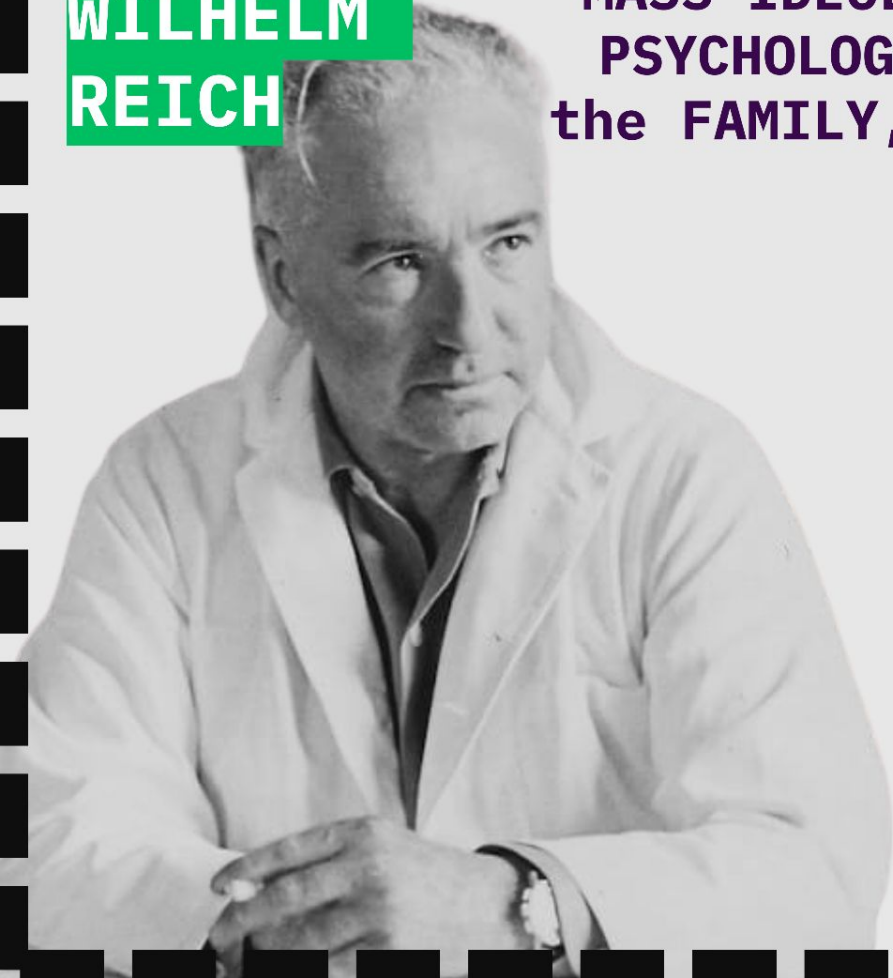
**[SMALL GROUPS]**

# ATTENDANCE TICKET:



**WILHELM  
REICH**

MASS IDEOLOGY, AUTHORITARIAN IDEOLOGY,  
PSYCHOLOGY of FASCISM, SEX-ECONOMIC,  
the FAMILY, PARENTAL vs. STATE AUTHORITY



**MAX  
HORKHEIMER**



**“In times of ‘quiet’ bourgeois democracy two fundamental possibilities** are open to the industrial worker: **identification with the bourgeoisie**, which holds a higher position in the social scale, or **identification with his own social class**, which produces its own antireactionary way of life. To pursue the first possibility means to **envy the reactionary man**, to imitate him, and, if the opportunity arises, to assimilate his habits of life. To pursue the second of these possibilities means to **reject the reactionary man’s ideologies and habits of life**. Due to the simultaneous influence exercised by both social and class habits, **these two possibilities are equally strong.**”

(Reich, p. 51)

**What connections does (or doesn’t) this raise for you in our world today? What do you think determines which of these “two possibilities” someone takes?**

**[SMALL GROUPS]**

A medium shot of Joe Rogan, an older man with grey hair, wearing a dark blazer over a dark shirt. He is looking slightly to his left and gesturing with his right hand, palm facing forward with fingers spread. The background is solid black.

**JOE**

**THEY  
ARE  
SUFFERING**

”Either the **atomization of man** will be **conquered by more fundamental changes and transformations**, or indeed it **may prove fatal to this culture**. The same economic changes which destroy the family bring about the **danger of totalitarianism**. The family in crisis produces the attitudes which **predispose men for blind submission**.”

(Horkheimer: 388)

What do you think Horkheimer means by the “atomization of man”? What do you think it would look like for this to be “conquered by more fundamental changes and transformations”? What is the path forward today?

[SMALL GROUPS]