Knot Theory Gabriel Wallace

**Theorem** If G colors a knot and every subgroup of G is normal, then G is cyclic.

*Proof.* Let x be a label of a strand. If  $G = \langle x \rangle$ , then we are done. So assume  $\langle x \rangle \subsetneq G$ . Let y label a strand and let  $y \in G \setminus \langle x \rangle$ . Then x and y are conjugate. Thus,  $y = gxg^{-1}$  for some  $g \in G$  and therefore  $y \in g\langle x \rangle g^{-1}$ . Since every subgroup of G is normal, then  $g\langle x \rangle g^{-1} = \langle x \rangle$ . A contradiction, showing  $y \notin G \setminus \langle x \rangle$ , implying that  $y \in \langle x \rangle$ .

Now assume  $y \in G$  does not label a strand. Let L be the set of labels of the knot, so  $\langle L \rangle = G$ . Since y does not label a strand then  $y \in G \setminus L$ . But,  $L \subseteq \langle x \rangle$ , so  $G \subset \langle x \rangle$ . A contradiction, showing that  $G \cong \langle x \rangle$ .