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MEDST 255 (Group 1)

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Response to Group 3

1. Do popular images truly reflect the condition of our society?

* I believe that popular images can’t truly reflect the condition of our society. The reason I believe this to be true is that popular images mostly reflect what we want to see about the world. The images that we see on a day-to-day basis in my opinion cannot be truly reflected when we have so many varying views on what is considered to be popular. As in the presentation done by group 3, they spoke about the poor vs rich image. I think this also correlates with what is considered to be popular. If we have issues with race and class they may not feel the same about an image presented to them if it does not affect them directly.

1. To what extent has distribution of content been beneficial to the value of an image?

* In today’s society, distribution of content can be both beneficial as well as detrimental. Content that can be distributed can be beneficial in a few ways. Having content such as movies, images, and music be accessible by distribution to the masses is nice because everyone is able to access and experience the joy that these things bring. However, the downside to having content be distributed is that it can be illegal. For example, LimeWire. People were able to download music and movies from LimeWire for free. So, without paying for anything they were able to have these things right at their fingertips. This is bad for the people producing this content as they do not get any payment for the work they’ve put into these projects. The same goes for images. Most images online are up for public use. All it takes is a simple screenshot and some editing and you can make a photo yours as well as share it to a wider audience.

1. Do you think “poor images” can take away from the message that is trying to be delivered?

* “Poor images” have a bad reputation because like most things, if it isn’t perfect then people don’t want it, or view it as something of lesser value. While people such as the person in the case study from the presentation are obnoxious enough to refuse to show and complete a conference talk because a “good enough” projector was not available do exist, we need to come to the realization that just because an image isn’t crystal clear, does not by any means change the message that it is sending. If for example I were to take a photo at a wedding and it came out blurred, it may not be what I wanted, but it doesn’t change the fact that the photo was taken on a very important day and means a lot. Images today especially on some media sites like Tumblr, actually highly embrace the “poor image”. Poor images are considered to be an aesthetic almost. It gives it a certain feeling. It all depends on who you ask, but I do believe that just because a photo isn’t 100% clear that it lowers the meaning that is trying to be delivered.