Sociology 365
Final Exam
Spring 2014

The purpose of meaningful sociological research is to locate problems in society, identify the factors that influence said problems, and finally, recommend policy solutions to improve the situation. With that in mind, for your final exam I would like you to imagine that you are a member of the U.S. Supreme Court and that you are currently days away from voting on whether or not to uphold affirmative action. For the last four months you have carefully read through countless briefs on racial and ethnic relations in the U.S. However, in a matter of days, you must turn in a final report to the court. Although there are many factors that you could discuss, the Chief Justice has asked that you keep your report to a two page limit (single spaced, Garamond or Times New Roman). In addition to your final vote, your report must review facts that justify your position. Feel free to cite course material and/or outside sources. However, please limit your sources to peer-reviewed material. Please turn in your report to **MCD 386 by Thursday, May 8th by 5:00pm**. You may turn in your report early but late reports will not be considered.

Criteria to keep in mind:

- Two page limit (single spaced). Anything over two-pages will not be read.
- Given the page limit, you will need to use very concise, to-the-point language. (Try to avoid superfluous phrases and analogies.)
- Concise writing requires careful planning. With that in mind, map out your main points *before* you start writing!
- Cite your sources with in-text citations. (Author Date: page)
- Include a bibliography. (Does not count towards page total.)
- Edit your report multiple times! (There is little tolerance for grammar/punctuation errors when you sit on the Supreme Court!)
- Turn in a physical copy of your report on or prior to the deadline. Late reports will not be accepted!