

NAME: _____ Total Points: _____

CJN 255: Extra-Credit Assignment Two: Media Effects

Due: January 25th. This is extra credit work and therefore late work **will not** be accepted. Any points you receive will be added to your lowest exam score (not to exceed 100%).

Instructions:

1. Read the **one** of the articles listed below. All are available online at www.mediacritica.net/courses/255/extracredit.html
 - The Role of Media in Childhood Obesity
 - Children and Video Games
 - Tweens, Teens and Magazines
 - Sex on TV

2. Write a brief essay (300 words) about the article you read, answering the following questions. What are the major findings about the influence of media on young people reported in the article? How do media potentially influence children and teenagers? What images and messages are negative, and what images and messages may have a positive influence on viewers? Do you agree with the article? Why or why not? What suggestions does the article make for how society (parents, teachers, lawmakers) might intervene or protect children from media influence? Are you ever concerned about letting a younger sibling or relative watch, read, play or listen to particular media? What type of media would you consider inappropriate for children? Do you think the film, TV, music and video game ratings adequately protect children from inappropriate media? Are ratings even necessary?

NOTE: Please type your answers. I cannot accept hand-written essays. Thank you.