

**Assignment:** essay 4 (Serano + 1 other)

**Value:** 150 points

**Peer review #1:** Tuesday, April 18 (bring 2 copies OR laptop)—**2 page minimum**

**Peer review #2:** Thursday, April 20 (bring 2 copies OR laptops)—**3 page minimum**

**Final draft:** (hard copy in class; upload to canvas prior)—**3-5 pages, 1000 word minimum (must be at LEAST three FULL pages) plus works cited**

- ~~Assignment~~ essay 4 due during exam period: Thursday, April 27, between 7:45am-10:15am
- ~~Assignment~~ essay 4 due during exam period: Tuesday, May 2, between 10:30am-1:00pm

**Grading:** see rubric; essays that make connections between Serano and one other source in **each** body paragraph will pass; essays that use evidence singly, lacking connections, will earn a C- at best. Must include a WORKS CITED page that lists the two entries from *Emerging*; see *Pocket Style Manual* pages 152-153 #36 for how to cite two or more excerpts from an anthology or collection.

For this final paper, you have three options to choose from and focus on. The bullets provided after each question provide some guidance on items to address within the paper:

**1. Using Serano and Duhigg, write a paper in which you propose strategies for effectively combating rape culture.**

- What is rape culture: according to Serano, according to you?
- How can strong and weak ties, peer pressure, social habits, and/or influential leaders bring an end to rape culture (obviously not overnight), or at least start to dismantle it?
- You may utilize technology, education, (social) media, “conversation” as elements within ties, peer pressure, etc. that can help create “change”

**2. Using Serano and Appiah, write a paper in which you suggest strategies for dismantling stereotypes that stem from rape culture; specifically, predator/prey, virgin/whore, nice guy/asshole jerk.**

- What is rape culture, and how does it create these stereotypes?
- How can cosmopolitanism help change/undo these stereotypes (or “double-binds” as Serano calls them)?
- Is it even possible for these stereotypes to completely diminish, or maybe just become less prevalent?
- How pervasive are these stereotypes—for example, do they only exist in certain countries, or is rape culture a worldwide issue?
- I recommend using Serano’s definition of the terms, as well as your own definition/understanding

**3) Using Serano and Epstein, write a paper in which you examine the assumptions about rape culture and HIV/AIDS, and how those assumptions lead to ignorance that perpetuates the myths associated with both issues.**

- How does ignorance play a role in both rape culture and HIV/AIDS infection?
- How are the problems surrounding both the HIV/AIDS epidemic and rape culture similar?
- What stigmas are associated with rape victims and HIV/AIDS victims?
- How can those stigmas be changed, if at all?
- How does society perceive rape culture? HIV/AIDS?
- Can “frank. . . painful personal conversations” change attitudes towards both or either of these occurrences (Epstein 116)?
- Is talking to people the only way to save the world from rapists and disease?