**Media that Made Me, Me**

In this unit we focus pretty heavily on the idea of Socialization. Socialization shapes us into who we are and is an essential process to study in the field of sociology. Socialization can help us better understand why people do the things they do and believe the things they believe. Of all the agents of socialization we have discussed it could be argued that Media is one of, if not the most impactful. In this assignment we will take a deep dive into the media that helped make you the person you are today and how it did that.

**Option One: My Personal Playlist**

In option one you will be creating a playlist, but it’s a little more complex than just simply being your ten favorite songs. In this option I want you to pick the ten songs/albums that you feel have had the biggest impact in your personal socialization process. Briefly explain why you chose each song/album (about a paragraph) and how it has helped shape you. Maybe it helped you overcome a personal struggle or was a special album that you and your family would play on roadtrips growing up. Then from each album pick one song to comprise your ten song playlist. Share the playlist and explanations with me.

**Mr. Kellner’s Example:** If I Can Dream - Elvis Presley

This album has a super strong message that has resonated with me since I was a kid. The title track is incredibly uplifting and was a big motivator for me throughout school. More than that though it reminds me of my great grandma who I’d always watch Elvis movies with as a kid, and all the life lessons she taught me growing up.

**Option Two: Movie/TV Marathon**

In option two you are crafting a movie/tv marathon. In this option I want you to pick the top ten movies or TV shows that have had the biggest impact in your personal socialization process. Briefly explain why you chose each movie/tv show (1-2 paragraphs) and some personal examples of how it has helped shape you. Maybe it inspired you to enter a certain career path or a particular character taught you a life lesson that has stuck with you ever since. The more specific the explanation the better, don’t just leave it at “I thought this movie was cool when I was a kid”

**Mr. Kellner’s Example:** Community

One of my all-time favorite TV shows for sure. There were lots of lessons to be learned from watching Community but the one that stuck with me is to embrace the weirdness in life. All the characters had weird quirks but at the end of the day they all just embraced how weird one another were and how that helped make them unique. That is something that I hold onto even still today.

**Option Three: Video Game Gauntlet**

In option three you need to come up with a list of video games. In this option I want you to pick the top ten video games that have had the biggest impact in your personal socialization process. This list shouldn’t necessarily be the ten best games or your ten favorite games but more so the ten games that helped make you the person you are today. Briefly explain why you chose each game and some personal examples of how it has helped shape you. Maybe the game had a compelling story or character that really spoke out to you, or maybe a certain game reminds you of your relationship with your friends. The more specific the example the better.

**Mr. Kellner’s Example:** Pokemon Silver Version

I got Pokemon Silver when I was probably like nine or ten years old and it without a doubt made me a better person. As corny as that sounds Pokemon Silver shaped me into who I am today. The game taught me dedication and hardwork above anything else. It took me what seemed like forever to beat the game and I’m not ashamed to say that ten year old me cried while the credits rolled. As I wiped away my tears of joy and the credits came to a close I learned that there were eight more gym badges I had to get and you can bet I went out and got them.