

Nov. 2, 2009

**QUESTIONS ON NAGEL (Sex and Nationalism), STOLER,
HENG AND DEVAN**

1. Nagel speaks of a *moral economy* of nationalism (p. 146). Discuss.
2. Describe Durkheim's theory concerning ways in which deviance (rule-breaking) are in fact *useful* for society.
3. What is "the colonial gaze"? List three characteristics typical of the colonial sexual script assigned to colonized ("native") men.
4. Describe the role of sexuality in the Sepoy War in India in 1857.
5. Describe the most frequently occurring policies aimed at mixed-race children developed by colonial administrations.
6. What is "orientalism"? Nagel speaks of an "internal orientalism" directed at certain categories of women (p. 159). Compare the Chinese example of internal orientalism (the article by Schein that we read earlier) to U.S. examples.
7. List the most common ways nationalism is masculinized. Nagel says that "nationalist politics is a major venue for 'accomplishing' masculinity" (p. 160). Discuss.
8. In what ways did European women's experiences (in Dutch, French, and British colonies) of the cleavages of racial dominance and internal social distinctions differ from men's (Stoler)?
9. Characterize the dilemma faced by colonials when they tried to determine who was "white" and who was "native."
10. Why was sex the most discussed subject in colonial literature, according to Stoler?
11. What points does Stoler make regarding Said's concept of Orientalism?
12. Why did the Dutch East Indies Company promote extramarital relations and legal unions between low-ranking employees and imported slave women?
13. How does this system of concubinage make the distinctions in colonial societies more problematic?
14. Discuss the images of European women found in colonial literature.
15. What kinds of empirical evidence support the assumptions in this literature about women and men, colonial and native?

16. What role did eugenics movement play in these colonies?
17. Discuss the changes in ideology accompanying the flipflop from a pro-concubinage policy to a policy that advocated bringing European women to the colonies.
18. Describe how the Singapore government characterized “graduate babies” (Heng & Devan).
19. Why was the Prime Minister so concerned about this issue?
20. What were the ethnic stereotypes of Singapore’s Indian/Malay citizen?
21. The argument was made that the four “Asian tigers” (Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore) succeeded economically because of their Confucian-based cultures, their “communitarian value system,” etc. Defend this argument. Critique it.

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21A.226 Ethnic and National Identity
Fall 2009

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