

## Breaking Social Norms

This assignment will focus on the power and pervasiveness of social norms. You must select and break an ordinary social norm. For example, enter an elevator with other people and face them; sing on a bus; encroach on someone's personal space in a check-out line at the grocery store. There is only one restriction:

- Be mindful of safety issues. The object of this assignment is NOT to put anyone at risk of being harmed, either physically or psychologically. Choose your situation carefully. Do not significantly disrupt the lives of strangers.

----- Paper Assignment Description-----

1. Write a short paper documenting your norm breaking experience. Your paper should have a title and be typed, double-spaced, with 12 point font. It should be no more than 1-2 pages in length. Proper grammar, spelling, and writing are expected and will affect grades.
2. Write a narrative describing your experience and addressing the following questions/issues:
  - a) Which norm did you break?
  - b) Describe the sequence of events.
  - c) Describe your behavior when you broke the norm.
  - d) Describe how others reacted when you broke the norm.
  - e) Describe your thoughts/concerns/feelings while you were breaking the norm.
  - f) Describe how easy/difficult it was to break the norm.