DAY 2: Specific Questions on Family/Sexuality/Body. Answer two of these “two hour” questions.

1. Feminist theorizing and research about women and sexuality have frequently established a polarized distinction between those who emphasize the dangers of sexuality in patriarchal contexts vis-à-vis those who emphasize the importance of validating women’s sexual pleasure. Based on feminist theories of sexuality, identify and examine how and why some theorists may be identified as pleasure and/or danger theorists. Examine the arguments each one of them offer with regard to the issue of either prostitution or pornography. Explain how research on 1) women of color and sexuality, and 2) gay and lesbian studies may challenge and complicate these analyses.

2. “Can a heterosexual woman be a ‘true’ feminist?” Drawing from feminist theories and research on gender, examine this statement. Introduce and analyze the implications of race, social class, and sexual orientation in your discussion. You may consider your own research in order to illustrate your arguments and examinations.

3. Today the issue of gay marriage is front page news. How has feminism contributed to the rise of this issue? In your discussion, focus on the connections between gay liberation movement and feminist movement. Discuss the range of contemporary feminist opinions on this topic.

4. The gendered division of labor in household work persists, despite the growing equality of men and women in the paid labor force. Discuss the reasons why women continue to bear primary responsibility for “mothering”. Include in your answer a discussion of the burdens and rewards of mothering.