

First Year Seminar - Discussion questions for stereotypes
Dr. Kille - Fall 2005

*Reminder: Class on September 20 will be held in the Luce Multi-Purpose Room.

In preparation for class on September 20, please read the selected reading from Schneider's book and arrive prepared to discuss your answers in small groups as well as the class as a whole

In *Psychology of Stereotyping*, David Schneider (2004) argues, "There is no such thing as a right or wrong definition – one that is true or false. Rather, the term 'definition' is more properly qualified by adjectives such as 'useful' or 'not useful', 'viable' or 'not viable', 'accepted' or 'not accepted'" (p. 15). In reacting to Schneider's quote, come prepared to answer the following questions:

1. What is the most "useful" and "viable" definition of stereotypes that you would construct after reading through the range of possible approaches to defining this term presented in Schneider's introduction?
2. How would you convince your classmates that this definition is to be "accepted" as THE definition?
3. How would you differentiate your definition of stereotype from terms such as prejudice and discrimination?