

Take-home final

Phil 1204: Knowledge & Reality

T. Parent

For each of the following questions, write two or three paragraphs apiece in reply.

- (1) Haslanger defines gender and race in a parallel manner: Both definitions crucially depend on the *social position* of the relevant group. First, please tell me what Haslanger's definitions are. Next, do you think the definitions of race and gender should be parallel in this fashion? Why might someone resist the parallel that Haslanger draws between them? Would such resistance be justified? Why or why not?

- (2) Haslanger herself considers two problems in relation to her account of gender/race, called the "commonality problem" and the "normativity problem." What are these two problems? How does Haslanger argue that her account avoids these problems? Do you agree that she has avoided those problems in the way that she suggests? Why or why not?

This assignment is due in my office (Major Williams 221) at the end of the scheduled final exam time. (Check HokieSpa to verify when exactly this is.) *Please turn in BOTH a hard copy (labeled only with your Hokie ID#), AND an electronic version as an email attachment.* As before, clear writing is essential, argument fallacies are to be avoided, and the use of secondary sources is discouraged.