

## APPENDIX C

### DEAR READER LETTER EXAMPLE

Dear Reader,

In the following pages, you will see my attempt of trying to analyze my socialization. I say *attempt* because it does not do justice in covering all aspects of my socialization. In order to fully do justice to that, I would need a lot more time than I was given in this course. These assignments are only a small slice of my identity; however, even this small slice was hard to write. I did not think it would be difficult for me to write about myself, but it was. This is especially so for the artifacts. Prior to taking this course, I did not think that a single object could influence my life, much less my identity, in such a huge way. Then again, I was exposed to a lot of revolutionizing concepts throughout the course.

My initial response to hearing the class syllabus was “oh boy, this is going to be a lot of work.” My initial response was correct. I did not think that the assignments and readings themselves were a lot of work, but it was how much I was required to think that caused the headaches. Some of the concepts presented in this class were hard to grasp, and there were so many concepts that I did not think I was going to be able to remember all of them. However, without me even realizing it, these concepts and terms became etched into my brain, especially Heidegger. I began to look at society through a different lens and started to analyze every advertisement I saw. Even though I was previously aware of some of the issues that were discussed in this course, the course presented these issues through ideas that I had never even considered. This class has promoted me to think more about my socialization and how multiple forces have combined to produce who I am today. Through these assignments, I was able to think critically about these multiple forces, and thus take a more active role in navigating reality and discourse.

These assignments have allowed me to better understand myself. I have evolved from thinking that I have complete control over who I am to understanding that I have been influenced by everyone I have met, my education, and my surroundings. In the end, I don't mind that this class and portfolio were difficult to get through. This portfolio is something that I am actually quite proud to showcase because it represents my transformation throughout this course and my ability to become a more critical thinker, as well as a more critical actor in society.

Sincerely,  
Jane Doe