LING 1235/2235: Language, Gender, and Society

Fall 2005 (06-1)

Homework 1

Due Friday, August 31

- 1. Do some 'free writing' about this task, reflecting on the process of thinking about the questions on the questionnaire. Some things you might write about: What questions were hard to answer? Why do you think they were hard? Why do you think I asked the questions I did in the way I did? What did you learn about your fellow students from their answers? Did you learn anything about yourself?
- 2. Choose a print advertisement that contains a representation of at least one person to class on Wednesday.

The following questions are about the reading due.

- 3. What do you think Eckert & McConnell-Ginet (EMG) mean when they write "both language and gender are fundamentally embedded in social practice, deriving their meaning from the human activities in which they figure" (p. 5)? Try to give an example of some language or gender being *embedded* in social practice.
- 4. What is the difference between asking "how women/men speak" and "what kinds of linguistic resources can and do people deploy to present themselves as certain kinds of men or women" (p.5)?

1. Be sure you understand the following terms (in roughly the order of their appearance):

(social) practice

heterosexual market

desire/cathexis

gender order

convention

ideology, gender ideology

essentialism

habitus

discourse

naturalization

hegemony

gender regime

erasure