Sociology 100

Sept 12 – Ch 5 – Deviance – “nuts, sluts and perverts”

Just because a sociologist talks about someone or some behaviour as deviant, this doesn't mean that he or she is making a moral judgement. They are rather stating that various social processes have been enacted that classify the person, practice or thing as deviant.

Deviance from the Demonic Perspective –

- Good and evil are external to us (angels on shoulders are subjective)
- Other places we see deviance as demonic – horror movies (do things that can ONLY be explained by external deviant forces.. not adrenaline or mental disorders)
- Witch burning (mass against the few) – perspective that when you have done something wrong, deviance is brought to you as a form of punishment... people started looking in their community to find WHO had been sent as the punishment/portal for Satan to enter - Make the body less hospitable to the devil by torturing or burning it
- The Spanish Inquisition created elites and power structure
- Interpreting other religions into the framework during the expansion of Christianity – “if you're not with us, you must be from the devil” – they were demonized by the people
- Manichean (sp?) – demonization.. if you aren't with us, you're against us
- Synchrotism – marry religions together.. satisfy everyone but Catholics win