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Project 2

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It took me a very long time to find an assemblage that I felt I could remediate to a new purpose, but I am happy with the one I landed on. I decided to settle on a compilation video I found on Youtube titled, “We are in a Toxic Relationships” which shows toxic relationships that we romanticize on screen. This compilation included Elena and Damon from The Vampire Diaries, Finn and Rachel from Glee, Fiona and Jimmy from Shameless and a few others. I liked this idea because it brings together different couples from different shows that some of us love and some of us hate. Also most of the shows represented in this compilation come with die hard fans that forget how toxic these relationships can be and start romanticizing them. For my remediation I decided to take quotes that were said in the compilation and put them onto a flyer that could be hung in counseling centers or women health offices. The title of the flyer is, “Have you Heard any of These Phrases Before” this includes the quotes and a small description under each one, and then at the bottom I provided real resources that women in these situations could reach out to.

I think my remediation takes acted out scenarios and shows how something similar happens in the real world with real couples. Toxic relationships can go so deep wether there is physical abuse or mental abuse there are many layers too toxic relationships. By remediating the Youtube compilation I switched the assemblage from an audience that watches toxic couples on

TV and romanticizes them, to real women that may be seeking help, but do not know where to find it. I think through the design of a flyer it is more accessible for women in a discrete way if necessary, also flyers can be so casual but the places they would be placed is where it would be most effective. It is also something that if a counselor or doctor suspects there are issues in a relationship they could give their patient a flyer or even reference back to it. I think I arranged the design for the flyer in a way that shows the flyer is not the complete answer to the situation, but it is a start. I have known many people, including myself, who have been in toxic and unhealthy relationships, but it is very easy to ignore the signs. That is why I wanted to arrange the flyer with the quotes from the video in a way that if someone looks at the flyer and sees a phrase or something similar that has been said to them, it may spark something in their head. From the whole original assemblage I chose to select the quotes because I knew it would have more of an effect than trying to use the characters from the TV shows. I also added the other sources at the bottom for women that are seeking help because they could contact or use those sources if they take the flyer.

I know there may be some debate of only focusing on women who are the victims in toxic/unhealthy relationships, and excluding guy victims. The thing is in most of the clips it was the man who had the control in the relationship, maybe it is hard to pick that up from the youtube edit, but I have watched a lot of the shows mentioned so I know a little bit of the background. I fully support men seeking and finding help if they are the victims in a toxic relationship and I think they deserve to be represented just as much as women, but the quotes leaned more towards women so I only focused on that. I think my remediation did change the purpose of the original assemblage, and the original target audience. The audience went from fans of specific TV shows

who ignored the red flags of a character because they romanticized the toxic, controlling and obsessive behavior the character gave off. To then an audience of women who may not be aware that are in an unhealthy situation, and then once they see the signs they become more aware and possibly seek help. I originally had the flyer titled, “4 Signs you Might be in a Toxic Relationship” but I changed it because sometimes people don’t acknowledge that their relationship is toxic. This way with the new title women might be more curious and open threading it, and then realize they might need to seek help or get out of that situation.

I am really proud with how my work turned out because it was a struggle to come up with this idea at first. I think it is a very important matter to talk about and even though this might not go anywhere, I am just happy to learn and educate others on these situations.