A2 Thoreau / Civil Disobedience Seminar

All present.

Zane started with the just law stuff…people should find ways to make laws that force people to do things that they are morally against.

* Andrew Smith: Just law… a majority of people?
* Zane: If you believe this is just… someone else doesn’t think this is just… Relativism…
* Jake Wermes: We know unjust laws. It takes an example, an outrage to identify…
* Zane: Laws / Morals can’t affect others.
* Alex Gruber: One part that stood out… read from paragraph 11.
* Eble: He doesn’t take a ton of stock in voting?
* Gruber: Only by expressing men feebly… explained himself. He expressed people who expressed their opinions.
* Zane: Government only represents majority. 51-49%... those ideas are passed.
* Aiden: Voting does have some stock… I disagree with him…you can always “get what you want”
* Zane: That leaves out the other half…
* Eble challenged Aiden with current Republican victory…
* Aiden: Unrealistic Thoreau… explained the idea of everyone being “right,” but people cannot agree. Abortion, Fergusin… people have different opinions..
* Eble: Can someone have a deformed conscience?
* Aiden: *Django Unchained*… spoke about Vincent / Candy… has to come up with reasons to justify himself. Eble asked for clarity. Though we have the idea of a universal moral code. Majority rule / minority rights. Thoreau…
* Eble read from the last paragraph.
* Aiden: Instead of envisioning a perfect world, we should do something with it. Abortion = legal, but not moral. Spoke about Bush, abortion.
* Gruber: Mr. Tull brought up the last class (along the same issues)… he put himself as a senator. You have to meet people in the middle…
* Eble: Compromise is a necessary part of our government…
* Aiden: That’s contradictory to what he’s saying. He’s not talking about compromise.
* Gruber: He brings up voting—the majority of people
* Eli Profitt: They need to represent the minority. The minority isn’t represented.
* TJ: Unjust laws… spoke about if you don’t do anything, you
* Eble tried to clarify. Connected to friction of government.
* Elijah: Friction in paragraphs 17-19. Read from the essay about friction… read more…
* Eble explained… read from paragraph 18
* Gruber: There’s a line…
* Eble: Aiden—still unrealistic?
* Aiden: I still feel uneasy…
* Andrew Smith: Speaking of taxes, not paying them. That’s extreme.
* TJ: That would be a success for them…
* Smith: If you have a belief… civil rights, segregation… the games… winners / losers…
* Eble talked about level 4 morality.
* TJ: Government, Declaration of Independence…
* Aiden: He talks about that in paragraph 8. They ran a revolution, tons of people died.
* Eble: Machine, government—paragraph 8
* Smith: Machine… moving parts…
* Zane: Machines are run by people
* Wermes: Because a machine is absent of humanity…
* Waldbillig: No morals…
* Wermes: It will do what it is designed to do…
* Logan: *Grapes*… the plow raping the earth…
* Chase: Comment about revolution…

Sam Waldbillig: I’m still freer than the people outside of the walls of the prison

* Wermes: Read from another paragraph in the text; that recognition of “this is the way it’s always been” doesn’t help. When people try to make it different… people are asking the wrong questions… look for ways to satisfy both parties.
* Logan Cooper: There will always be a lower class… if we don’t change the mechanization of this… we need a way to make society more fair.
* Gruber: I kind of disagree with this… we’ve been through many phases… how society is, where the jobs are = important. That’s likely been said before.
* Eble: So where does the government fit in here?
* Gruber: Government help here… unemployment…
* Wermes: President Roosevelt… he saved the economy by having the government grow.
* Gruber: New Deal was good… WWII saved the economy…
* Wermes: That was still the government giving jobs…
* Eble: immigration, executive order… government… What would Thoreau say?
* Smith: Headlines aren’t “They’re going to take our jobs…” “In the Strawberry Fields…” Americans working those jobs, getting the proper salary. Spoke about illegally coming to this country.
* Eble: Chomsky connection…
* Smith: That’s different… they aren’t citizens… false analogy alert.
* Aiden: Predominately Christian society… why view them as people to stay away? We’re citizens of the world.
* Wermes: Human Rights approach?
* Eble: Those gel…
* Gruber: Hard to be Christian and economic?
* Aiden: Do you worship Jesus or cash?
* Smith: There are opportunities to come in…
* Zane: We have to at least accept their rights as humans. They’re not legal citizens. Why not make it easier? Give livable wages. Give more than they are getting now…
* Aiden: Executive order gives a clean slate…
* Smith: The government is saying that it doesn’t want to spend the time… it’s saying “Come on in…”
* Gruber: Everyone can’t live in America.
* Smith: I’m not saying that we can’t let people over…
* Zane: Immigrants aren’t such a drain…
* Aiden: Fun fact… greater income of over $160,000, you also don’t pay social security taxes…
* Wermes: President of U.S. Hundreds of people who are experts.
* Eble talked…
* Gruber: Reason we have senators… house… way to get laws passed…
* Wermes: Obama is elected…
* Smith: Shared a clip of Obama speaking about healthcare. “I’m not the king…”
* Eble: He acts as the king…
* TJ: Executive order = part of the system…
* Wermes: He uses less executive orders. “He’s acting like a king” is unjustified. Other forms of tyranny.
* Zane: I don’t agree with Smith… but he’s doing something a king would do.
* Eble: Went back to machine… is there anything immoral, conscience-related here?
* Smith:
* Aiden: I agree with Andrew… if we had went through a process of making legislation.
* Smith: He knew it wasn’t going to happen.
* Wermes: I do have a problem with this; I wish he had a way to get this through Congress. That impairs the current government.
* Eble: The machine is broken.
* Wermes: He’s going against the machine.
* Smith: Someone is always mad.
* Gruber: Boehner = mad… he was trying to be in the middle. Now he has Republicans against him.
* Smith: You have to be in the middle…

Eble: That’s part of the machine! We get the friction; what are the circumstances in which parts of the machine aren’t being eliminated by the natural friction?

* Smith: Race plays into this… the big ones…
* Gruber: Race blows it up. The cop never had any bad reports, had never shot his gun.
* Wermes: They couldn’t tell what happened… in New York, the media attention is different. The cop acted in a way that was outlawed.
* Melee between Wermes and Gruber/Smith
* Smith challenged…
* Wermes: Why is everyone upset? Police officers are held to a higher order…
* Zane: Nature of argument = racism.
* Gruber: If you get attacked by a guy
* Eble: We can’t argue the logistics…
* Aiden: The kid in Dayton, the chokehold, the kid in Cleveland. Media’s fault. This is a cycle.
* Smith: People like to see this… media contributes to this…
* Aiden: Adding racism…
* Logan: 24-hour news outlets.
* Spencer: If it was a black cop…