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21W.777 The Science Essay Spring 2008

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Homework #9

Due next class, T 3/11 and Th 3/13

READ 6th set of essays, on the social impact of science and technology:

1) Malcolm Gladwell's "John Rock's Error" is available via an e-link from his home page; go to

www.gladwell.com

and scroll through his New Yorker article archive—it was published 13 March 2000.

Note: We will discuss this article in class Tuesday, in conjunction with a video that we will watch on the development of the birth control pill.

Also read:

- 2) Alan Lightman, "Prisoner of the Wired World." The essay appears in his recent collection, *A Sense of the Mysterious*. [e-reserves via our Stellar site]
- 3) John Seabrook, "Fragmentary Knowledge." *The New Yorker*, 14 May 2007 94-102.

NOTE: These 2 essays are for discussion in class 3/13.

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