

Remembering Professor William (Jock) Young

Please indulge my personal anecdote about Jock Young. I did not know him personally before, and did not originally realize he had been appointed to the Graduate Center. Until one night, after my evening history of psychology class, I happened upon his name on his open office door. I introduced myself, and we had a great rap. I told him how as an undergraduate at the University of Edinburgh in the early seventies I had been more or less fixed on the academic pursuit of Greek Ethics. The two girls I shared an apartment with at the time were both doing sociology, which was very popular in those days. One evening, I happened to pick up one of their books, which was Jock's the *Social Meaning of Drug Use*. I was fascinated by the subject matter—we all were in those days—but even more fascinated by the thought that it could be socially constituted. I immediately read the book from cover to cover, and it blew my mind, as we used to say in those days. The next semester I abandoned Greek Ethics for the Philosophy of Social Science, and began my own life long pursuit of the meaning of ‘the social.’ I will always be grateful that I got the opportunity to thank him personally for that. A great man, and a great loss.



Jock Young

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