Alana Mousseau
Week 8 – Seminar
22 May 2017
Word Count: 445 **Triggering Passages:**The Freedom Farm created a shared ownership model allowing cooperative members to “feed themselves, own their own homes, farm cooperatively, and create small businesses together in order to support a sustainable food system, land ownership, and economic development, (Davy, 4).
Black Agrarianism: Resistance

In those days, the school not only did not teach organic farming techniques, it actively frowned on them. But even as an inexperienced student, Beddard thought that there was something viscerally wrong with using poisonous chemicals to grow food we would eventually put in our mouths. “I was viewed as a renegade with a hippie philosophy” (Estabrook, 155-156).

I’ve got a friend who won’t eat no white bread, drink white milk, won’t use no white flour or white pepper. She only uses black pepper, drinks only blackberry wine, black coffee, chocolate mlik, eats chocolate cake, black beans, black bread. She says it is because she is so fed up with black being used in a negative sense…., (Smart Grosvner, 112).

**News Media:**
We complain about the most ridiculous little things when some people don’t even have clean water. Blessings to India. Our work is far from done. I’ll tell you guys more about my charity work in the near future in case you’d like to be a part of it” – Nicki Minaj
<http://shethepeople.tv/nicki-minaj-helps-indian-village-get-clean-water-amenities/>

The Tomatoland book is something I look forward to reading and learning from each week with seminar. This quote I picked out though was surprising to me because of the views of how people saw farming in the 1980’s compared to how people view farming and the different (and similar) practices of farming is what is shocking to me. I definitely think that Beddard had the right idea to begin with, and I applaud him for not wanting to be using chemicals on the foods we eat, and stepping up to do something more than this. This type of farming now is what people nowadays want. People are taking interest in their food, and wanting to have quality organic produce. Though not easy, this farming is still incredibly important. “Organic farming in Florida can be a bitch,” he said. “But it can be done” (Estabrook, 157).

Reading the article, Black Agrarianism: Resistance from Food First was a great reminder to appreciate what you have, and recognize what privilege is. This article can be viewed in a variety of different ways, but having someone read an article and touch on these topics is always something I find important, because this is such a large significance of our history. As this article covers specifically on agriculture and land owning, take any other subject material and one will be able to recognize that Blacks are constantly having their rights taken away. When I previously studied music history in school, during the early 1900’s, much of the most popular music was created by black people, stolen by white people who received all the recognition regardless of how horribly they butchered the songs, while the original talented artists received little to no credit. Although this article doesn’t touch anything on music and giving credit to the artists, I find this to be so similar in topics.

So much of what is posted on the news these days falls into the category of “celebrity news”, with most of the “news” only relating back to covering details and showing photos of celebrities, who as a reminder are real people doing people things, just trying to live their own lives. Through the recognition that many of these people have a lot of money and can frankly do whatever they want with it, it is incredibly heartwarming to know that these people- such as Nicki Minaj chooses to donate her money to people in need. Although I don’t personally like her music and choose not to listen to it, her willingness to help others is a reminder not to completely judge someone or make assumptions based off of the little they know about someone.