11 AmStud. Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Bedar/Ms. Kish

**Antebellum Reformers Roundtable**

**Background**:

This is a 3-part activity/assignment that you’ll complete as part of your joint classes on Transcendentalism and early/mid 19th century America

**Roles (23 students)**

1. Susan B. Anthony (2) 13) Mother Ann Lee Stanley
2. James Fenimore Cooper 14) Joseph Smith
3. Dorothea Dix 15) Sylvester Graham
4. Ralph Waldo Emerson (2) 16) Henry David Thoreau (2)
5. Charles G. Finney 17) Washington Irving
6. Margaret Fuller 18) Harriet Jacobs
7. Horace Mann 19) Harriet Beecher Stowe
8. Robert Owen 20) Bronson Alcott
9. David Walker
10. Wendell Phillips
11. William Apess

**Assignment**

1. **Research**

* Due Monday 10/20 (please *type*)
* Each of you will be assigned an antebellum reformer. You need to research your individual and take 1 page of notes, analyzing the individual’s life and career. Jot down your sources and/or bookmark sites.
* Be sure to take notes on the following:
  + What are the key points in their personal background? (*keep very brief)*
  + What might explain their involvement in reform movements?
  + What are their most significant contributions?
  + What specific issue(s) was this individual involved with?
  + What was the source(s) of their motivation to reform (religious, philosophical, political, etc.)?
  + What did they see as the solution to the problems (legislation, individual moral reform, creating a utopian community, etc.)?

2**. Prep for Roundtable Discussion**

In-class Tuesday 10/21

On the day of roundtable discussion, bring:

* + Your notes on your character for a brief intro to your character
  + A highly visible nametag with your character’s name (use a marker)
  + One quote/excerpt: choose a particularly appropriate quotation that captures your individual’s position; choose one that is 1 or 2 sentences and write it in your notes; you will read this aloud)
  + Answers to the “Big Questions” below (just add directly to your notes), from the perspective of your character
* What is the biggest issue facing American society today? Why?
* Is human nature fundamentally good or bad?
* How should we achieve a better society?
* Should we rely on the government for change? Ourselves?
* Should we push for immediate, or gradual change?

**3) Blog Post**

**-** For HW due Wed. 10/22, you must complete two “blog postsyou’re your history class website, bedarhistory.weebly.com (click “AmStud” and then “Blog”).

**-** The first post you complete should be an original post. In this post, state who else from our discussion in class you agreed with/disagreed with (*in character*) and why. The last part of the post should be a Tweet: 140 characters and hashtag..

**-** The second post must be a response to a classmate’s post, agreeing/disagreeing/extending the point made.

**#AmStud**