

## Second Assignment

Due: April 8<sup>th</sup>

Length: up to 5 pages (i.e. around 2000 words).

Gary Watson argues that the addict is 'more like a collaborationist than an unsuccessful freedom fighter' ('Disordered Appetites', p. 65; on the materials section of the Stellar site), and later that we are 'not so much overpowered by brute force as seduced' (*ibid* p. 71).

(i) What does Watson mean by this?

(ii) What implications does this have for the view that addicted actions are chosen?

(iii) How plausible do you think that Watson's approach is, both in his idea of addiction as seduction, and in his characterization of it as a form of disordered appetite? How well does it fit in with the behavioral findings concerning addiction (sensitivity to incentives; typical life pattern of addicts etc.)? How well does it fit with the evidence about the neurophysiological underpinnings of addiction (Berridge etc.)? If you are sympathetic to Watson's account, explain what you like about it, but also stress any shortcomings or gaps that you think it contains. If you think that some other account does better, say what it is and what you think is better about it.