

HW 8: Evaluation of "Do you speak American?", 500 words

We'll watch and discuss the film and this will give you the basis for this assignment. You know a good bit about language variation in the U.S. now and your job is to **critically assess the film** ... what do they get right and wrong? Are they asking the right questions?

Here are some suggestions for thinking about how to approach preparing for class and doing this homework:

- What's the basic premise of the Up North segment?
- What features do they focus on? What features do they ignore?
- What is the bigger story about northern US speech in terms of regional and social variation? In terms of change?
- Do they play on stereotypes? How or how not?
- Do they make the best choices about who to talk to and about what?
- If you were asked for advice on a new version of this film, what would you tell people to do differently?

50 Points