

DOODY, Rachelle Smith (Rice and Baylor Medical) SENSE AND NON-SENSE: DISSEMINATION AND EMPIRICISM IN PRACTICE. Academics often discuss discourses, which is different from our discourse practices. Postmodern anthropology, in descriptive modes, provides compelling critique based upon the deconstruction of ontology and epistemology. But post-modern anthropology is problematic in its practice modes. Even, and maybe especially, post-modern feminists are likely to be critical of the practice aspects. Post-modern practices seem ambivalent about systems, whereas scientific anthropologies use them to advantage. An easy target for many forms of criticism, science may be a more successful practice because it resists the totalization of meaningfulness.