The Family Study Guide

I. Family and Marriage Across Cultures
   a. Define Family
   b. Understand the 2 types/classifications of family
   c. Identify and apply the terms related to descent, authority and location of families
   d. Contrast Monogamy and Polygamy
   e. Provide reasons for Polygynous and Polyandrous marriages
   f. Distinguish Exogamy, endogamy, homogamy, and heterogamy

II. Taboo Marriage Video
   a. Motivations behind child/arranged marriages

III. Theoretical Perspectives
   a. Differentiate the three theories on family
   b. Explain each of the 6 Functionalist roles of family

IV. Family and Marriage in America
   a. Identify the characteristics of the typical American family
   b. Explain the reasons people in the US marry
   c. Describe trends in marriage and divorce rates
   d. Provide three explanations for why divorce happens
   e. Discuss the effects of divorce on families
   f. Explain the characteristics of a divorce-prone couple
   g. Evaluate trends/statistics of US divorce

V. Changes in Marriage and the Family
   a. Describe the changes in dating and courtship
   b. Link changing spousal roles to gender equality
   c. Define and apply blended families
   d. Understand the challenges faced by the blended family
   e. Describe trends in single parent families
   f. Explain the challenges faced by single parent families
   g. Define cohabitation
   h. Explain the challenges faced by the cohabitating family

VI. Parenting
   a. Explain why parenting is a choice/decrease in family size
   b. Apply the social learning theory to parenting styles
   c. Assess the impact of dual employed parents on children
   d. Apply each of the 4 types of parenting to situations
   e. Explain attachment disorder
   f. Evaluate the process of alternative care when parents cannot perform their duties
### The Family R.A.F.T.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>You +50 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>Your grandson or granddaughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>Discussion/Dialogue/Storytelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>How times have changed!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directions</td>
<td>Your Grandson/daughter comes over to visit you are regales you with a tale of his/her 1st date. He/she is only 4 years old, but the date ended with a 1st kiss! This shocks you, so you decide to tell your grandson/daughter how the times have changed. In your story, you must include: 1. Dating/family practices your grandma/pa told you about 2. Dating family practices when you were young 3. Realistic causes for these dating/family trends. 4. A realistic prediction for the possible effects of continued changes in dating/family if this trend continues. 5. 5 vocabulary words or concepts from this unit. Possible choices may include: nuclear family, extended family, marriage, polygamy, functionalism, conflict theory, symbolic interactionism, authoritative, permissive, authoritarian, uninvolved parenting, etc...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Criteria:**

1. Correct usage of 5 unit vocabulary words: _____/5 points

2. Demonstration of correct understanding of the family unit concepts:
   a. Dating: generational differences: _____/5 points
   b. Realistic Prediction of future family changes: _____/5 points

3. Response is written in correct voice and format: _____3 points

4. Response shows demonstration of creativity and effort: _____2/ points

Total Points: _____/20
Find a Friend Who… Activity

**Directions:** Find at least one person to fit each description below. The person you find needs to initial in the space provided next to the question. Do not use the same person more than once. Then, answer the follow up questions. *Remember that any point of discussion that makes you uncomfortable is ok to omit.*

1. Mom and Dad have never been divorced._______
2. Only one parent has ever been divorced. ______
3. Both parents have been divorced. _________
4. Has a relative who has had a baby out of wedlock. ________
5. There is only one child in the family. ______
6. There are two children in the family. ________
7. There are three children in the family. ________
8. There are four children in the family. ________
9. There are 5+ children in the family. _______
10. The family is blended (step parents or siblings). _________
11. The entire extended family lives in 2 or fewer states (like all in MO and IL). ________
12. The extended family is spread out over 3 or more states. _________
13. Has a strictly stay-at-home mom. ________
14. Has a mom that works. ________
15. Has a dad that is stay-at-home. _________
16. Lives with a member of the extended family (like g’ma lives w/ you). ________
17. Lives with a significant other instead (or in addition to) family. _______

**Follow Up Questions**

1. List 2 questions that were easy to find someone to sign. Why was this so easy?

2. List 2 questions that were extremely difficult (impossible) to find someone to sign. Why was this so darn hard?

3. Based on your experience with this assignment in class today, choose one point (like divorce rate, # of kids, women working) to discuss in a paragraph (7 sentences) describing what has changed over the years, how it changed, why its changed, etc… Amuse me with your opinions!!!!!
Family Tree Project

I. **Paper Option**
Step 1: Fill in your family tree as best you can to account for at least 3 generations (excluding yours).
Step 2: Discuss with your family members background on each of these generations. Obviously, if some of your family has passed, you need to get this the information as detailed as possible from current family members’ recollections of earlier generations.
Step 3: Write a 6 paragraph paper in the following format:
   I. Introduction
   II. Information on your great-grandparents and the values that shaped their lives
   III. Information on your grandparents and the values that shaped their lives
   IV. Information on your parents and the values that shaped their lives
   V. Information on you and the values that shaped your life
   VI. Conclusion
      a. What did you find out
      b. How SPECIFICALLY are the generations different
      c. How SPECIFICALLY are the generations similar
      d. Evaluate the change: is it good? Bad?
      e. Predict changes for your future family: how will your kids, their kids be similar or different from you?
      ~OR~

II. **Poster Presentation Option**
Step 1: Fill in your family tree as best you can to account for at least 3 generations (excluding yours).
Step 2: Discuss with your family members background on each of these generations. Obviously, if some of your family has passed, you need to get this the information as detailed as possible from current family members’ recollections of earlier generations.
Step 3: Create a Poster using the following guidelines:
   I. ½ of the items need to be answered for you, all items must be answered for your parents, 6 must be answered for your grandparents, and 5 must be answered for your great-grandparents.
      a. Age you (they) got their first job
      b. Age you (they) owned their first car
      c. Age you (they) went on their 1st date
      d. Age you (they) got married
      e. Did they graduate from college
      f. How many kids did you (they) have
      g. How many times were you (they) divorced or widowed
      h. What is a typical weekend for you and them @ YOUR AGE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Your Score</th>
<th>Total Possible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Tree Analysis</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>1 generation was analyzed</td>
<td>2 generations were analyzed</td>
<td>3 generations were analyzed</td>
<td>4 generations were analyzed and applied to today</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation Clarity</strong></td>
<td>Not</td>
<td>Overall Poor eye contact/speaking</td>
<td>Overall Average eye contact/speaking</td>
<td>Overall Above Average eye contact/speaking</td>
<td>Overall Great eye contact/speaking</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visual Requirement</strong></td>
<td>No Visuals</td>
<td>Below Average Visuals</td>
<td>Average Visuals</td>
<td>Above Average</td>
<td>Stunning Visuals</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation Organization</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Poorly Organized</td>
<td>Average Organized</td>
<td>Above Average</td>
<td>Excellently Organized</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation Content</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>I am unclear on your family</td>
<td>I have a basic understanding of your family</td>
<td>I now know most information about your family</td>
<td>I now know everything about your family</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Marriage
Why do people today get married?
Determine the parental role in choosing a spouse.

What is the extent of the say that a parent has in this decision?

Is there a concern for race in marriages? Y/N
What is ok?

What is more taboo?

Is there a concern for ethnicity in marriages? Y/N
What is ok?

What is more taboo?

Is there a concern for religious background in marriages? Y/N
What is ok?

What is more taboo?

Describe our wedding ritual

Determine an age bracket for a typical 1st marriage for:
People who drop out of high school?
People who have only a high school diploma?
People with an Associates or Bachelor's Degree?
People with an advanced degree (masters, PhD, MD, etc)?

In marriages, who works (husband, wife, both)?
Who brings home the most $ (husband, wife, equal)?
Courtship
What role does the typical American parent play in the dating lives of their children? (dating rules: curfew, supervision, meet them first, etc)

At what age does the first supervised date occur? ________
... Unsupervised? ________
Is there a concern for race in relationships? Y/N
What is ok?

What is more taboo?

Is there a concern for ethnicity in relationships? Y/N
What is ok?

What is more taboo?

Is there a concern for religious background? Y/N
What is ok?

What is more taboo?

What is the role of sexual activity in dating?

Is there a progression of sexual activity?

Where does cohabitation fit into the timeline of a relationship?

Is this more/less common than in previous generations?
The Family and Marriage across Cultures

1. Draw a stick figure representation of each:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nuclear Family</th>
<th>Extended Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. My family recognizes both my mother’s and father’s side of the family. This is a __________ system of descent.

3. In Kim’s house, her father is in charge of all decisions. This is an example of a _____________.

4. Jenny lives near her family, but hours from her husbands. This is a ____________ system of family location.

5. A ____________________ marriage will result in 3 or more spouses.

6. _________________ is often practiced in an effort to have as many offspring as possible.

7. _________________ is often practiced to counter the effects of an imbalance in gender in a population.

8. Monarchal families often require one to marry one’s own siblings. This is an example of _________________.

9. Susie is encouraged to marry someone dissimilar from herself. This is an example of _________________.

10. Studies indicate that the more similar a couples’ background, the more successful the marriage will be. As a result many industrial countries will encourage marriages for couples with similar backgrounds. This is an example of _________________.

Choose 2 "Taboo" marriages from DVD

COMPARE AND CONTRAST DIAGRAM

Name: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Concept 1 ____________________________ Concept 2 ____________________________

How Alike?

How Different?

With Regard To

_______  _______  _______

_______  _______  _______

_______  _______  _______
Taboo: Childrearing

1. Based on the video, how should people parent? Explain.

2. How does China’s school system differ from ours in terms of identifying promising athletes?

3. How does Chinese nationalism influence parents’ decisions to release their children to training facilities?

4. Describe a day in the life of a budding Chinese athlete.

5. Are coaches authoritarian, permissive, or authoritative?

China

India

6. What are the children missing to on while being raised in the Indian prison system?

7. What percentage of women is convicted in the Indian prison system?

8. What is worse in Indian culture: committing murder or being a bad mother?

9. How is life in the prison better for some children than life outside?
Indonesia

10. Who raises the children in this culture?

11. Which type of parenting is practiced? (authoritarian, permissive, or authoritative)

12. How does the view on education differ from the views of American parents?
A Way but No Will When It Comes To Foster Care

By THERESA CAMERON

Recent revelations of foster care abuses in New Jersey and Florida have, once again, called attention to the state of foster care in this country. As someone who grew up in foster care more than 30 years ago, I am not surprised by the continued problems. Despite improvements, there is still a long way to go.

My own story began in 1954, when I was abandoned at birth in an upstate New York hospital at a time when race as well as religion dictated where children could be placed. Because there were few black Catholic families around Buffalo, finding a place for an infant like me was a challenge. I remember at least 11 different foster homes. Some were O.K.; others were not. Caseworkers rarely stayed at the agency for long. Their visits with me were supposed to be regular and private. Instead, they were infrequent and conducted with the foster mothers present.

I struggled with a disorder later known as dyslexia and received no support from poorly trained foster families. By the time I was legally freed for adoption, at age 10, I was labeled hard to place. When I was a teenager, I ran away. No one from the agency looked for me. (I would have been easy to find; I had moved in with a high school friend and her family.)

For more than 19 years the State of New York provided a modicum of care for my basic needs, like food, shelter and clothing. It could not, however, erase the psychological trauma that ripped apart my childhood and that remains with me even as I approach 50. Yet I consider myself one of the fortunate ones. With the help of a few friends and teachers, I went on to earn a doctorate from an Ivy League university and have had a successful academic career.

Unlike many other long-term foster children, I did not end up in prison, on public assistance or in a mental institution. In the decades since I left the system, some progress has been made. Children's safety now precedes family reunification. Congress passed an amendment to the Child Welfare Act to sever parental ties when there is no chance for reunification -- a law that could have helped me find a new home. And the 20,000 foster children who "age out" of the states' system every year now qualify for health, education and housing from the government until they are 21 years old.

There is also no shortage of compassionate, dedicated people who work tirelessly defending foster children. Bridges to Independence, a private program in Los Angeles, for example, offers housing and other vital services to former foster teenagers.
But these programs and other new measures have not kept pace with the shortcomings in the system, or the growing demands of the more than half a million children in foster care. Several reasons underlie the seemingly intractable problems. For one, caseworkers are usually not social workers with master's degrees in human behavior. Most states require only a bachelor's degree in any field. The work is extremely stressful, often unsafe, and low paying -- yet workers are expected to handle complex family issues and manage dangerously high caseloads.

Caring for psychologically damaged children who come from violent homes is also difficult and stressful. That, plus low reimbursement rates, has drastically reduced the supply of foster parents. There are only 142,000 foster families in the country, but nearly 542,000 foster children.

Foster care cannot be fixed without additional federal financing. The states, grappling with the worst budget shortfalls in years, simply cannot protect every child in the system. Reimbursement rates for foster parents should at least keep pace with inflation. Foster parents should be treated as professionals and receive paid vacation each year, just like other American workers.

To attract and retain qualified caseworkers and supervisors, employees should receive continuous training, classes in early childhood development and regular salary increases. Caseworkers who falsify records to cover shoddy work and supervisors who look the other way should be held accountable. Such measures could help prevent the deaths of children like Faheem Williams, the 7-year-old whose body was found in the basement of a relative's house in Newark earlier this year. The New Jersey agency had received reports that Faheem and his brothers were being abused, but it had closed the case anyway, after what caseworkers later called "drive by" visits.

To bolster the political will needed for change, politicians and policy makers must pay attention to the mounting problems faced by child protective services so financing requests are not shelved in favor of tax cuts.

How long will we continue to inflict emotional damage on foster children by subjecting them to multiple placements in unsafe homes? How can we expect 18-year-olds who age out of the system to become productive members of society if all they have is the clothes on their backs? Foster care can be saved, but only if we provide it with the adequate resources to remedy the problems and protect children. Until then, future professors, writers, scholars and artists will inevitably be left behind.

*Theresa Cameron, associate professor of urban planning at Arizona State University, is author of "Foster Care Odyssey: A Black Girl's Story."*
A Way but No Will When It Comes To Foster Care

Response Sheet

1. The article states that "caseworkers rarely stayed at the agency for long." Predict the impact this could have on children placed in foster care.

2. The article also states "[visits] were infrequent and conducted with the foster mothers present." What impact would this have on the accuracy of the social workers' findings?

3. According to the author, where do many long-term foster children end up?

4. Describe some of the improvements made to foster care since the author was released.

5. Describe the shortcomings in the foster care system.

6. Evaluate the suggestions the author offers to help better the system.
7. Answer the author’s questions:
   a. How long will we continue to inflict emotional damage on foster children by subjecting them to multiple placements in unsafe homes?

   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

   b. How can we expect 18-year-olds who age out of the system to become productive members of society if all they have is the clothes on their backs?

   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

8. Based on what you have learned about the impact of bad parenting on attachment, how might a foster child be socially impaired as a result of their setting(s).
Directions: All students answer individually. Then, get into groups of 4 to average answers collectively. On the board, all groups compile findings; compare and contrast answers and discuss.

Breakdown responsibilities for household chores (husband, wife, both)
Who...
...washes the dishes? ____________
...takes care of pets? ____________
...does yard work? ____________
...takes out the trash? ____________
...mops, sweeps and vacuums? ____________
...makes dinner? ____________
...makes repairs (plumbing, painting, etc)? ____________
...maintains vehicles? ____________
...buys cards and gifts? ____________
...pays bills/handles finances? ____________

Breakdown responsibilities for childrearing (husband, wife, both)
Who...
...changes diapers ____________
...handles most feedings ____________
...dresses small children ____________
...cleans up messes ____________
...helps with school work ____________
...practices sports (plays catch, teaches how to ride a bike, etc) ____________
...disciplines children ____________
...makes daily decisions for children (signs permission slips, allows friends over, etc) ____________
...guides children in decision making (ex: somebody is picking on you at school, who do you go to for advice) ____________
...handles emotional situations (ex: who do you go to when you have your first break up etc) ____________
# A Song Study of the Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject of Song</th>
<th>Artist’s Stance on Topic</th>
<th>A Particularly Powerful Line or Phrase</th>
<th>Your View: Is the artist’s interpretation true to you?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Ob-la-di, Ob-la-da</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by: the Beatles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Love Child</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>By: Diana Ross</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Cats in the Cradle</em></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>By: Cat Stephens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Sweet Child of Mine</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Guns and Roses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Heartspark Dollarsign</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>By: Everclear</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Pale Green Stars**  
| By: Everclear  
| 1995 |
| **Dear Mama**  
| By: TuPac Shakur  
| 1995 |
| **Family Portrait**  
| By: Pink  
| 2003 |
| **Heaven**  
| By: Live  
| 2003 |
| **Daughter**  
| By: Pearl Jam  
| 2007 |
| **The Best Day**  
| By: Taylor Swift  
| 2008 |

**Evaluate:** Based on the songs you’ve heard today, describe how the American Family is changed AND remained the same. Possible topics: divorce, values, dating, parental responsibility, etc.