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COLLEGE: LAW

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (SOC 102)

ASSIGNMENT

1. What is family?

A family may seem like a simple concept but there is no simple definition of family. In its most basic terms, a family is a group of individuals who share a legal or genetic bond, but for many people family means much more, and even the simple idea of genetic bonds can be more complicated than it seems.

1. Discuss the functions of the family

The family can be seen as social institution which is organically connected with the society, and therefore some functions directly relates the requirements of the society itself.

On this basis, the functions of the family can be viewed as social (relative to society) and individual (relative to an individual). The functions of the family are closely connected to the society’s needs in the family institution and the individual’s needs as belonging to the family group.

The function of the family is to nurture each member and promote development in 5 areas.

1. Physical
2. Emotional
3. Moral
4. Intellectual
5. Social

The leading role in the modern family belongs to the spouses, who eventually become parents. Therefore, the entire variety of the family functions can be conditionally divided into two groups. They are matrimonial functions and parental functions

The Father: His role is to be the breadwinner of the family and to pay the school fees of the children and provide for their all basic amenities and needs and to fully show love and care to both his children and his wife

The Mother: She performs the most tasking function by cooking for the family and making school runs and taking the children to school and to fully care and show love towards the children and her husband

The Children: The kids perform the role of showing love and care towards the parents and obey their commands and assist their parents in any way possible and also doing well in school to make the parents proud of the child.

1. Discuss the African Traditional Family

The main feature which was widely spread in the regular African traditional family was polygamy whereby an individual would marry more than one spouse. This lead to a lot of fights and arguments between several wives and children because they would all try their best to win the favour of the husband. However the family still maintains its strong bond through traditional practices such as the upbringing of children and maintaining strong family values. The main issues related with this type of family are, polygamy, tribe, clan, the extend family, the dowry and the raising of children.

The families practice polygamy because of the idea that the larger the family or clan, the more workers there are to work on the family farms. Hence, more wealth can be possessed by the family.

1. Discuss your Nuclear family

A nuclear family fully consists of the mother, father, and children unlike the extended family which consists of other relatives and friends far and wide.

My nuclear family consists of a father, mother and 5 children (4 boys and 1 girl). My father and mother have been married for 27 years going on 28 and they have been blessed with 5 kids. The first is a boy then the girl then 3 boys, I am the last born child of my family.

1. Draw your Family Tree