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COURSE SOCIOLOGY

COURSE CODE; SOC102

SOCIOLOGY ASSIGNMENT.

ANSWERS ATTACHED TO THE QUESTIONS ASKED BELOW

WHAT IS FAMILY; A family is defined as a specific group of people that may be made up of partners, children, parent, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents. An example of a family is a set of parents living with their children. A family is a group of people that share ancestors. Dictionary meaning states that it’s a fundamental social group in the society typically consisting of one or two parents and their children. They share legal or genetic bond, for many people family means much more and even the simple idea of genetic bonds can be more complicated than it seems. Families are legally bound through marriages, adoption, and guardianship, including the rights, duties, and obligations of those legal contracts. They can be related both close and distant relatives such as siblings and parents etc…

FUNCTIONS OF FAMILY

There are various functions of the family

Stable satisfaction of sex need ;This is definitely the primary and essential function of family. Sex instinct is the natural urge of human being. The satisfaction of this need requires that both male and female should live together as life partners. It is the family where the husband and wife can satisfy their sex instinct easily and comfortably. Without family the satisfaction of sex need is most socially quite impossible. A family not only satisfies but also provides the appropriate mechanism through marriage to regulate sexual behavior of husband and wife.

Reproduction or procreation; this is another essential function of the family. The family along with regulating the sexual behavior in relation to the satisfaction of sexual needs secures a legitimate basis for procreation. Since the inception of family, it has been performing this fundamental function. This function of family contributes to the continuity of family and ultimately perpetuates the human race as a whole.

Protection and care of the young; protection and the care of the children is another essential function of family. It is regarded as an institution par excellence for the production and rearing of children. It is true that no other institution can take required care of the child like family. The child at birth is complete helpless and cannot survive at all without the help of the family. It is the family which provides care, protection, security (physical, mental) and fulfills all other needs to make him fit in the society.

Socializing Functions; family is one of the primary and essential function too. Its one of the primary agents of socialization. Family members teach the child norms, value morals, beliefs and ideals of the society. In the family the children first learn what is good or bad, what is wrong or right. They develop specific habits, traits of character, attitudes and values. The senior members of the family pass the family culture to the new generation through socialization process. Thus, family acts an instrument of culture transmission.

Provision of a home; family makes a provision of a home or a common habitation for its members. Here both husband and if live together for procreation, protection and care of the children. It is a place of multifarious activities. All the members of the family depend on home for comfort, protection. It provides mental or the emotional satisfaction. They exchange their love, sympathy and affection among themselves..

B) Discuss the African traditional family;

African family still maintains its strong bond through traditional practices such as the upbringing of children and maintaining strong family values. The three major tribes were mentioned here which are; H

ausa, Igbo, Yoruba.

Family related issues are mentioned here such as monogamy, polygamy, tribe, clan, the extended family, the dowry and the raising of children. Traditionally, African family practice polygamy because of the idea that the larger the family or clan, the more workers there are to work on the family farms. Nowadays the practice depended on the religion of the person. Muslims in African will take 3 to 4 wives, the number permitted in the religion while the Christians only practice monogamy. Also have tribal marks on the faces of their children or relatives about the age of seven and above. This will help them to be able to identify themselves after or during war or crises. Only legitimate children will bear the clans name. The naming ceremony is very important as a child will not be considered as a part of the clan till his or her legitimacy is established. The test of a child’s legitimacy in traditional Hausa customs is by dropping the child umbilical cord into a can filled with water and milk. The clan chief will only accept the child as a part of the clan if the cord floats. If it sinks, the child will be considered as legitimate and disowned.

A Nigerian ethic group called Ijaw will throw babies in the river to test their legitimacy. The infant will only be considered as legitimate if it floats.

C) DISCUSS YOUR NUCLEAR FAMILY; A nuclear family is a family group consisting of two parents and their children.

So lets talk or discuss about mine. I will say it’s a nuclear family because I have a father a mother and sisters which forms a family. Nuclear to be précised.

FAMILY TREE

