**MADUKU LOUIS EFE**

**19/LAW/138**

**SOCIOLOGY ASSIGNMENT**

**4/13/20**

**S0C 102**

1. What is family?
2. Discuss the functions of the family
3. Discuss the African traditional family
4. Discuss your nuclear family
5. Draw your family tree

**FAMILY**

A child needs care and protection for its survival for a longer period than is necessary for the

survival of other animal babies. There are different definitions of family and all has to do with

parents and children followed by other people but my own definition of family is the basic unit

in society traditionally consisting of two parents rearing or bringing up their children; it can also

be defined as a group of individuals occupying or living under one roof or household.

**FUNCTIONS OF THE FAMILY**

It is evident from the definition of family, as given by Maclver and Page, that family fulfills

certain functions that are vital to community life. It meets emotional and sexual needs, it ensures

the reproduction of children; it acts as basic economic unit; and it provides for the care and

training of children. Societies vary enormously in the importance they attach to each of these

functions.

I will analyze the functions of the family in greater details, dividing for analytical purposes, the

importance of these functions to the individuals and to the society.

When it comes to individuals , the family is the only social institution charged with transforming

a biological organism into a human being and what is the nature of this organism? Like many

animals, man is helpless at birth and would die quickly without care. Unlike other animals,

however, man cannot become self-reliant until several years have passed after birth.

When it comes to the society, the family provides opportunity for the sexual gratification for the

spouses. At the same time, the sexual function of the family helps to stabilize society.

**THE AFRICAN TRADITIONAL FAMILY**

Family plays a central role in African society. It shapes such daily experiences as how and where

individuals live, how they interact with people around them, and even, in some cases, whom they

marry. It can determine a persons political identity and the way money and property are

transferred. In rural areas, the family typically remains the basic unit of agricultural production.

However, no single type of family exists in Africa. Societies have defined family in many

different ways, and many bear little resemblance to the Western idea of the nuclear family and

this brings me to my other topic.

**THE NUCLEAR FAMILY**

The nuclear family is a family group consisting of two parents and their children(one or more). It

is in contrast to a single-parent family, the larger extended family, and a family with more than

two parents. Nuclear families typically center on a married couple. The nuclear may have any

number of children.

**DRAW YOUR FAMILY TREE**