**FAMILY COMMUNICATION**

**RESEARCH REFLECTION PAPER**

This paper serves as the final exam for this course. You will select one of the following topics concerning family communication, and research it finding various articles, books, newspaper stories and websites. You will discuss this research in the first half of your paper.

You should include a “Works Cited” or “Bibliography” at the end of your paper with proper bibliographic citations of each of these sources. You should have a minimum of five good sources.

Then, you will write your own views on the topic and support them. This is the second half of your paper. It should be 5 to 6 typed pages. Paper should be double-spaced, using one inch margins and 11 or 12 pt. font. It is due by midnight on THURSDAY August 13. It is worth 200 points or 20% of your grade for this course. It will be uploaded to Blackboard under Week Five.

Possible topics:

1. Refilling the nest syndrome—when children return to their parent’s home because of divorce, graduation from college, lack of financial means to live on his/her own, etc.

2. Family patterns in co-cultural societies (Black, Hispanic, Asian, etc.)

3. Wife or husband battering

4. The SuperMom syndrome

5. Teen runaways

6. Stresses of retirement on the family unit

7. Interracial marriages—problems for adults and children

8. Interreligious marriages—problems for adults and children

9. Adoption and it’s effects on family and individuals

10. Older man/younger woman marriages

11. Older woman/younger man marriages

12. Effects on the family living with alcoholic parent

13. ADHD and other behavioral problems and their effects on the family

14. Mr. Mom

15. Tough love parenting

16. The effect of birth order

17. Growing up in a large family—positives and negatives

18. Single child families—positives and negatives

19. Childfree marriages

20. Single parenting

21. Parenthood after 40

22. The homeless family unit

23. The empty nest

24. Children of immigrants (when parents were born outside U.S. and children born here)

25. The effects of culture shock on immigrating families