My Family Analysis, Part 1

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**My Family Analysis, Part 1**

My family is an extended one, and it is a close-knit since virtually all my relatives are within the USA. However, the family is in various places within the vast country since each of the family members has moved to different areas within the globe. On my father's side, my father had two siblings of which one of them, his younger brother, has passed on. The only surviving sibling is Michelle Murphy, his sister who has never married.

 On the other hand, my mother comes from the state of Illinois in a family of four siblings; one of them has passed on four months after giving birth to her daughter, Angela whom I consider my aunt. The family has evolved since I have many cousins whom all of them have been married while I have not been married (Parke, 2016). The family has a common characteristic particularly the marriage where my parents have had earlier marriages. Moreover, the deaths of my relatives are not common and are very painful — for instance, my half-sister who died due to an overdose. I have made a landmark since I have sired children with somebody from Laos.

**Types of Families**

 The family unit is composed of many groups that are different in their nature and composition. Moreover, the families are related by marriages and blood thus it supplies an exceptional platform for the continuance of the lineages. My family type is an extended family since we have different relations within the family. For instance, my parents had earlier relationships, and they sired children from their relationships. Therefore, I have half siblings thus my family is extended. Moreover, I have many uncles and aunts who have sired children whom I refer to them as my cousins.

**Evolution of the Family**

 My father comes from Denver Colorado, and he hails from a family of three siblings of which one of them has passed on. Besides, she is not married thus the continuation of the lineage of the father's side depends on our family. On the other hand, my mother's side is quite significant since her siblings have sired children, Gary has Kristie and Jennifer while Randy has Caroline and Suzanne who has passed on. Majority of my cousins are married thus they have children who will ensure that the lineage continues.

**Change of Functions**

 The 21st Century has seen the shift in the responsibility of the parents, and now it is flexible. For example, myself I have served as a home mother who oversaw taking care of my children as well as my ex-mother-in-law. I must search for finance to sustain myself and my children since their father is mentally unstable. Therefore, the responsibility of supplying income has shifted to the ladies due to my status as unmarried.

**How Socioeconomic has affected access to opportunities for my family**
 My family experiences difficult socioeconomic times making us live as low-income earners due to the lack of steady jobs which can help in sustaining an income for our family. I am not married, and I am currently employed earning above minimum wage, but I have two sons who are from a prior relationship. It is hard to supply essential items such as food and shelter because I do not have adequate income (Maldonado, and Nieuwenhuis, 2015). Our socioeconomic life is stagnant, and we cannot improve our lives to live better because of the problems that affect our family. I got a part-time job, but I had to quit because I got pregnant with my last born and then was a homemaker.

I then worked as a caregiver for my children’s fathers’ mother, but she died. In the same year we left my children’s father’s home and I, therefore, had to move to my parents’ house so that they can help me take care of my children while I work. I got an injury on my ankle, and I had to time off and upon returning I can only work part-time. This has taken a toll on me since I am unable to pay the bills that have accumulated. Although my parents have always worked, they have gone on disability and cannot raise their standards of living because I must depend on them on several occasions (Parke, and Ladd, 2016). The loss of many relatives and the lack of steady jobs have limited my family from getting out of poverty and live better lives since there is no money to save for future use leave alone enough to pay bills.

**Race and ethnicity of my family**

In my family, we are all Americans since my dad is from Denver Colorado and my mom is from East St. Louis Illinois, and I was born in Bellville Illinois. But my children’s father is from Laos and therefore the family’s race is mixed because of that.

**Family cultural history**

My family has the culture of having children out of wedlock and families consisting of single parents. Both of my parents have children from earlier marriages, and together they have myself. I have my two sons from my prior relationship with their father. This has created a financial burden since being a complete family can help in raising the needed income.

**What makes my family different from others?**

My family is different from others because it is an extended family apart from my children my aunts, uncles, and cousins form part of my family. Most other families comprise of two parents and their children. But ours includes even my parents who help me in taking care of my children.

**What constitutes my family culture?**

My family culture is that of helping one another. Although I should be able to take care of my sons, I have insufficient income, and therefore it is challenging to make ends meet. But my parents have been supportive and are even helping me in fixing my car.

**Discrimination**

Discrimination has affected our family since we have been faced with many challenges including the death of some relatives which makes people discriminate us. The lack of complete families where single parents taking up the responsibility of raising kids has also led to some discrimination which has created low self-esteem among the family members.

  **References**

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