My Family Analysis Part 3

Gillian Murphy

BSHS/406

December 17, 2018

Meredith Sharp

My Family Analysis Part 3

 My family is an extended one, and all my close relatives are living within the USA. The family is however spread in various places within the vast United States of America because family members had moved to various parts of the globe. On my father's side, my father had two siblings of which one of them, his younger brother, has passed on several years ago. The only surviving sibling is my aunt Michelle Murphy, who has never married.

 On the other hand, my mother hails from Illinois in which she had three siblings in a family; one of my mother's siblings passed on four months after giving birth to her daughter, Angela who I consider my aunt. The family has dramatically changed since I have many cousins whom all of them have been married while I am still single. The family has common features mostly that the marriage where my parents have had earlier marriages.

**Sexuality and my family**

 My sex life led me to unplanned pregnancies. I now struggle financially because I have not had a stable income, as I was a stay at home mom, which could help me to sustain my children and family. This also caused a lot of depression and broken relationships for my relatives (Allen et al, 2017). I suffered from a lot of physiological problems due to the unplanned pregnancies. They say it is only essential to have a child when you can support them, but this was not the case with me.

**Shiftwork/ juggling childcare**

 My family has no steady income since my mother and father had been working various jobs for many years with an effort to walk out of poverty. This had a significant impact on my parents' marriage as it was a marriage full of struggles. This has affected my family both economically, health wise and socially (Adkins, 2016). My family is unable to raise enough income to sustain us and hence we live a low-income life as I am unable to pay accumulated bills. The fact that most of my family members have no stable jobs makes it difficult for my family to save money for either investment or to better our lives and hence to live in a continuous presence of suffering. The movement from one job to another affected my parent's efforts towards caring for the family.

**Living together apart**

 My father and mother working far away from me made to feel that parental love gap. I used to wake up incredibly early in the morning to go to work. This was catalyzed with the fact that I have young children whom I must care for. The fact that my parents were not working close to the family caused a lot of instability in the family. My parents were not there to play their roles and responsibilities as parents but have helped me with caring for my children, so I can work the early morning hours.

**Owning own business**

 My family opened its own business which did not last but five years because it was the only source of income. This made my dad search for another job which did not last but a few years due to health challenges (Greenhause and Beutell, 2015). The business had a lot of impact on the family as it created some sense of economic stability. The family was able to combat dependence on the external sources of income.

**How I perceive marriage**

 In my own view, I perceive marriage as a rite of passage which is a true epitome of sacrifice. My parents had to sacrifice to keep their marriage with fluctuating incomes and other difficulties. This is a sacrifice which needed a lot of dedication and understanding. Marriage should, therefore, be a matter of love and respect between two people and not monetary aspects such as wealth.

**References**

Adkins, L. (2016). *Gendered Work. Sexuality, Family, and the Labour Market*. Open University Press, 1900 Frost Road, Suite 101, Bristol, PA 19007 (hardcover: ISBN-0-335-19297-1; paperback: ISBN-0-335-19296-3).

Allen, T. D., Herst, D. E., Bruck, C. S., & Sutton, M. (2017). Consequences associated with work-to-family conflict: a review and agenda for future research. *Journal of occupational health psychology*, *5*(2), 278.

Greenhaus, J. H., & Beutell, N. J. (2015). Sources of conflict between work and family roles. *Academy of management review*, *10*(1), 76-88.