

Psychology 312 – Psychological Aspects of Parenthood — Assignment #2

Parent–Child Relationships

Nature of the assignment: Write a 5–page essay discussing parent–child relationships. Any three of the following topics must be addressed, in the order of your choice:

1. Attachment, harmonious relations, and communication between parent and child
2. Socializing gender roles
3. Socializing and promoting ethnic identity
4. Roles of mothers and fathers
5. Parenting styles
6. Promoting emotional regulation and self–control
7. Promoting learning
8. Discipline, including strengthening positive behaviors and weakening undesirable behaviors
9. Managing conflict
10. Promoting compassion, kindness, and morality
11. Enhancing self–confidence
12. Promoting increased responsibility, independence, and autonomy

Compare and contrast each of the three topics you select across any two of the following developmental stages: infancy (0-2 years), early childhood (2-5 years), elementary school years, early adolescence, late adolescence, and adulthood. You may select different developmental stages for each topic.

Due date: The essay is due by 11:00 AM on Tuesday 5/3/05. It will be marked down one grade for each class meeting it arrives late.

Mechanics: If the essay is fewer than 4.5 pages or longer than 6 pages, you will lose 3 points. The references need to be on a new page, which does not go toward the page count of the essay. The essay needs to be printed in Times Roman or Ariel 12–point, double–spaced, left–aligned, with 1–inch margins on all sides. With the exception of the reference list, the font style must be regular, rather than bold or italic. The essay needs to be spell–checked and grammar–checked.

References: You may use the Jane Brooks text *The Process of Parenting* as a launching point. Chapter 7 has a relevant section entitled Early Parent–Child Relationships. Chapters 8 through 11 each has a section entitled Parent–Child Relationships under the heading of Social Development. Chapter 12 has a section entitled Parenting Independent Adult Children. The Sears & Sears text — *The Successful Child* – has some chapters that may be helpful. However, library research is necessary as well. You must use at least five references in addition to the class texts. Please take care not to quote verbatim from any of your references (including the class texts). Instead, you must paraphrase and cite your source. Use APA format. There are links for how to use APA format on my website under Internet Resources. Also, Alpha, the TA, can help you with APA format or any other questions you may have about the writing assignment: Quang.n.nguyen@csun.edu.

Grading: You can receive up to: 1 point for proper spelling, 3 points for proper grammar, 3 points for essay structure (e.g., paragraphs of appropriate length, topic sentences, etc.), 3 points for writing style (including sentence flow, word selection, originality of thought), 1 point for use of APA format, and 6 points for how well you cover each of the 3 topics, for a possible total of 30 points. If the essay is not intelligible or is unsatisfactory, you will be required to attend the writing lab and rewrite the paper for a grade of Good or lower. The paper will be graded as follow: Excellent, Good, Satisfactory, or Unsatisfactory and counts for 10% of your final grade.