**HHS4M Summative Project**

**Task:** You are to choose a topic about families that interests you. You will complete original academic research and follow the social science research method.

**Decision making steps**

1. Browse the list of sample research topics. Circle or highlight topics that are of interest to you and that you would like to explore in more detail. Rank your choices.

2. Think of **three** people that you could interview for this summative research project (e.g. family friends, neighbours, work colleagues, parents of friends, people in organizations that you belong to, people at church). Ask your parents/guardians/teachers for help to find people to interview.

   **You are not interviewing your family. It is too hard to be objective if you have a close relationship with the respondents.**

3. Complete the page called HHS4M Summative Project: Introductory Information.

   **You will eventually create interview questions and conduct the interviews. You will record your information. You will not divulge the names or any personal details that could possibly reveal the identity of the respondents to other people or in the research report. You will use create a pseudonym for each of the respondents.**

**Sample research topics**

| • teen mothers  | • people who have been married for a long time (more than 25 years)  | • foster children  |
| • teen fathers  | • common-law relationships  | • retirement  |
| • only children | • arranged marriages  | • empty-nesters  |
| • first born children  | • grand parenting  | • adoption  |
| • middle children  | • sandwich generation  | • staying single  |
| • marital distress  | • unemployment/under employment  | • parenting styles  |
| • same-sex relationships/marriage  | • family communication  | • divorce  |
| • death of a loved one  | • coming out to family and friends  | • infertility  |
| • step parenting  | • delayed parenting  | • single parents  |
| • sibling rivalry  | • childlessness by choice  | • bullying  |
| • working parents  |  | • remarriage  |
| • intercultural relationships  |  | • blended families  |
| • disabilities  |  | • military families  |
| • multi-generational households  |  | • newlyweds  |
|  |  | • new parents  |
STEP 1: State your hypothesis

1. List 5 summative topics that interests you. Rank them in order from 1 to 5.
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2. Identify one topic that interests you more than the others.

3. a) Explain your interest in the topic.

   Bias means being favourable or unfavourable to something because you have a special interest in it and because of this it is hard to provide a fair and impartial opinion.

   A researcher could be biased if:
   • they ask questions in such a way that they get the results they are seeking.
   • they offer rewards for favourable information

   b) Identify your bias towards your chosen topic.

4. Create questions that you could inquire about on this topic.

5. Clearly and concisely state your hypothesis.
STEP 2: Develop inquiry questions

5. List 8 to 10 inquiry questions. (Then modify your hypothesis at this point if necessary.)

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STEP 2: Develop research strategies

6. List four academic sources (books or scholarly journals).

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7. List four websites (organizations, government sites).

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