

CRITICAL THINKING PAPER 2

Choose one topic from the list below. You can consult the course textbook and other social science articles to help you frame your answer. Your answers should be 3 pages long and double-spaced with font not less than 12pt. Make sure to cite the sources for your paper using the APA style. If you need help with the APA style, contact the Writing Center at:

1. How much do you think family life—especially the ways parents interact with children—has changed in the last forty or fifty years?
2. Are you concerned about computer and cell phone privacy in your own life? Should businesses and colleges have the right to monitor your digital communications? Why or why not?
3. Does the U.S. government have the obligation to keep the American Dream alive for people of lower incomes?
4. How do religious beliefs influence what we perceive as “appropriate” or “inappropriate” behaviors for men, women, and children? What do you think?
5. Why is the definition of “growing up” more difficult than it used to be? What are the achievements that lead people to say that someone has become an adult? Why is adolescence longer than it was several generations ago? What difference does social class position make in the time frame for “growing up”?
6. Based on the material covered in course textbook so far, address the issue of human freedom in a socially structured world. That is, to what extent do you think people are free to think and act as they wish? In answering this question, consider the theories presented in Macionis, chapters 2 and 3.
7. What is the medicalization of deviance? Explain how the use of marijuana is being transformed from a criminal behavior to a treatment with “pushers” being redefined as “dispensers,” and “users” being redefined as “patients.” This topic is covered in Macionis, chapter 7.
8. Develop an essay in which you indemnify factors that promote war and also strategies that can encourage peace.
9. What is government’s role in shaping family life? Do you think that the government should provide tax incentives (such as allowing married couples to pay less than people filing as individuals) to encourage marriage? What about laws such as the Family and Medical Leave Act that allows people to have and care for children without losing their jobs?

