INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY [FAMILY AND COMMUNITY STUDIES]

What is sociology? Sociology is the study of the human social relationships and institutions. Sociology's subject matter is diverse, ranging from crime to religion, family to the state, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared belief of a common culture, and from social stability to radical change in whole societies. Unifying the study of these diverse subjects of study is sociology's purpose of understanding how human action and consciousness both shape and are shaped by surrounding cultural and social structures.

Sociology is an exciting field of study that analyses and explains important matters in our personal lives, our communities and the world. At the personal level, sociology investigates the social causes and consequences of such things as romantic love, racial and gender identity, family conflict, deviant behaviour, aging and religious faith. At the societal level, sociology examines and explains matters like crime and law, poverty and wealth, prejudice and discrimination, schools and education, business firms, urban community and social movements. At the global level, sociology studies such phenomena as population growth and migration, war and peace, and economic development.

Family and community studies is the most basic form of sociology, as it relates to how a man develops feelings towards a woman and forms a family with, and how this family develops into a community.

Some topics to be considered in this study are:

- Marriage
- Family
- Pregnancy and child birth
- Child development
- Family growth and planning
- Community, types and how it forms
- Family crisis
- Community crisis
- Community management and administration
- Family needs and resources
- Community needs and resources