**HW 9**

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There is a very interesting conversation to be had about the family communication patterns mentioned in the book. Traditionally most families in our country have been *protective families* with the family authority being the sole decision maker*.*

It is disheartening that this concept is so deeply rooted into the Asian culture that many women are married off to partners against their will. In many cases the authority of the family will marry off their daughters to repay loans or fulfill their own selfish motives.

However, as time has progressed, more families have shifted towards being *pluralistic families* with all family members engaging in conversation about an issue and being involved in the decision making process. This is especially evident in urbanized areas where the family members are more educated and financially more well off.

This book is unmistakably American with all the pop culture references it makes. It does make the concepts more clear though.

I was in a work group for a project last semester and unfortunately I ended up with one of the most irrational people I have ever met. She would not let me correct the grammar on an essay, in an English course, as it would “ruin the aesthetic of the project”. I wish the book had a specific guideline for dealing with such an eccentric person while working in a work group.

There are a few effective strategies outlined on what makes groups healthy. Among them synergy is an interesting one. All groups should work towards achieving synergy.

The book mentions about the types of conflicts that can occur but there isn’t much material on how these conflicts may be resolved.

I think cultural differences do play a part in the roles different people may take upon while working in a group. For example, showing a great deal of respect to someone just because they’re older than you is a very Asian cultural trait. Many times the oldest person in the group assumes the role of the leader despite not having adequate skills.

Overall many of the things mentioned in these two chapters are quite generic but useful nonetheless. To create a healthy and productive group work these advices can help a lot.