**Directions**

Choose a television program you enjoy watching that has a regular cast of at least five people who could be considered a group. Situation comedies or dramas will probably work best. Your analysis should also include at least a couple of other regular or semi-regular characters.

Format your paper by identifying each section the same way this assignment is outlined below.

Spell-check and grammar-check your entire paper and make necessary changes before you turn it in. If it is clear to me that you have not done the basic necessary edits, points will be deducted!

**I. Sociograms**

I suggest limiting the size of the group you analyze to no more than 10 people (6-8 is ideal). Since you will not be able to ask the characters to identify their favorite or least favorite people on the show, you will have to use your own observations to determine who likes or dislikes whom the most. Include one or more individuals who have negative relationships with others, even if they are not core members of the group.

Create a Sociogram for the group. Use initials do designate each person (for example, Jose Gonzalez would be shown as JG). Use arrows to designate direction and positive signs (+) to designate positive feelings and negative signs (–) to designate negative feelings. Alternatively, you may use different colors (for example, red for negative feelings and green for positive feelings). If both individuals have the same feelings toward each other, you can use just one line with an arrowhead on each end. However, if one person likes the other, but is disliked by the other, you will need to connect them with two arrows, one positive and one negative.

**II. Analysis of Sociogram**

On the basis of your Sociogram, identify the following, and explain your choices:

**Sociometric Star or Stars** of the show—A person who would be named as a favorite by the most people

(do not assume that this will be the acknowledged “Star” of the show, because in some shows the main character is not liked very much).

**Sociometric Isolates**—Those who would not be liked by anyone but also would not be disliked by anyone.

**Sociometric Rejects**—Those who would be disliked by at least one other member and would not be liked by anyone else.

**Sociometric Clusters or cliques**—Three or more members of a larger group, who all like each other.

**Sociometric Pairs**—Two individuals who would name each other as a favorite.

**Sociometric Antagonists**—Pairs who would name each other as their least favorite.

Calculate both the positive and negative density coefficients for the group and briefly describe what those coefficients say about the group.

**III.** **Group Structure**

Identify the formal and/or informal **statuses** represented in the group and who occupied those statuses. For each status, what was the primary **role** associated with it? Identify some of the formal or informal **norms** that governed group interactions and activities.

**IV.** **Group Communication**

Diagram and describe the communication structure of the group (see notes and text). How did this structure come about and what were the effects of this structure on group activities (including decision-making)?

**V.** **Social Influence Processes**

Identify two examples of attempts on the part of group members to influence each other. For each example, state whether or not these attempts were successful, and why. Analyze each episode in terms of the four sources of social influence discussed in class (e.g., compliance, internalization, identification, and cognitive dependence).

Who had the most power in the group? Who had the least? Discuss the distribution of power in the group in terms of the bases or sources of power discussed in class.

**VI.** **Group Conflict**

Give at least one example of conflict within the group. Present a brief history of the conflict from beginning to end.

* Was the conflict largely personal or substantive?
* How was the conflict resolved?
* Was the conflict negotiated?
* Were third parties from within the group involved? Was the conflict resolved satisfactorily? If so, how?
* If not, knowing what you know now, how should it have been handled?