INSTRUCTOR NOTES:

- **Purpose:**
  - initial activity to get students acquainted with each other
  - externalize beginning analysis of own family
  - use answers to begin to compare and contrast family forms and functions

- **Methodology:**
  - students view ppt of four animal groups
  - take about 5 minutes of class and write initial reactions to Q 1 & 2 questions below
  - have students identify which animal group they selected
  - have each animal group get together as a small group and share answers to each question
  - as a full class, share dialogue within small group
  - as full class – “make sense” out of this initial discussion about uniqueness and commonality across family structures and types

QUESTIONS ANSWERED INDIVIDUALLY:

1. Which of the four animal “families” best represents your family?

2. Why did you select that family? What characteristics of your family do you see in the animal family which you selected? Give an example or two of how those characteristics are exhibited within your family.

QUESTIONS FOR SMALL GROUPS

3. What commonalities are there in those of you who selected the same animal family?

4. What are the differences?

5. What does this activity suggest about “families” and our experiences as members of a family?
My Family

The Turtles

The Dogs

The Sheep

The Birds
GSU 1010: Families in Contemporary Society
Assignment 2: Due 10/3
Worth 10 points + 5 points for the oral presentation

For this assignment, you will spend about 30 – 60 minutes observing families going about their activities in the downtown community. Each person will sign up for one of the five locations. You may go together, but observe on your own and write the paper individually. The paper is expected to be about 3 – 4 pages long, one inch margins and double spaced. In addition, the second half of the class will give their oral presentation of the paper. The expected presentation time is less than five minutes.

The purpose of the paper is twofold:
- Provide an opportunity to learn more about the downtown Atlanta community
- Provide a method for observing families in their tasks of living

For this assignment, please address each of the following questions:

1. Provide a summary of when/where you did your observation.
   a. Indicate which location you visited
   b. Time and day that you completed your observation
   c. Where you were physically stationed/position for observation purposes

2. Give a descriptive overview of what you observed. Below are examples of questions that may help you construct your overview:
   a. Was there a “typical” family that you observed (e.g., older couples, single moms with children, etc).
   b. Was there a profile by race/ethnicity/gender/age or other significant factors?
   c. How did the families look? (e.g., they were talking to each other, wore casual clothes, were dressed up, weren’t paying attention to each other)
   d. Was there something that you expected to see – but did not (e.g., at Grady, most of the families did not have someone who looked sick and I expected that they would).

3. Think about various the various functions that families provide for each other including:
   a. Offering support to each other
   b. Looking after the welfare of each other
   c. Having fun together

What were the families that you observed doing in downtown Atlanta? How does the downtown community enhance (or detract) from family life?

Grading criteria:
   a) Error free and grammatically correct – 4 points
   b) Integrates all topics of the assignment – 3 points
   c) Provides relevant information to all topics of the assignment – 3 points