

## System Chart and Annotated Bibliography

BSHS 311

### Introduction

Some of the factors contributing to the homeostasis, in the Smith's blended family unit, would be the father has a problem with drinking, but will not admit that this is an issue for him. Also with his drinking problems there has been an unstable work history, this has caused serious financial hardship on the family. Another problem in this blended family would be the age

difference between the father Joe 40, and his wife Doris 28. Then the children from prior marriages, of both husband and wife, Joe with three children that spend two weekends a month between him and his ex-wife. That with Joe's children, this has caused a serious communication problem, for his wife, that feels he favors his children over her two children, that the daughter Mary is very disrespectful and defiant with his Doris, that these issues continues to happen only on the weekends they are there for visitations, Joe does not have much input of what his children do or say to his new wife Doris. And Joe feels that his wife is always whines at him that will eventually cause another separation and divorce, if counseling is not used or at least tried, before matter only will get worst. With the drinking and his job responsibilities with work and the problems with the children on visitation days, will be a need for be counseling for the whole family.

As a result of this situation a serious communication problems have developed within the Smith family. Doris complains that Joe takes little responsibility for dealing with the children, and tends to favor his children over hers. Each parent and their biological children have a close bond, but the Smith family as a whole shows signs that the family is very distant. The family must take collaborative steps to integrate themselves into a single cohesive unit. They should plan group activities (such as a group vacation and eating family meals together). Step-siblings should be encouraged to bond with each other to avoid communication problems, negative family processes and distance between family members. Doris seems to think Mary is the primary problem and that if she was removed from the family situation that everything would be ok. The problems that the Smith family is having should not be blamed entirely on any one person in the newly blended family. Instead communication needs to be maintained to ensure

