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**Centre for Open and Lifelong Learning**

## **FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER**

**1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER 2020**

**ASSIGNMENT 1**

**Introduction to Sociology**  
**ITS511S**

## **Feedback tutorial letter –Assignment 1**

### **ITS511S**

To protect its integrity, the Namibia University of Science and technology will apply the following penalties with regard to any type of plagiarism or cheating transgressions committed. Definition

- Where extracts from recommended readings are quoted, but are not adequately referenced. The quotes un acknowledged from a minor part of the entire piece of work. It should be believed that the plagiarism is the result of inexperience, rather than the deliberate intention to deceive;
- Students are required to research and not to limit their research to the feedback provided.

#### **Research project or assignment expectations.**

A good research project or assignment should have pride in presentation, that is overall neatness and pride reflected in your submission, cover page with all relevant fields completed, table of content , chronology consistency throughout the text, correct and relevant headings , APA style method consistently and correctly used and a good mix of books journals, web-based sources, official docs, interviews an other relevant materials. Additionally, introduction of your work should proceed the body and content, conclusions and recommendations. Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation will also be evaluated.

#### **What is Plagiarism?**

Plagiarism is using someone's words or ideas and passing them off as your own, without acknowledging your source. Self-plagiarism is using your own previously published work as new scholarship.

## **WHAT IS REFERENCING?**

When writing an assignment your own thoughts and ideas build on those of other writers and researchers. It is essential that you acknowledge those sources of information by: Acknowledge the source within the text by citing the author's last name and date of publication in parentheses. Give full details of each item in an **alphabetical reference list** at the end of your assignment.

When you find a source that you wish to use in your assignment, write down all the information you need. If you do not do this, you will need to find the source again in future, as you will be penalized if you submit incomplete references in your assignment. This guide will indicate what information you need to record for each different type of source.

### **Why reference?**

The main reasons are:

To enable your lecturer to follow up the references and find the book or journal article in a library.

- To demonstrate to your lecturer that you have read a wide range of opinions.
- To enable your lecturer to check the accuracy of the information you've given.
- Good referencing will assist in avoiding accusations of plagiarism.
- You will lose marks if you do not acknowledge sources.

Refer to the **Nust brief guide to the APA**

### **In their discussion students are to Discuss**

- General view on gay marriage
- Gay couples and adoption of children
- Abortion and the abortion debate in Namibia

### **Example Content expectation**

#### **Gay Marriage**

Marriage is a union of two individual that has symbolic significance to society for centuries. When one is married and a family is established, he is honourable, society view is one has reached mark of prestige and personal achievement. However, like any other institution, marriage has undergone different phases or evolution over the years. According to Cherlin (2004), the practical importance of marriage has declined. Having under gone two transitions, that is from institutional marriage to compassionate marriage and to individualised marriage with emphasis on personal development. In Africa, marriage though having not been formalised on paper in the past as opposed to the new age, had its symbol in society as an institution.

Similarly, Globalisation has brought with it the deinstitutionalisation of marriage. Clearly marriage as a union had its prestige in society and man over the centuries has viewed it in the same setting. However, younger generations have gradually relaxed the expectations and lived below the norm or what is deemed as expectations that this has led to marriage deinstitutionalisation. Cherlin (2004), defined deinstitutionalisation to mean the weakening of the social norms that define people's behaviour in a social institution such as marriage. As a result, increased cohabitating unions and same sex marriage. The argument of legalising same-sex marriage began in the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In the united states, the constitution's guarantee of equal protection forbids any state from withholding those rights from the class of people who happen to be gay (Toobin,2015). Furthermore, they argue that the issue of same-sex marriage should be left to voters, not

to unelected judges. In June 2015, the decision in the case, Obergefell v. Hodges, led to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that states are required under the 14th Amendment to issue marriage licenses to people of the same sex and to recognize those marriages from other states (Morini, 2017). In contrast, the Namibian constitution in terms of Article 4(3) recognised civil marriages and customary marriages. Marriage as defined by the constitution can take place between people of the opposite sex, that is a male and a female. Public argument risen over the years were foetal and did not lead to any constitutional amendments. In the same vein Nandago (2017), former permanent secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration, in the Frank case, says that according to a past Supreme Court decision, “marriage in terms of Namibian law is between a man and a woman”. Homosexual marriages are thus not constitutionally recognised.

**NB:** the assignment is research based and there is no one correct answer!!!

**The End!!**