Typical Day Analysis

Assignment Description
This assignment invites you to reflect on what a typical day in your home when you were growing up—or even today, if you are currently living with your family. What was the daily rhythm in your household? Who would get up first, and why? Who went to work/school, and did anyone stay at home? What chores and family care (i.e. child care or elder care) were needed in your home, and who was responsible for them? How did these patterns emerge? And have they changed over time—why or why not?

There are two parts to this assignment: The first (~2 pages) is to describe a typical day for your family, providing a narrative from morning to night. In this first part, you might imagine your living space as a neutral observer: If your home/apartment could talk, how might it describe the family patterns it sees day-today?

Think of the second part of the assignment (~3-4 pages) as providing the “why?” for what you describe in part one. In other words, provide a thoughtful analysis of how and why the patterns in your home took on their shape. In this part, you must draw from our readings to explain the roles and hierarchies in your family.

In your analysis, you must strengthen your observations by drawing upon what you’ve learned from our course texts and discussions. Grading will be based on the following: (1) depth and quality of your analysis; (2) engagement with course readings; and (3) strength of your writing (i.e. style and grammar).

Technical Guidelines
- Due date: Monday, November 2
- 5 – 6 pages in length (a minimum of 850 words)
- 10% of overall grade
- Your work must be
  - Formatted with 1” margins all around
  - Double-spaced
  - Printed in 12-point Times New Roman
  - Numbered on all pages
  - Stapled before you turn it in
  - Spell-checked, carefully edited and proof-read
  - Follow MLA formatting
  - Include a Works Cited page

Please note: Writing about your daily family life does not require that you delve into private matters that you or your family do not wish to reveal. If for any reason you are uncomfortable writing this essay, an alternate assignment can be arranged. No problem. No questions asked.