Critical reading: A Family Affair

This reading is based on a study on how family has an influence on students’ academic choices when it comes time to school. There was scientist who collected statistical data to try to prove their point. There was several different ways where family can affect the students’ academic choices. One of the biggest factors that came up was money. When student have to come to together with their parents to make decision on what school they want to go to, the truth is that it is mostly dependent on the parent’s financial ability. So when it comes down to choices the schools that are available to those students is usually base on what schools their family can afford. Another way family affect the students is when it comes down to expectations. Sometimes there are competitions within the family and the parents will encourage or force their children to go to better schools. Another example of how family effect the students is just based on the information that they have or sometimes don’t have. They took a survey on how many parents knew about international studies and how many didn’t, and statistically they proved that the more informed parents have more students that are actually attending international colleges.

When I read the article I can see how families have a big impact on students’ choices. Just within my own family I am starting to see how finance can limit my choices to only certain schools. One thing they didn’t really hit on was how different cultured family have an impact, because within a lot of Asian cultures, such as Chinese and Vietnamese, there is big emphasize on a collective society. Due to this reason sometimes the family will want to stay closer together, so when they choose colleges they will pick those who are closer to the family. Also when it comes down to the expectation of the family, each family will have different levels of expectations. When a student out-performs another person, whether it is within the family or not, it kind of shows how effective the parents were. It’s somewhat like a prize on some countries. When this is all done and said I truly do believe that family are the number one factors that comes up when students start to apply for schools and what not.