CHAPTER II

CONTENT OF THE *"UNDERSTANDING FAMILY PROCESS"*

2.1 Characteristics of the *Understanding Family Process*

Title	: Understanding Family Process: Basics of Family System Theory
Author	: Carlfred B. Broderick
Publisher	: SAGE Publications
Publishing Years	: 1993
Thickness	: 269 pages
Genre	: Social

2.2 Synopsis of the *Understanding Family Process*

Family process or family systems theory is the basic theoretical model underlying most contemporary family therapy. In Understanding family process, Carlfred Broderick explains how systems theory gave rise to family systems theory, outlines the basic proposistions of family system, and links it both to other family theory literature and to clinical practice. Among the topics covered are relational space, family boundaries, family stratification, and child socialization. Family meanings and such shared realities as family rituals such as tradition, rites of passage, and celebrations are explored. Perfectly suited for use in courses on family systems and family theory, and written in a lively and highly readable fashion, understanding

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family process makes a sound contribution to the desired integration of the growing body of knowledge about how families function.

2.3 Biography of the Author

Carlfred B. Broderick is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Ph. D. program in marriage and family therapy at the University of Southern California. A graduate of Harvard University (A.B. in social relations) and Cornell University (Ph. D. in child development and family relations) with postdoctoral clinical training at the University of Minnesota, he is one of those relatively rare specimens who have standing in both the academic world of family scholarship and the applied world of family therapy. He has served as editor of the *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, as president of the National Council on Family Relations, as chair of the Family Section of the American Sociological Association, and as president of the Southern California Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

He anticipates that this, his 13th book, will appear at about the same time that his 13th grandchild appears.

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