CHDV 154
Discussion Assignment #1
Contemporary Issues (8 points)

Read the assigned reading (see links) and respond to the corresponding questions.

*Guidelines for Discussion Assignments*
- Assignments are due IN CLASS on the due date listed on the course schedule.
- Assignments MUST be word processed and completed before class.
- NO LATE assignments will be accepted. I will not accept homework assignments via email. Please do not send them to me or drop them at my office.
- I will drop the assignment with the lowest grade in calculating your final grade.
- You must be present during class discussion to receive full credit for the assignment (no exceptions)
- Partial credit may be assigned to students participating in discussion without completing the assignment, by providing handwritten notes from class discussion.

*Assignment*

Read TWO of the following four Motherlode Blog Articles ALONG WITH ANY EMBEDDED LINKS in the article, in order to respond to the corresponding guiding/reflection questions. Be prepared to discuss these questions with others who may or may not have read the same article.

**I. When Letting Children Take Risks Is Risky for Families**

**Reflection Questions**
1) Summarize the main points of this article. What is the problem or controversy being presented here?
2) What is your position on this issue? Make and support your argument.
3) How might parents find a balance between allowing their children independence while insuring their safety? What are some of the "unintended consequences" of laws like the one described in the article?

**II. Sleep Training at 8 Weeks: ‘Do You Have the Guts?’**

**Reflection Questions**
1) Summarize the main points of this article. What is the problem or controversy being presented here?
2) What is your position on this issue? Make and support your argument with reference to the article, as well as text or lecture materials from this course.
3) What sorts of things would parents need to consider before making decisions about their infant’s sleep?
III. Rules for Teen and Tween Cellphone Use: Unspoken, or Printed and Signed?

Reflection Questions
1) Summarize the main points of this article. What is the problem or controversy being presented here?
2) What rules surrounding technology did/does your family have? How have these rules worked or not worked for your family?
4) Using information you have learned about this issue, what advice can you provide parents facing this issue?

IV. Hard Work Makes Children, and Families, Stronger

Reflection Questions
1) Summarize the main points of this article. What is the problem or controversy being presented here?
2) What is your position on this issue? Make and support your argument with reference to the article.
3) Based on what you read in this article, what advice could you give to parents about work in the family?