**Instructions:** There is one midterm exam essay. It is worth 50 points. Your essay will discuss everything you have learned about sociology since the start of class and how it will apply to your future. It should include both personal and professional examples. Your essay and all discussion should be focused on chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and/or 16. You will need to provide 2 quotes from the textbook to show your points. You also need to include 2 quotes from other resources. Do not include more than the required 4 quotes. It is recommended students pick a few chapters to focus on instead of trying to cover every chapter discussed.

**Created and maintained by Dr. Dennis O'Neil**
**Behavioral Sciences Department, Palomar College**, San Marcos, California
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essay response must include your own opinion

chapter 5 groups and organizations

It is important to understand social interactions because we relate to other people every day of our lives. Much of the interacting that we do is through groups and organizations. For this reason, I am going to focus on our textbook chapters four and five.

I remember in class we talked about society and the three groups: social institutions, statuses and roles, and social groups. Social institutions are broken down into traditional and emergent. To me, traditional structures are those that are less likely to change. Emergent would be groups that change and update. Statuses and roles are broken down into ascribed and achieved. While searching on this topic I found a quote that explains the meaning of status and roles, “Status is our relative social position within a group, while a role is the part our society expects us to play in a given status” (<http://anthro.palomar.edu/status/stat_2.htm>.) Ascribed is what you get from your birth and things that you can’t change. Achieved is something you have to work hard to get and earn it. Our book says that role expectation is “a group’s or society’s definition of the way that a specific role ought to be played” (Kendall, 2014, p. 99). I think that roles are different in every culture. For example, Burmese people often live with their parents until their parents pass away.

Social groups have primary and secondary groups. To me, primary means important and something that always comes first in my life. My primary groups are my family and close friends. Secondary is a large group that means something to me. I spend my time with them because I want to. My secondary groups are my church, school, and soccer team.

Older people have a different perspective on life and maybe tomorrow they will have a new update on how people treat each other.