

# SCREENING FAMILY TREE

For this next film assignment, you'll need a **"family"**—real and/or extended—and an anthropologist's keen eye for detail and question-asking conversations. Turkey is optional. During the T-break, you will need to interview various members of your "family" in order to document the use, roles, and IMPACT that screen/media viewing has played in your family over the years. Ultimately, you'll combine key pieces of those interviews with excellent B-roll clips to produce your own **Media Family Tree Film**. You'll come up with your own *inventive title*, of course, and one which reflects your family's "screen histories."

**At a minimum**, this "tree" should include interesting **details** about each of your family member's media habits and screen use (for good or bad) and memories as they were (are) growing up. It will obviously involve individual screening tendencies, but also include those moments when your "family" joined together for collective media/screenings. So yes, **Nintendo Wii** and **Fortnight** might be in the mix. So might Youtube and InstaG. ALSO, Zoom or Facetime interviews are definitely an important option for baseline logistics if not for creativity's sake.

This screening tree film may also include any **"extended" family** with whom you are celebrating T-Day. Different generations, memories, and/or viewpoints you can include, perhaps the better. For starters, you might include "answers" for the guideline questions below. **Don't forget to include yourself. You'll be doing a quality VOICE-OVER narration for this project (YES, YOU!)**, so you'll want to conceive, script, and practice that performed element before going "live."

**FINAL EDITED FILM IS DUE Tuesday, DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**Some Potential guideline questions. DON'T feel limited by these questions. Feel free to use your "anthropological" sense of curiosity and creativity:**

- 1. IMPACT?** What **types of influences/effects** do they feel that **SCREENS (in ALL of their forms**→phones, laptops, tablets, TVs and their associated services—streaming, social media, broadcast, video, cable, satellite, DVDs, YouTube, etc.) have had on their lives, others, family, the culture as a whole?
- 2. RULES?** Provide a short description on how SCREEN-viewing and screen use was handled as they were growing up. **Limitations?** SCREEN viewing devices (HD, laptops, smartphones, tablets, gaming systems, etc.)? **Restrictions** on amount of SCREEN watching time or programs (or content) they could or couldn't watch? Was SCREEN watching allowed at the table or was it confined to one room, one place. **Why?**
- 3. SCREENS and MEMORY.** What is each family member's **first memory** of watching a SCREEN for any reason?
- 4. REFLECTION.** How do they think SCREEN viewing has **changed** (and changed themselves or the "family") since they first started watching, either with programs or with HOW the culture watches them? What has changed?
- 5.** Information about the actual SCREEN systems they grew up with—the numbers, kinds, and placement of them in their households?
- 6.** What were each family member's **favorite/most memorable SCREEN "shows"** growing up? Why did they like and/or remember about the show? Repeated screenings? How many times? **WHY?**
- 7.** Who was their **favorite actor, actress, character(s) or other?** Why?
- 8.** What was their most **memorable SCREEN advertisement?** What was the product or service being sold? Why did they remember the ad? Can they still sing the **advertising jingle**, which went along with the ad?
- 9.** What is their favorite **SCREEN "program" (or content) currently?** **Why?**
- 10.** What, if anything, do they think is **EXCEPTIONAL** about SCREEN-Life today? What's not so good, and what **ought to be changed** about SCREEN-Life today?