

# Critique: self-disclosure, gender and communication assignment

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Article Critique: Self-Disclosure, Gender and Communication Sharlene Cruz  
COM200: Interpersonal Communication Professor: Betty Cokeley November  
17, 2011 Article Critique: Self-Disclosure, Gender, and Communication “ Can  
we Talk? Researcher talks about the role of communication in marriages” ,  
this right off the bat would catch anyone’s attention. Most especially those  
who believe their marriage is in trouble due to a lack of communication.  
After all, isn’t communication a big part of marriage?

As the Terri Orbuch, research scientist at the Institute for Social Research at  
the University of Michigan puts it “ Many couples think they are  
communicating with each other, when they sort out who will pick up the kids,  
pay the bills, or call the grandparents”, but that is not the kind of  
communication she is talking about”. She is talking about “ quality  
communication”, meaning personal questions about your partner. For  
example “ What is your favorite movie? and Why? ” Let’s use my marriage  
for an example.

My husband and I take time out to just talk at night, about our day, what we  
did, regardless if it is with work or just around the house. We discuss things  
about when we grew up, and things we did, the people we know, the issues  
that came up, and how we handled it. We never make decisions alone,  
everything from what is going to be paid to what we are going to do on  
family night. We even have a date night twice a month, where it’s just the  
two of us. We take turns deciding what and where we will go.

The favorite lately has been cooking something at home and heading down  
to the beach for a night time swim, and dinner, or spear fishing. My husband

and I have grown to love each more, and have learned to always be open and honest with each other. When we do argue, we have learned it is best to walk away, calm down, then talk about it later, but never go to bed mad. When it comes to disciplining the boys, both of which are his step children, he feels it is necessary that we even discuss that. As he puts it, I am sometimes too strict and unreasonable.

When they do something wrong, I believe in grounding them, taking away their privileges, and more chores than normal. My husband disagrees, says the punishment should depend on the offense. I feel we are both at the point in our lives, where we are comfortable enough to talk about almost anything; after all, a girl has to have a few secrets. Reference: NARA SCHOENBERG. (2011, February 6). Can we talk? Researcher talks about the role of communication in marriages. Houston Chronicle, p. 7. Retrieved November 17, 2011, from ProQuest Newsstand. (Document ID: 2260839481).