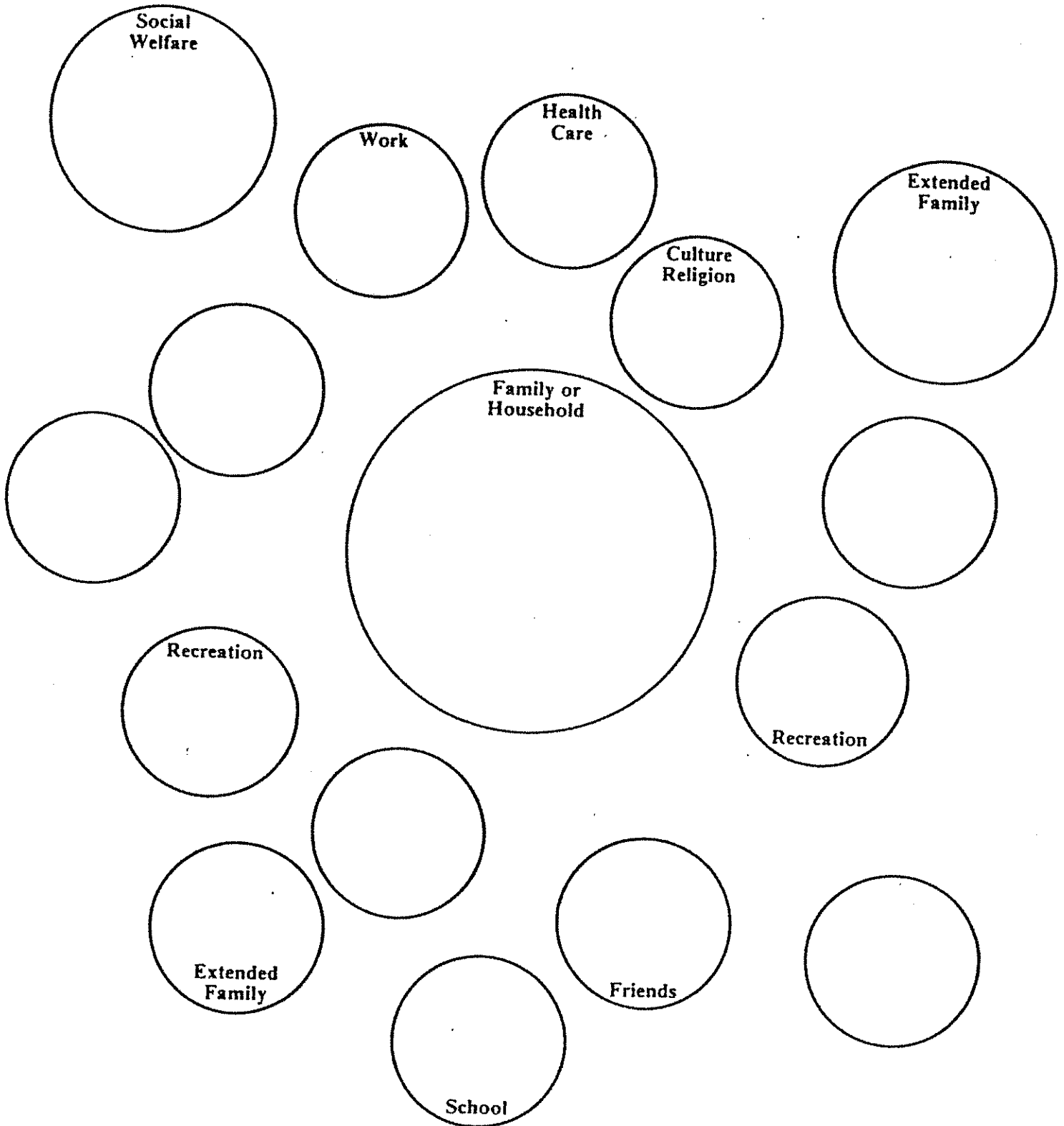


Eco-Map

Name _____

Date _____



Fill in connections where they exist.

Indicate nature of connections with a descriptive word or by drawing different kinds of lines;

_____ for strong, - - - - - for tenuous + + + + + for stressful.

Draw arrows along lines to signify flow of energy, resources, etc. → → →

Identify significant people and fill in empty circles as needed.

Eco-maps

What is an eco-map?

The eco-map is a paper-and-pencil diagram of the ecological system of the client/family, the major systems, together with all their relationships, that affect and are affected by the client/family.

How is it used?

1. To identify members of the household and of the extended family, the nature of the relationships among them, and the resources they exchange with the client.
2. To identify other people and systems in the client/family's social environment and the resources exchanged with them.
3. To identify the client/family's relationships with community systems.
4. To identify present and past contributions of the client to others.
5. To identify systems from which additional resources might be available.

Why is it a useful tool?

1. It organizes a great deal of information for the client's record.
2. Creating the eco-map engages the client/family in the process of assessing their relationship with the social environment.
3. It helps to identify the client's positive contributions to her environment and gaps in support from the environment and to identify and evaluate possible resources for help.
4. It can be modified over time, allowing both the social worker and the family to note changes.
5. It can be adapted to all kinds of social situations.

How is the eco-map put together?

1. Tell the client and/or significant other person that you would like them to help you put together a picture of the client/family's important relationships with family and the community, or of what makes up their world.
2. Start with the client's household. Household members should be mapped as in the traditional family tree, using squares to indicate males and circles to depict females. Deceased members, with an X to indicate that they are dead, can be mapped at the edge of the circle.