**Reasons for Cohabitation Mini Qualitative Analysis**

**Student Assignment**

Couples move in together for a wide variety of reasons. Today, we’ll be using some of the work of Sassler and Miller (2017) who collected data about cohabitation for their book *Cohabitation Nation: Gender, Class, and the Remaking of Relationships* to explore the reasons couples move in together and how those differ by both sex and social class. Then, we’ll examine whether our findings are representative of their larger sample.

1. Read through the quotes, come up with a list of themes (codes), and write the number(s) of the people who explained that they moved in for a particular reason next you your code.

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| **CODE** | **Numbers of the people who you are coding** |
| *EXAMPLE: “Want to Spend More Time Together”* | *1, 3, 5, 7, 9* |
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2. Now, we’re going to see if we can “collapse” some of these codes. For example, “roommate troubles” and “problems with family” might become “problems with past co-residents.” That means that we’ll combine codes that are similar to one another and give them a new title. Make your new list of codes here including the collapsed codes and the remaining codes here.

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| **CODE** | **Numbers of the people who you are coding** |
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3. Let’s examine these differences by sex and social class. Individuals 2, 4, 5, 8, and 9 are women. The rest are men. Circle the women’s numbers in the list above. Individuals 1, 4, 8, 9, 10 are all members of the service class. The rest are middle class. Darkly underline or highlight the service class members’ numbers in the list above.

4. Let’s imagine that we want to test to see if your results are representative of a broader national trend. To do that, we’ll want to write some hypotheses based on your findings. Choose one of the codes that the most people said from your collapsed code list. Write that code here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Now, let’s write two hypotheses.

Hypothesis A. Compared to men, women are more/less/just as (circle one) likely to say that they moved in with their partners because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Hypothesis B. Compared to the middle class, service class members are more/less/just as (circle one) likely to say that they moved in with their partners because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Before we would survey a larger group, we would want to have a theory about WHY we think this might be the case. Come up with an explanation for why you think you’re seeing the differences that you are.

Theory for Hypothesis A:

Theory for Hypothesis B: