A Strengths-Based Conceptual Framework
For Understanding Families World-Wide

Sylvia M. Asay, Ph.D.
Professor of Family Studies
University of Nebraska at Kearney, USA
Strong Families around the World: Strength-Based Research and Perspectives

Africa – South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Somalia
The Middle East – Israel, Oman
Asia – China, India, Korea
Oceania – Australia, New Zealand
North America – Canada, United States
Latin America – Mexico, Brazil
Europe – Russia, Greece, Romania
Family Strengths

- appreciation and affection
- positive communication
- commitment to the family
- enjoyable time together
- sense of spiritual well-being
- the ability to manage stress and crisis effectively
Community Strengths

- supportive environment that genuinely values families
- good educational delivery system
- religious communities for families seeking this kind of support
- family-service programs
- safe, secure, healthful environment
Cultural Strengths

- rich cultural history
- shared cultural meanings
- stable political process
- viable economy
- understanding of the global society
Figure 1: The Relationship of Family, Community, and Cultural Strengths: Concentric Circles
Figure 2: The Relationship of Family, Community, and Cultural Strengths: A Venn Diagram