For this assignment, you will choose a family member of a student with special needs, then a professional who works with students with special needs. You will then interview these individuals.

The Interview:

For family members, tailor your interview to include details related to the first 6 chapters of the Turnbull book.

Suggested topics:

1. The child: strengths, weaknesses, disability, passions, etc.
2. Family characteristics: how is the family set-up? Cultural considerations?
3. How the disability has impacted: the family characteristics, family interactions, and family functions
4. Interactions with outside professionals: what has working with outsiders been like? Suggested individuals include teachers, doctors, case managers, psychologists, etc.
5. What expectations does the parent have for their child in the future, with schooling, recreation, etc.?
6. Meetings: describe what meetings are like.
7. Family members as advocates: how has this family member had to be an advocate?
8. Your topic here:_____

Allow this interview to take on a fluid and natural course. Have a discussion. When you are finished,

1. Summarize your discussion, or if you have recorded it, you can write a transcript of the discussion.
2. Reflect on the main points of the discussion: What was interesting to you that you didn't know before? What is something that was shared that you hadn't thought of? What is something that you will take from the discussion into your own practice? As a professional, how would you work to meet the needs of this family based on what you know?

Your interview should be 2-3 pages in length, double-spaced, and the reflection should be 1-2 pages in length.

I am flexible if you wish to use another modality to present your interview, such as filming, however you will need to get the permission of the individual you are interviewing to present the footage to the class. (If you need permission forms, I can supply them.) You will still need to write a reflection on the experience.