I feel the Interactional view is really valid. My agreement comes most strongly in the "One cannot not communicate" idea. You are constantly influencing the people that you communicate with. Whether you look at the person a certain way, stumble for words, say nothing, or say everything, you are communicating and hence influencing. After someone asks a question, there begins the time of communication: the time, the words, the gestures, the looks, these are all answers.

The family really is a system. No matter how many members, they all work together to make a system. You cannot understand one part without understanding all the parts as a whole and vice versa. My family is made up of eight people. We are constantly fulfilling our roles: youngest, oldest, middle, hero, scapegoat, clown, etc. To understand me and the ways that I function and communicate you must understand my family and the interrelation that goes on inside our house. The way that our parents interact with each of us ultimately determines how we look at our authority figures in life. The amount of attention and affection that they can provide for us is determined by our behavior and the behaviors of our siblings.

I also agree that each person in a relationship must understand the communication that is being communicated. The famous saying, "It's not what you said, it's how you said it" fits perfectly here. If the content of the message is not equally understood by both parties then there will be a conflict. Something that I think of when I'm speaking to someone is, "It's not the intent of what I'm saying, it's the impact that it will have on this person." If people can put that in their minds before they speak I think the world would be a better place.
All relationships are either symmetrical or complementary. My biological father had a problem with control. He was an abusive alcoholic and he wanted to control each move that I made. He would control what length my hair was, what clothes I wore, who I spoke to, how I did simple tasks, he even tried to control the way that I thought. I do believe that the relationship between a parent and their child should be complementary, but in his case it was out of control. I respect my adopted dad because he is a complementary figure to me in that he is in control of me only to protect, help, and guide me. In the case of my biological dad it was complementary to the extreme and in this case extremes are not beneficial.

My mother reframed my family situation by leaving my genetic father and marrying my new (adopted) dad. The framing was changed when instead of being the youngest in the house I became the oldest. They gave me a baby brother which changed the picture altogether. My life is forever better and reframed thanks to my mother. She knew that she could not change the rules and make it better while we were still in that situation so she changed everything. When you try to change the rules and it doesn’t work, sometimes you have to change the entire picture out of the frame and start anew.

There are also other inherent dysfunctions when a family is afflicted w/ alcoholism.