Attend two meetings in which policy issues are being discussed. One of the meetings must be a hearing of the state legislature and the other can be another legislative hearing or a government meeting (e.g. county board of supervisors, city council, school board meeting), judicial proceedings (i.e. Supreme Court trial), advocacy meeting (e.g. Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Children’s Trust Fund), political forum (i.e. League of Women Voters’ debate, political party caucus, candidate speech), or nonprofit organization (i.e. child care center board, church council). Write a 3 to 5 page paper that includes the names of both meetings as well as the place, date, number and types of people in attendance, and total time you attended. For one of the meetings, summarize:

• what happened, how decisions were made or will be made, and what you learned about the policymaking process, (10 points)
• the implications for family policy, and (10 points)
• what you learned drawing from class readings and your own experiences. (10 points)

Be prepared to give an 8-minute report in class (10 points). A one paragraph summary of the policy meetings you plan to attend is due on February 13. The oral report can be given in collaboration with another student in the class, but each person must submit their own written report on the day of their oral report.