

CHAPTER 11: THE FAMILY

Family and Marriage Across Cultures

family - a group of people related by marriage, blood or adoption

marriage - a legal union based on mutual rights and obligations

nuclear family - family structure composed of one or both parents and children

extended family - two or more adult generations of the same family whose members shares economic resources and a common household

patrilineal - descent and inheritance is passed through the male line

matrilineal - descent and inheritance is passed through the female line

bilateral - descent/inheritance passed equally through both parents

patriarchy - the pattern in which the oldest man living in the household has authority over the rest of the family members

matriarchy - " " oldest woman " " " "

equalitarian - family structure in which authority is evenly shared between husband and wife

patrilocal - refers to the pattern in which married couples live with or near the husbands' parents

matrilocal - same def. as above, but for wives' parents

neolocal - pattern in which newly married couples set up their own households

monogamy - marriage = one man + one woman

polygamy - marriage of a male or female to more than one person at a time - two kinds:

1. polygyny - one man + 2 or more women
2. polyandry - one woman + 2 or more men

exogamy - practice of marrying outside one's group

incest taboo - a norm forbidding marriage between close relatives

endogamy - marriage within one's group as required by social norms

homogamy - tendency to marry someone similar to oneself

heterogamy - marriage between people with differing social characteristics

Theoretical Perspectives and the Family

Functionalism - family is primary socializer of children (language, values, norms, members can be role models)

- socioemotional maintenance - provision of acceptance and support - without family's unconditional love and acceptance, children won't develop normally
- reproductive function - family provides orderly means for producing members of society, generation after generation
- family regulates sexual activity - provides rules about mating, marrying - norms regarding sexual activities vary from place to place
- social status - families provide economic resources that can open or close occupational doors - they pass on values that affect social status
- economic function of the family - modern American family is a unit of consumption rather than production

Conflict Theory - focuses on the way family members compete and cooperate

- gender relationships in the family - traditionally, males are dominant, in control/ females expected to be submissive helpers - men support family (work outside the home), women care for children + household - families have fostered social inequality
- feminists - many today view family from this perspective - family structure is the source of inequality - attempts by women to gain more power within family structure can result in conflict

Symbolic Interactionism - focuses on interactions among family members, meanings that member assign to these interactions

- as family members share meanings and feelings, kids develop self-concepts, put themselves mentally in the place of others
- family relationships are constantly changing - pass through many phases, stages

Family and Marriage in the United States

marriage rate - number of marriages per year for every 1,000 members of the population

- rate peaked at over 16.0 following World War II (late 1940s)
- rate today: 8.0 - 8.5

divorce rate - same def. as above, but for divorces - 1960: 2.2 1981: 5.3

- rate has declined slightly since 1985

societal forces affecting marriage:

1. divorce rate rises during economic prosperity, decreases when times are hard
2. rise in divorce rate after 1960 followed the growing up of the baby-boom generation
 - "boomers" didn't attach a stigma to divorce like previous generations
3. increasing financial independence of women - they're more willing to end bad marriages
4. American values and attitudes about marriage and divorce are changing - society is much more forgiving of divorce and remarriage

the future of marriage in the U.S.

1. average age at first marriage is increasing - the later people marry, the less likely they are to divorce
2. average age of U.S. population increases as baby boomers grow older
3. couples having fewer kids - kids are spaced farther apart (reduces pressure on marriages)

Family Violence - recent national survey states that almost 1/4 of adults in the U.S. report having been physically abused as children

- recent estimates - one of every four girls, one in ten boys are victims of sexual aggression (inside or outside the home)
- 1976-1997 - number of reported child abuse cases rose from 662,000 to over 3 million
- at least 4 million women are battered by their husbands each year
- over 4,000 women each year are beaten to death
- extent of physical abuse is underestimated - 3/4 of spousal abuse/violence occurs during separation or after divorce
- some studies show that husbands and wives assault each other at about the same rate
- females are less violent than males - much of the violence committed by women involves self-protection and retaliation
- verbal/physical abuse also a part of many families
- over 9 million children in the U.S. suffer from neglect (being ignored rather than abused)
- sibling violence - most frequent and tolerated form of violence in the family - based on rivalry, jealousy, disagreements over personal possessions
- elder abuse - 0.5-2.5 million cases annually - neglect, physical violence, psychological mistreatment, economic manipulation

Changes in Marriage and Family

blended family - formed when at least one of the partners in a marriage has been married before and has a child or children from a previous marriage

- 3 major problems facing blended families:
 1. lack of money - legal obligations to support children from a previous marriage
 2. stepchildren's dislike of the new spouse
 3. uncertainty about roles played by stepparents
- 1/4 of American families are headed by a single parent
- 90% of single-parent households are headed by women
- effects of single-parent families on children:
 - adolescents (kids ages 12-17) from single-parent families, regardless of income, race or ethnicity, have much higher rates of deviant behavior (delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy)
- childless marriages - 1970 - 15% of American women who have been married don't have kids - 2000 - 19%
- social stigma against childless married women is disappearing
- research shows that couples who choose not to have kids appear to be happier/more satisfied with their marriages + lives than married couples with kids
- dual-employed marriages - both spouses work outside the home
 - disadvantages - married women work 15 hrs. more a week than men (job + kids + household), role conflict for women
 - advantages - women - higher standard of living, more outlets for self-expression
 - men - freedom from being sole provider, more job/education opportunities
- cohabitation - marriage-like living arrangement without legal obligations/responsibilities of formal marriage
 - 1970 - 500,000 adults - 2000 - 7 million - 25% of these couples stay together more than 4 years - women face higher rate of abuse

same-sex domestic partners - as of **October 2014, 32 states recognize same-sex marriages**

- **Washington, D.C., and 8 Native American tribal jurisdictions** also recognize same-sex marriages

boomerang kids - adult children who return to the home of origin or continue to live with parents

SOCIOLOGY

SEMESTER FINAL STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 1: An Invitation to Sociology

sociology, social dynamics, social statics, symbolic interactionism, conflict perspective, functionalism, symbol, verstehen, sociological perspective, positivism, Auguste Comte, Emile Durkheim, Jane Addams, Harriet Martineau

Chapter 2: Sociologists Doing Research

causation, correlation, hypothesis, survey, independent variable, dependent variable, population, representative sample, secondary analysis, sociology's code of ethics

Chapter 3: Culture

culture, society, beliefs, norms, values, formal sanctions, folkways, mores, laws, counterculture

Chapter 4: Socialization

socialization, desocialization, resocialization, anticipatory socialization, self-concept, looking-glass self, hidden curriculum, peer group, total institutions, reference group

Chapter 5: Social Structure in Society

social structure, role, role conflict, role strain, status, achieved status, ascribed status, master status, rights, obligations

Chapter 6: Groups and Formal Organizations

group, primary group, secondary group, in-group, out-group, social exchange, conformity, formal organization, bureaucracy, iron law of oligarchy

Chapter 7: Deviance and Social Control

deviance, primary deviance, secondary deviance, stigma, white-collar crime, recidivism, rehabilitation, differential association theory, strain theory, deterrence

Chapter 8: Social Stratification

absolute poverty, relative poverty, social class, social mobility, horizontal/vertical/intergenerational mobility, wealth, income, power, prestige

Chapter 11: The Family

nuclear/blended family, matri/patrilineal, bilateral, matri/patri/neolocal, matri/patriarchy, mono/exo/endo/homo/heterogamy, polygamy, polygyny, polyandry

SOCIOLOGY

FINAL EXAM FORMAT

The semester final exam will include information from **chapters 1-8 and chapter 11.**

- **200 points possible**

- **70 questions, 2 points each (multiple choice and matching)**

- **2 short essay questions on the following topics:**
 - a) **the film *Kramer vs. Kramer***

 - b) **information from chapter 11, sections 3 and 4, and pg. 382 discussion questions**

Film Notes for *Kramer vs. Kramer*

1. plot summary/character sketch: describe what happens in the story (plot development, description of main characters, conflict, plot resolution)

Billy - son

Ted - father

Joanna - mother

Margaret - family friend

2. In your opinion, was the judge justified in his decision regarding who should have custody of Billy? Why or why not?

You will not be turning in your notes - they are for you to keep to study for the first final exam essay.