

Chapter 1 Families Past and Present

Reading 1 William J. Goode/ "The Theoretical Importance of the Family"

Multiple Choice:

- 1.1 The family still holds a central position in modern society because
- kinship patterns form the basis of the social structure.
 - it is the key to promoting social equality.
 - children are first socialized in the family.
 - it is a formal agent of social control.

Ans: c
p.17

- 1.2 Which of the following generalizations about the family is TRUE?
- There is only a modest association between divorce and not having children.
 - In modern industrial society, age at marriage is much higher than in agricultural societies in the past.
 - In China and India, most people live in large, multigenerational extended families.
 - The fertility rate is higher in polygynous societies than in monogamous societies.

Ans: a
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- 1.3 The family is the only institution other than _____ that is formally developed in all societies.
- the economy
 - religion
 - education
 - politics

Ans: b
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- 1.4 Which of the following generalizations about the family is NOT true?
- The family serves a solely expressive function in society.
 - Families are economic units.
 - The family is an informal agency of social control.
 - Socialization in the family reflects the culture of the society.

Ans: a
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- 1.5 Which of the following represent advantages of the "familistic package"?
- Families enjoy some small economies of scale.
 - All historic forms of the family offer continuity.
 - The family as a social unit is supported by the larger society.
 - all of the above

Ans: d
p.23-24

True/False Questions:

1.6 In Plato's *Republic*, the family would serve an important social function.

Ans: F

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1.7 Most sophisticated studies of the family confirm what we already know as common sense.

Ans: F

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1.8 While the family serves an expressive function in society, it is also an instrumental agency.

Ans: T

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1.9 Experiments in communal living attempt to create new types of family relationships.

Ans: T

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1.10 Most people believe that many needs of the whole society are served by the family.

Ans: T

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Essay/Discussion Questions:

1.11 Explain why it is important to empirically test our knowledge about the family.

p.17-19

1.12 Describe the advantages of the "familistic package"? What are the disadvantages, if any?

p.23-25

1.13 Describe the central position of the family in society. What are some of the key components of this structure?

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Reading 2 Anthony Giddens/ “The Global Revolution in Family and Personal Life”

Multiple Choice:

- 2.1 The global revolution in family and personal life is characterized by the following:
- a. a return to traditional family values
 - b. the declining significance of the individual
 - c. a smooth transition from traditional family forms
 - d. a worldwide concern over the future of the family

Ans: d

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- 2.2 Which of the following describes the family in China today?
- a. an increase in the divorce rate
 - b. the existence of arranged marriage in rural areas
 - c. the persistence of gender inequality
 - d. all of the above

Ans:d

p.27-28

- 2.3 In contemporary society, sexuality is
- a. no longer a source of controversy.
 - b. largely disconnected from reproduction.
 - c. highly regulated in most societies.
 - d. linked to marriage and childbearing.

Ans: b

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- 2.4 Anthony Giddens describes the 1950's family as
- a. a transitional phase in family development.
 - b. the ideal family form.
 - c. an economic unit.
 - d. a result of women's participation in the workforce.

Ans: a

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- 2.5 The author refers to a _____ as a relationship based on emotional communication.
- a. communicative relationship
 - b. expressive relationship
 - c. pure relationship
 - d. democratic relationship

Ans: c

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True/False Questions:

2.6 Strict marriage laws in China make it difficult for couples to obtain a divorce.

Ans: F

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2.7 In traditional families, women and children had very little control over their own lives.

Ans: T

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2.8 While attitudes towards sexuality have changed, antagonism towards homosexuality is still widespread.

Ans: T

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2.9 The high divorce rate in the United States has resulted in the decline of marriage.

Ans: F

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2.10 Personal relationships and emotional satisfaction are very important in modern family life.

Ans: T

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Essay/Discussion Questions:

2.11 Identify the factors that lead to a change in social attitudes towards sexuality.

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2.12 Describe the nature of marriage in contemporary society and how it differs from traditional marriage.

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2.13 Compare and contrast the characteristics of the traditional family and today's families.

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