

sociology of family and marriage

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Plan

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2. Marriage and its forms
3. Social structure and marriage
4. Analysis of family from sociological theories
5. Marriage and family problems

- **A family is** a group of people who are related by genetics, marriage, or choice and who share material, emotional, and economic resources.

- Now, whatever the type, the family you grow up with is known as the family of your orientation (**orientational family**).
- And the family that you created by yourself, in adulthood, is called a **family of procreation**.

according to the composition of the family

- A nuclear family consists of two parents and biological or adopted children. (complete / incomplete)
- Extended family consist of several generations of people and can include biological parents and their children as well as in-laws, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.



- Marriage is a legally recognized relationship that usually includes economic, social, emotional and sexual ties.

Rules of marriage:

- Cultural norms/laws / designate certain people as suitable / acceptable / spouses

Marriage and its forms

- **endogamy**, a custom that mandates marriage within one's own group.
- Penalties for violating endogamous restrictions vary widely across cultures, ranging from death to mild disapproval.
- When marriage occurs with an outgroup, it is called **exogamy**.



Which one is endogamy or exogamy marriage? And why?



It is forbidden to marry in KZ:

- 1) people of the same sex
- 2) persons living in another registered marriage, even one of them;
- 3) close relatives;
- 4) adopters and adopted children, children of adopters and adopted children;
- 5) it is not allowed among people who have been recognized as incapacitated due to mental illness or mental retardation, even one of them according to a legally binding decision of the court.

Marriage and its forms

- In today's high-income countries, only two people are legally married, which is called **monogamy**.
- **Polygamy**, or marriage with two or more spouses, is legally recognized in most African countries and some South Asian countries.

The practice of marriage is closely related to the economic and social structure of society.

- With the emergence of the middle class, marriage became a matter of **human choice**.
- If we were in a pre-industrial society, couples would be more likely to move in with or near their husband's family, a practice known as **patrilocalism**. (economic instability, war)
- But in some societies, newlyweds are called **matrilocal** when they live with or near their wife's family.

T. Parsons

Industrial society is a nuclear family

1 person brings income, there will be no conflict due to economic reasons.

Geographically / economically mobile

Female emotional / male work

- Until the Middle of 19th century, all land inherited by women in the United States went exclusively to their husbands, encouraging inheritance patterns that favored sons.
- Only in the last decade Britain has changed its line of succession to allow the monarchy to pass to the first-born, regardless of gender.

Structural functionalists

- Bringing children into the world
- emphasizes the role of the family in the socialization of children.
- and, of course, to provide them with emotional and material support so that they can function in society.
- Another role of the family is to regulate sexual activity.

Symbolic interactionist theory

- Family status comes with its own set of behavioral expectations.
- Stereotypes of mothers as caregivers and father finders shape people's perceptions of themselves and others as "good" or "bad" fathers and mothers.

Conflict theory

focuses on how traditional ideas of family keep social inequality.

Marriage of similar social status/race perpetuates inequality as a paternal line that deprives women of the opportunity to acquire wealth or hold power.

the institution of the family masks the system of exploitation of women by their husbands and their children's parents.

refers to treating married women as the sexual and economic property of their husbands.

Marx / Engels

- believed that the industrial revolution contributed to the transformation of the family into a set of monetary relations.
- The use of child labor has become an additional commodity or tool in the working class
- Since working class women had to earn money, their status was equal to that of men
- Middle class - women are becoming house slaves

Hartmann (1981) proposed the modern conflict theory

- Marxist Feminist Theory
- The family is a conflict environment
- Economic production, redistribution of material wealth is carried out in the family
- the interests of each of its members conflict with the interests of other members and society as a whole
- Separation of responsibilities

There are several levels of marital relationships at which conflicts can occur.

1. Psychophysiological - disharmony is manifested in the violation of sexual life. In general, this phenomenon occurs quite often, but only a few note it as the main reason for the decision to divorce.
2. Psychological - an unhealthy climate is created in the family, manifested in constant quarrels, mutual nit-picking, irritability, which is often taken out on children.
3. Socio - role - symptoms of a violation of the stability of this level - incorrect, uneven distribution of family and household workload, chaotic family life.
4. Sociocultural (spiritual) - conflicts take the form of misunderstanding by spouses of each other, disrespect, lack of interest or dissatisfaction with communication with a partner, rejection of his life values, ideals.

Risk factors include:

- a big difference in education and age between spouses;
- addiction to alcoholism of one of the spouses;
- Careless attitude to marriage, family in general;
- too early age of marriage;
- Infertility / or / the probability of the imminent birth of a child;
- too short a period of acquaintance;
- sharp disagreement of parents to marriage;
- forced marriage, without mutual consent.

Stages of Family Life

Stage	Family Type	Children
1	Marriage Family	Childless
2	Procreation Family	Children ages 0 to 2.5
3	Preschooler Family	Children ages 2.5 to 6
4	School-age Family	Children ages 6–13
5	Teenage Family	Children ages 13–20
6	Launching Family	Children begin to leave home
7	Empty Nest Family	“Empty nest”; adult children have left home

Stage Theory This table shows one example of how a “stage” theory might categorize the phases a family goes through.

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