

I. Chapter 5

A. Family Problems

II. Families in Global Context

A. Family is cultural universal

1. Diverse forms

a. Monogamy

b. Polygamy

i. Polygyny

ii. Polyandry

B. Social/cultural context

1. Family values/roles/norms highly variable

a. Western societies; father

b. Some African societies, mother's brother

III. Introduction

A. Some family problems rooted in social structure

1. Long work hours

2. Dual working households

3. Child care

4. "Second Shift"

5. "Mommy track"

IV. Introduction

A. Families influenced by cultural factors

1. Individualism = individual happiness

2. Familism = collective happiness

B. American families' major problems

1. Finances

2. Domestic violence

3. Child/elder abuse
4. Divorce
5. Unmarried childbirth
6. Teen parenthood

V. Increase in:

- A. Single person households
- B. Cohabitation
- C. Median age of marriage
- D. Never married
- E. Children living in un-legalized families - lack some protection

VI. Sociological Theories of Family

A. Structural functionalist

1. Family functions necessary for survival of society
  - a. Reproduction
  - b. Socialization
  - c. Education of youth
  - d. Emotional and physical care of members
2. Changes in society at large contributes to family problems

VII. Sociological Theories of Family

A. Social Conflict

1. Wealth/power influence marriage and families
2. Patriarchy - refers to male dominated families
  - a. Wife takes husband's name, residence defined by husband's work, standard of living dictated by male income
  - b. Unequal power contributes to spousal/child abuse
  - c. Unequal distribution of wealth fosters economic dependence of women
3. Lower Socioeconomic Status
  - a. High rate of teenage and single mother parenting in African American population

VIII. Sociological Theories of Family

A. Social Conflict

1. Social policies determined by powerful and wealthy segments of society
  - a. Corporations fought Family and Medical Leave Act
  - b. Corporate interests undermine family life

IX. Sociological Theories of Family

A. Symbolic Interaction

1. Behavior → meanings and definitions of small group interaction
  - a. Definition of divorce less negative → divorce increased
  - b. Negative definitions of alternative families changed → alternative family styles more common

X. Violence and Abuse in the Family

A. Elder Abuse - Ageism

1. Physical abuse
2. Psychological abuse
3. Financial abuse
4. Sexual abuse
5. Neglect
6. Most elderly abuse committed by adult children, followed by spouses, nursing home staff

XI. End of file.