**Chapter 1**

**Defining the Family: Institutional and Disciplinary Concerns**

**1.1 True/False Questions**

1) The text states that the family consists of one female legally married to one male.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 4*

2) Using a relational definition, cohabiters or same-sex partners can be defined as families.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 4-5*

3) The definition of family proposed by Jan Trost includes any system of dyads or set of dyads, including those who cohabit, siblings, friends, or even pets.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 6*

4) Institutionalized behavior within the family system refers to any behavior that occurs in families.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 8*

5) Cohabitation is becoming institutionalized in the United States.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 9*

6) Societies (including Sweden) in which traditional family patterns are not strong demonstrate a high level of negative outcomes for children.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 11*

7) Sweden has been described as having one of the highest literacy rates and lowest infant mortality rates in the world.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 11*

8) In sociological analysis, the basic units of a marital or family system are interrelated statuses rather than persons.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 12*

9) Family scholars agree that families are inherently places of loyalty, love, and affection.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 15*

10) The text presents the argument that without primary group relationships such as exists in families, survival itself would be doubtful.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 15-16*

11) According to the Gallup organization, as a result of religious groups condemning homosexual relationships, the percentage of adults saying such relationships should not be legalized has increased over the past 25 years.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 17*

12) Today, families are for the most part economic production units.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 16*

13) Throughout the world, monogamy is the only form of marriage that is universally recognized, and it is the predominant form even within societies where other forms exist.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 20*

14) Polygamy refers to several or many husbands.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 20*

15) Most men, even in highly polygynous countries, have only one wife.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 23*

16) Women in polygamous marriages tend to have a higher rate of pregnancy than do women in monogamous marriages.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 24*

17) According to contemporary doctrine, polygamy is an acceptable marriage pattern in the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons).

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 24*

18) The desire for male children and the need to enhance their survival is greatly increased by polygyny.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 24*

19) Polyandry seems to be most prevalent in those few societies that practice male infanticide.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 23*

20) All conjugal families are nuclear families, but not all nuclear families are conjugal families.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 28*

21) The joint family is so termed because of the bonding that results between families upon the marriage of a child from each kinship grouping.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 29*

22) In a consanguineous marriage, the two partners have at least one ancestor in common. Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 29*

23) Dr. Vern Bengston argues that family relationships across generations are decreasing in importance in American society.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 30*

24) Today, most family scholars agree that the family in the United States is basically an isolated nuclear unit.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 30*

25) Popenoe suggests that the family in Sweden is in a state of decline and decay.

Answer: FALSE

*Page Ref: 32*

26) Godparenting—or comadrazgo—has been essential in the successful adaptation of Mexican-American families.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 35*

27) The Middletown study suggests, as do most other kinship studies, that women are more active than men in maintaining kinship ties.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 36*

28) All societies forbid marriage between certain kinship group members.

Answer: TRUE

*Page Ref: 38*

**1.2 Multiple-Choice Questions**

1) The authors argue that marriages and families should not be viewed as

A) any close, primary, sexually bonded relationship.

B) any dyadic unit, including same sex partners, unmarried parents, or siblings.

C) dyadic units that fit traditional notions of what families should be.

D) a social system or social institution.

Answer: C

*Page Ref: 6*

2) The text suggests that the family is

A) a social institution.

B) a social system.

C) a social group.

D) all of the first three.

Answer: D

*Page Ref: 7*

3) According to the discussion in the text,

A) institutionalized behavior is patterned and predictable.

B) extramarital intercourse would be one example of institutionalized behavior.

C) institutionalized behavior is any behavior that occurs within an institution.

D) All of the above three are true.

Answer: A

*Page Ref: 8*

4) The many ways in which a society can fulfill the same needs is called:

A) functional polyvalence

B) functional equivalence

C) organizational equivalence

D) organizational polyvalence

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 11*

5) Families that find themselves acting in multiple nations either as whole units crossing borders or as fragmented units with members living in different nations are known as:

A) Polynational families

B) Quasinational families

C) Multinational families

D) Global families

Answer: C

*Page Ref: 11*

6) The basic units of a marital or family system are

A) statuses.

B) persons.

C) interpersonal relationships.

D) intimate networks.

Answer: A

*Page Ref: 12*

7) The uniqueness of the family system lies in its:

A) structural factors

B) functional factors

C) relational factors

D) All of the above.

Answer: D

*Page Ref: 13*

8) In contrast to a primary group, the characteristic most likely to exist in a secondary group is

A) face-to-face contact.

B) goal orientation.

C) smallness of size.

D) All are characteristics of secondary groups

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 16*

9) The term *ideal type* refers to:

A) what is good, best, or most valuable

B) ends, extremes, or poles on a continuum

C) concrete constructs

D) that which is socially approved

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 18-19*

10) Monogamy means

A) more than one husband or wife is impossible.

B) one husband is married to one wife at any one time.

C) there can be only one husband married to more than one wife or only one wife married to more than one husband.

D) all of the above in different cultures.

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 21*

11) Compared to women in monogamous marriages, women in polygamous marriages have

A) higher pregnancy rates.

B) lower pregnancy rates.

C) shorter birth intervals.

D) both A and C above

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 24*

12) Polyandry

A) is more likely to be fraternal than polygamy is likely to be sororal.

B) is only about half as common as polygamy.

C) tends to lead to a greater fragmentation of land holdings than does polygamy.

D) tends to exist most frequently where male infanticide is practiced.

Answer: A

*Page Ref: 25*

13) Group marriage

A) is more common in Asian nations than anywhere else in the world.

B) is increasing in popularity and will become a common practice someday.

C) may never have existed as a viable form of marriage in any society.

D) Both A and B are true.

Answer: C

*Page Ref: 26*

14) The Oneida community

A) began in California as a result of the gold rush.

B) was an experimental polyandrous group.

C) believed in marital chastity, thus failed to survive.

D) believed in a spiritual equality for all persons: materially, socially, and sexually.

Answer: D

*Page Ref: 26*

15) According to the text, the conjugal family

A) is identical to the nuclear family.

B) must include a husband and a wife.

C) is exemplified by a single parent and child.

D) is exemplified by a brother and sister.

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 28*

16) The most precise term for a family consisting of yourself, your spouse, and your children would be a

A) consanguine family.

B) family of orientation.

C) family of procreation.

D) nuclear family.

Answer: C

*Page Ref: 28*

17) A major difference between joint families and stem families is that joint families

A) share a common treasury.

B) pass on all property to the eldest son.

C) provide a home and economic support for the father as he grows old.

D) consist of the eldest son and his sisters’ families.

Answer: A

*Page Ref: 30*

18) The tsu in traditional China referred to

A) the wives of Chairman Mao.

B) a plague that killed millions of children in the 1920s.

C) a clan including all persons with a common surname descending from a common ancestor.

D) the belief that sons are subordinate to fathers and daughters are subordinate to mothers.

Answer: C

*Page Ref: 29*

19) A common type of family in Japan consists of two families in adjacent generations joined by economic and blood ties. This is best described as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ type of family structure.

A) stem

B) joint

C) modified extended

D) matrilineal

Answer: A

*Page Ref: 30*

20) Latino families in the United States today are perhaps most accurately described as

A) isolated nuclear families.

B) modified nuclear families.

C) modified extended families.

D) joint kin networks.

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 31*

21) Which statement is false about families in Sweden? Families have

A) a low rate of marriage.

B) a small household size.

C) a high rate of cohabitation.

D) a low rate of family dissolution.

Answer: D

*Page Ref: 32*

22) Rights, obligations, and constraints that govern the relationships between individuals in societies based on ties of blood, marriage, or adoption are known as:

A) kinship systems

B) family sanctions

C) family law

D) none of the above

Answer: A

*Page Ref: 32*

23) Of the following, which one was not listed in the text as a key function of the kinship system?

A) property holding and inheritance

B) education of children

C) housing and the maintenance of residential propinquity

D) affection, emotional ties, and primary relationships

Answer: B

*Page Ref: 33*

24) Patterns of descent take on a special importance to many conflict theorists because

A) intergenerational conflict is the key source of change.

B) matrilineal systems give preferential treatment to females.

C) social inequality is perpetuated through successive generations.

D) many females assume their husbands name.

Answer: C

*Page Ref: 34*

25) In an *avunculocal* system,

A) newlyweds live with the parents of the bride.

B) newlyweds live with the parents of the groom.

C) newlyweds establish independent households apart from other family members.

D) newlyweds live with a maternal uncle.

Answer: D

**1.3 Short Answer Questions**

1) A family \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consists of interrelated statuses such as husbands, wives, and children.

Answer: system

*Page Ref: 12*

2) The family as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ group serves as the basic socializing agent and the basic instrument of social control.

Answer: primary

*Page Ref: 15*

3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ types are hypothetical constructs based on pure, definitive characteristics.

Answer: Ideal

*Page Ref: 18*

4) Polygamy is described as having various forms. When one male has several wives, all of whom are sisters, this is known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: sororal polygamy

*Page Ref: 22*

5) The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ community of New York State practiced group marriages.

Answer: Oneida

*Page Ref: 27*

6) A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ family must include a husband and a wife.

Answer: conjugal

*Page Ref: 28*

7) The nuclear family in which you were born and reared (consisting of self, siblings, and parents) is termed a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: family or orientation

*Page Ref: 28*

8) Families that include kin beyond the nuclear family are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: extended

*Page Ref: 28*

9) A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ family is based on blood ties:

Answer: consanguine

*Page Ref: 29*

10) The system of descent most prevalent in the United States is primarily \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: bilateral

*Page Ref: 33*

11) The residence pattern in which the newlywed couple establishes a residence separate from either set of parents is known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: neolocal

*Page Ref: 34*

**1.4 Essay Questions**

1) What is a family? How do these definitions vary depending on who is doing the defining? Can cohabiters be a family?

2) Differentiate institutionalized behaviors in families from behaviors that are non-institutionalized. Give examples.

3) Differentiate a family group from a family system. Illustrate.

4) In addition to monogamy, around the world the number of partners or spouses in a marriage takes a variety of forms. List three. Then select any one, give an example, and explain its occurrence.

5) Jealousy among co-wives seems to be more frequent than jealousy among co-husbands. What reasons exist to explain this?

6) What are the arguments for or against families in the United States being isolated nuclear units.

7) What is meant by an extended family? Describe two specific varieties or types of extended family forms.

8) Feminist theorists focus primarily on sexual (female/male) inequalities in lineage inheritance patterns. What is the significance of lineage systems and inheritance patterns to conflict theorists?

9) What are the basic functions of kinship groupings? What does research indicate about the fulfillment of these in the United States?

10) Distinguish between the family as an *institution* and the process of *institutionalization* of family behaviors.

11) Define *ideal type*, and give examples of ideal types of families.

12) Distinguish between primary and secondary groups, and discuss why and how the family is a primary group.