Chapter 1
Suggested Readings and Websites


Chapter 2
Suggested Readings and Websites


Davis, Fred. 1991 [1963]. Passage Through Crisis: Polio Victims and Their Families, 2nd ed. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction. This qualitative study of how the serious illness of a child affects family dynamics is still relevant, though the particular illness, polio, is no longer a threat. It is a good example of both the interactionist perspective and qualitative research.


Greenstein, Theodore N. 2006. Methods of Family Research, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. Discusses the application of standard research methods to the study of the family. An extremely useful book because it goes beyond methods per se to discuss the ethics of family research and such practical matters as how to read a journal article.


Price, Sharon J., Patrick C. McKenny, and Megan J. Murphy, eds. 2000. Families Across Time: A Life Course Perspective (Readings). Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury. Readings that explore the implications of the family life course in a variety of settings and aspects. By authors well known for their research.


Wuthnow, Robert. 2002. Loose Connections: Joining Together in America’s Fragmented Communities. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Are Americans so individualistic that civic engagement and contacts with other community members have vanished? No, says this author, they just take new forms.
Suggested Readings and Websites

Council on Contemporary Families
www.contemporaryfamilies.org
This organization of family scholars presents research-based policy and issue briefs from a liberal perspective.

Center for Law and Social Policy
www.clasp.org
Analyzes and advocates social and economic policy relevant to low-income families.

The Future of Children
www.futureofchildren.org
Journal that covers many family-related issues in a style accessible to nonscholars. Special family policy issue Fall 2005. Published by the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University and the Brookings Institution.

Institute for American Values
www.americanvalues.org
Organization of scholars and policy advocates that publishes research-based reports from a more conservative or communitarian perspective, asserting a policy preference for traditional marriage and two-parent child rearing.

National Fatherhood Initiative
www.fatherhood.org
Institute that designs educational programs and advocates policies to encourage fathers in various cultural and socioeconomic settings to play a greater role in their children’s lives and rearing.

National Marriage Project
http://marriage.rutgers.edu
Policy advocacy organization in support of traditional marriage. Engages in research, education, training, and advocacy to strengthen the institution of marriage.

Crimes Against Children Research Center
www.unh.edu/crcr
Respected research center, with reports and fact sheets on many kinds of crimes against children, including Internet crimes.

Chapter 3
Suggested Readings and Websites


Newman, Katherine. 1993. Declining Fortunes: The Withering of the American Dream. New York: Basic. The economy has been up and down since Newman published her study of families affected by economic decline. The book is still relevant in showing the impact of unemployment, rising housing costs, and other economic pressures on families.


Stack, Carol. 1974. All Our Kin: Strategies for Survival. New York: Harper & Row. An example of participant observation research that conveys what the experience is like. Exemplifies the cultural variant approach to research on ethnic minority families, and shows how new theoretical perspectives may emerge to better describe ethnic minority families.


Suggested Readings and Websites


Annie E. Casey Foundation

[www.aecf.org](http://www.aecf.org)

The Annie E. Casey Foundation website features its “Kids Count” data project. Kids Count compiles data on children: the social conditions in which they live and indicators of their well-being. Includes state-by-state data that enable exploration of this level of social diversity.

Chapter 4

Suggested Readings and Websites


Blau, Francine D., Mary C. Brinton, and David B. Grusky, eds. 2006. *The Declining Significance of Gender?* New York: Russell Sage. Articles that address the past, present, and future of gender in the United States, with a particular focus on work, earnings, and other economic issues. Not casual reading, but a useful source for those particularly interested in gender inequality in the workplace and the economy.


Ehrensaft, Diane. 1990. *Parenting Together: Men and Women Sharing the Care of Their Children.* Urbana: University of Illinois Press. This small-scale study of parents who have decided to share parenting shows some gender differences that remain in parenting styles and work-family management, even in this consciously egalitarian situation.


Hurtado, Aida. 2003. *Voicing Chicana Feminisms: Young Women Speak Out on Sexuality and Identity.* New York: NYU Press. Reports on a qualitative study of 101 Chicanas between the ages of twenty and thirty who speak about family, work, self, sex, and politics. The methodology included interviews, questionnaires, and “shadowing”—that is, spending time with study participants as they made the rounds of their daily lives.

Hyde, Janet Shibley. 2005. “The Gender Similarities Hypothesis.” *American Psychologist* 60(6) (September):581–92. Presents the hypothesis that there are few differences between males and females in traits and abilities, together with supporting research. Also explicates meta-analysis methodology.


Chapter 5

Suggested Readings


Duck, Steve. 1999. *Relating to Others.* 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Open University Press. This well-known social psychologist explores many topics, such as self-esteem and attachment theory.


Suggested Readings and Websites


Sternberg, Robert J. You can read about Sternberg’s life, theories, and publications at http://www.psy.pdx.edu/psiCafe/KeyTheorists/Sternberg.htm.

Chapter 6
Suggested Readings and Websites


Colombo, Luann. 1999. *How to Have Sex in the Woods*. New York: Random House. This book is but one example of the many “how-to” books on sex to be found in bookstores. They are too numerous and diverse for us to pick one or a few to recommend—usefulness and appeal depend on your sexuality, relationship status, and personal taste.


Go Ask Alice! www.goaskalice.columbia.edu

This is a health question-and-answer Internet service produced by Columbia University’s Health Education Program. Answers questions from college and high school students, parents, teachers, professionals, older adults, and others on every conceivable health topic, including relationships, sexuality, sexual health, and emotional health.

The Guttmacher Institute www.guttmacher.org

The Guttmacher Institute (GI) is the research arm of the Planned Parenthood Federation. The site includes fact sheets on various sexual and reproductive topics, as well as *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, a quarterly periodical that summarizes relevant current research, policy, and law. GI research and publications are cited by conservative as well as liberal policy papers.

Chapter 7
Suggested Readings


Rutgers National Marriage Project, http://marriage.rutgers.edu

Conservative/centrist research and family policy site of Rutgers National Marriage Project, http://marriage.rutgers.edu

The Guttmacher Institute (GI) is the research arm of the Planned Parenthood Federation. The site includes fact sheets on various sexual and reproductive topics, as well as *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, a quarterly periodical that summarizes relevant current research, policy, and law. GI research and publications are cited by conservative as well as liberal policy papers.

Chapter 8
Suggested Readings

Suggested Readings and Websites


Malakh-Pines, Avi. 2005. *Falling in Love: Why We Choose the Lovers We Choose.* New York: Routledge. Textbook on the course of romantic love as a process. Covers various topics in this chapter, such as proximity, “the hidden matchmaker,” and mutual need satisfaction.


**Suggested Readings and Websites**

**Chapter 9**

**Suggested Readings and Websites**

Suggested Readings and Websites


Carnoy, Martin, and David Carnoy. 1995. *Fathers of a Certain Age: The Joys and Problems of Middle-Aged Fatherhood*. Minneapolis: Fairview. A father-and-son team write a book about late fathers (those who have a child in their forties or fifties). Based on interviews with “dozens” of fathers (though not a formal social science study), the book was inspired by Martin’s fatherhood in his second marriage, observed by David, his son from his first marriage.


Hertz, Rosanna. 2006. *Single by Chance, Mothers by Choice: How Women Are Choosing Parenthood without Marriage and Creating the New American Family*. New York: Oxford University Press. A study based on interviews with sixty-five single mothers who were over twenty when they had their first child and were economically self-sufficient. They took various routes to motherhood: accidental pregnancy, artificial insemination by known or unknown donors, or adoption.


Nelson, Margaret K. 2005. *The Social Economy of Single Motherhood: Raising Children in Rural America*. New York: Routledge. Although the mothers in this study live in rural Vermont, the family experiences they describe seem more universal, as they manage relationships with their parents, their children, their children’s fathers, and the new men in their lives.


Child Welfare League of America

www.cwla.org

“The oldest and largest national nonprofit organization developing and promoting policies and programs to protect America’s children and strengthen America’s families.” A good source of information on adoption.

Guttmacher Institute

www.guttmacher.org

The research arm of the Planned Parenthood Foundation addresses reproductive as well as sexual issues. Its quarterly publication *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, available on the website, not only presents Guttmacher Institute research, but also contains short articles reporting other research on the field. The website also provides information on types of contraception and on abortion.

Rescue: The National Infertility Association

http://www.resolve.org

A nonprofit organization dedicated to providing “timely, compassionate support and information to people who are experiencing infertility and to increase awareness of infertility issues through public education and advocacy.”

Human Rights Campaign

www.hrc.org/family

This gay/lesbian/bisexual advocacy organization has an extensive web section on “family,” including detailed advice on reproduction and adoption.

Chapter 11

Suggested Readings and Websites

Brooks, Robert, and Sam Goldstein. 2001. *Raising Resilient Children: Fostering Strength, Hope, and Optimism in Your Child*. New York: Contemporary. Written for parents, this book is encouraging and informative, with topics such as how to change the negative ways you might speak to your child and loving and disciplining your children in ways that help them feel appreciated.


Cox, John Adam. 2006. *Boys of Few Words: Raising Our Sons to Communicate and Connect*. New York: Guilford Press. From the perspective that points to parents’ differential socialization of children, according to their gender, this book focuses on allowing—indeed, encouraging—boys to share their feelings.


Kozol, Jonathan. 2000. *Ordinary Resurrections: Children in the Years of Hope*. New York: Crown. Description of children’s everyday lives in poverty; a call to social action that would address this situation, but with focus on individual parents and parent figures whose dedication lessens the negative effects of poverty on children.


Parenting Resources for the Twenty-first Century
www.parentingresources.ncjrs.org

Statistics on Children
www.childstats.gov/

Chapter 13
Suggested Readings


Landry, Bart. 2000. *Black Working Wives: Pioneers of the American Family Revolution.* Berkeley: University of California Press. This award-winning book traces the history of the black two-earner family. Black two-earner families were common before two-earner families were visible among whites—hence the term *pioneers.*


Families and Work Institute/The Fatherhood Project
www.familiesandwork.org

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
www.bls.gov

Part of the U.S. Department of Labor, the BLS maintains statistical data on work and workers that includes much information on the employment and income of men and women in families. In addition to periodic reports, the BLS publishes the *Monthly Labor Review,* which is accessible on the BLS website and often contains articles on families.

Chapter 13
Suggested Readings


Diggs, Anita, and Vera Paster. 1998. *Staying Married: A Guide for African-American Couples.* New York: Kensington Books. Advice for and case studies of couples coping with the typical challenges of marriage, as well as the kinds of pressures that black (and other ethnic minority) couples often deal with in a marriage—for example, the impact of racism on financial prospects or helping spouses deal with frustrations sparked by racism.

Hirsch, Jennifer S. 2003. *A Courtship after Marriage: Sexuality and Love in Mexican Transnational Families.* Berkeley: University of California Press. Qualitative research, presented in an easy-to-read way, that examines the changing Mexican American family as immigrant couples assume the Western cultural pattern of “companionate” marriage and, as a result, couple communication changes its nature and purpose.


Suggested Readings and Websites


The Gottman Institute
http://www.gottman.com/
The website of psychologist John Gottman’s institute for “researching and restoring relationships” focuses on communication regarding marriages and couples as well as parenting. See also John Gottman’s 1995 book, Why Marriages Succeed or Fail . . . and How You Can Make Yours Last. New York: Simon & Schuster. This book describes the research discussed in this chapter and is written to appeal to the everyday reader.

Smart Marriages
http://www.smartmarriages.com/
A coalition for marriage, family, and couples education designed for teachers, therapists, and the general public. Covers topics from marital communication to therapy to divorce and “how to fight it.”

Chapter 14
Suggested Readings and Websites


Loseke, Donileen R., Richard J. Gelles, and Mary M. Cavanaugh, eds. 2005. Current Controversies on Family Violence, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. Various family violence topics are presented in a debate format. Well-known experts and researchers are the authors of these paired articles. The articles by Murray Straus and by Donileen Loseke and Demiic Kurr on symmetry or asymmetry of male/female intimate partner violence are especially important.


Tichenor, Veronica Jarvis. 2005. Earning More and Getting Less: Why Successful Wives Can’t Buy Equality. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. A study of twenty-two couples in which the woman is the higher earner and eight couples in which the husband earns more. By and large, men are still advantaged in terms of household work, control over money, and general decision making even when they earn less than their partners.

The details and examples are interesting.

Chapter 15
Suggested Readings


Boss, Pauline, and Carol Mulligan (eds.). 2003. Family Stress: Classic and Contemporary Readings. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. An anthropology, or “reader,” that includes twenty-three major articles—both classic and current—from the family stress and adaptation literature. This collection was designed to go with Boss’s textbook, described above. However, put together by recognized experts in the field, the anthology is a valuable resource on its own.

Doka, Kenneth J. (ed.). 2002. Disenfranchised Grief: New Directions, Challenges, and Strategies for Practice. Disenfranchised grief is grief that goes unacknowledged by society—whether it’s over the loss of a cherished pet or the death of an ex-spouse (whom you shouldn’t need to grieve because you’re divorced, right?). This collection of readings is highly recommended by others who’ve experienced disenfranchised grief.

Family Relations. 2007. Issue 56, number 2. Entire issue dedicated to ambiguous loss, with a prominent researcher in this area, Pauline Boss, as editor.


Journal of Health and Social Behavior. Academic journal that reports many studies of relationships among life events, stress, social supports, and other coping mechanisms, and physical and mental health.


Holmes-Rahe Social Readjustment Ratings Scale
Alternatively, search for “Holmes-Rahe Scale.”

Scale designed to measure an individual’s stress level but also applicable to family stress and crisis. You can use this scale to measure your personal or family stress level. This site,
maintained by the College of Human Ecology at the University of Minnesota, also has several articles by Minnesota professors on family stress.

Chapter 16
Suggested Readings and Websites


Harvey, John H., and Mark A. Fine. 2004. *Children of Divorce: Stories of Loss and Growth.* Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum. College students’ voices are the substance of this book. Students’ commentaries were written in Professor Harvey’s classes on “Close Relationships” and “Loss and Trauma.” The book also contains a good overview of important theory and research on outcomes of divorce, including the Wallerstein/Hetherington “debate” on outcomes of divorce.

Hetherington, E. Mark, and John Kelly. 2002. *Better or for Worse: Divorce Reconsidered.* New York: Norton. One of the foremost researchers on divorce sums up several decades of research and presents us with a relatively optimistic view of the outcomes of divorce.

Lawson, Erma Jean, and Aaron Thompson. 1999. *Black Men and Divorce.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. This sociological treatment of marriage and divorce among black men challenges stereotypes of black men from a cultural variant perspective. This book assumes a special importance, as the major studies of divorce by Wallerstein, Hetherington, and Ahrons are all based on middle-class whites.


Chapter 17
Suggested Readings and Websites


Deal, Ron L. 2002. *The Smart Stepfamily.* Minneapolis: Bethany House. Deal is a licensed marriage and family therapist as well as a family life minister for the Church of Christ. His advice is based on family psychology, and the book has some, although not pronounced, (Christian) spiritual flavor.


Stepfamily Association of America
www.saafamily.org

Website produced by recognized experts in the field, offering research findings, advice, and chatrooms for stepfamily members.

The Stepfamily Foundation
www.stepfamily.org

Another website overseen by recognized experts in the field, offering research findings, advice, and helpful e-booklets for sale. Examples of the latter are “Your Stepchildren Are Visiting: Plan H, Manage It” and “The ‘Demons’ of Stepfamily Life and the Strategies to Conquer Them.” This chapter’s “As We Make Choices: Some Stepparenting Tips” is adapted from this website.

Chapter 18
Suggested Readings and Websites


Olson, Laura Katz. 2001. *Age Through Ethnic Lenses: Caring for the Elderly in a Multicultural Society.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. A collection of readings on this topic that covers many sorts of diversity, such as racial/ethnic minorities; some ethnic groups of European origin; socioreligious groups, such as Mormons, the Amish, and Arab Americans; and diversity related to sexual orientation and to region (rural elderly).


Suggested Readings and Websites
Suggested Readings and Websites

About.com: Senior Living
http://seniorliving.about.com
Website with a wide range of information for and about seniors—including health, financial, and marriage/divorce/remarriage issues.

Administration on Aging
www.aoa.gov
U.S. government agency with information about kinds of care for the elderly, as well as other information.

Generations United
www.gu.org
Resources for intergenerational caregivers and care receivers.

www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10024.html
Government publication available online that explains everything you may have wanted to know but were reluctant to ask about the U.S. Social Security system, including how and where to apply for benefits.