SUGGESTED READINGS FOR LAMANNA/RIEDMANN 9TH WEBSITE

Chapter 1


Knapp, Caroline. 1998. *Pack of Two: The Intricate Bond of People and Dogs.* New York: Delta. Some pet owners consider them family members. This is a personal account, but it explores sociohistorical change that has led to pets fulfilling some quasi-familial functions for their owners.


Weston, Kath. 1997. *Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays, Kinship,* rev. ed. New York: Columbia University Press. The premise of this work is that we create our own families; families are those persons whom we actively choose to include as members. This theme is applied to lesbians and gay men as they create intentional families.

**Chapter 2**

Altman, Irwin, and Joseph Ginat. 1996. *Polygamous Families in Contemporary Society.* New York: Cambridge University Press. While the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon) does not permit polygamy, some dissidents do maintain polygamous families. Hidden for the most part, these family arrangements are of considerable sociological interest.


of black families. While this book is not recent, its comprehensive coverage of social class variation in black families makes it worth reading.


construction of family life. Some families must attempt to maintain contact and exercise parental influence while a family member is incarcerated.


Renteln, Alison Dundes. 2004. The Cultural Defense. New York: Oxford. Some behavior that is acceptable in some other societies—immigrants’ cultures of origin, for example, or regional cultures within the United States—are defined as crimes in the American Legal system. To what extent should “culture” be a defense to criminal charges? Among the areas of social life treated by this book are marriage, children, and domestic violence.


Staples, Robert, ed. The Black Family: Essays and Studies, 6th ed. Belmont CA:
Wadsworth. A collection of readings put together by a leading authority on African American families.


Chapter 3

science.

Aldous, Joan. 1996. *Family Careers: Rethinking the Developmental Perspective.*


Respected textbook in sociological methods. Recommended for those who would like additional information or clarification.


Daly, Kerry J. 1996. *Families and Time: Keeping Pace in a Hurried Culture.* Thousand Oaks CA: Sage. Time and its cultural structuring can be thought of as part of the ecology of families. It is also rich in the symbolism and meaning that is highlighted in
the symbolic interaction perspective on the family.


Fox, Greer Litton, and Michael L. Benson, editors. 2000. Families, Crime, and Justice, v. 2. New York: Elsevier Science. In some ecological settings crime is a significant part of the social context of family life. This edited volume explores connections between criminal victimization, the criminal justice system, and family life.


Price, Sharon J., Patrick C. McKenry, and Megan J. Murphy, editors. 2000. Families
Across Time: A Life Course Perspective: Readings. Los Angeles: Roxbury. Presents a life course perspective, which has much in common with the family development perspective.

Spiro, Melford E. 1965 [1958]. Children of the Kibbutz: A Study of Child Training and Personality. Cambridge MA: Harvard. This research on the Israeli kibbutz is theoretically important because it shows us a family system which carries out family functions in a different structural arrangement. Interesting reading.

Stearns, Peter N. 2003. Anxious Parents: A History of Modern Childrearing in America. New York: NYU Press. Presents an argument that today’s parents are characterized by their overly anxious involvement with children, when we live in an era of less risk to children.

Sternberg, Robert J. 1998. Love Is A Story: A New Theory of Relationships. New York: Oxford. Sternberg, well-known for his work on the psychology of love, turns in this book from conventional research and theory to look at relationships as stories. This fits the interactionist perspective because it is about how spouses and other lovers give meaning to their relationships as they interact.


Chapter 4


book is important despite its age. It offers a complex and convincing theory of how lives that start from the same point may turn out differently because options may or may not exist to realize the original goals.

_____. 1993. No Man’s Land: Men’s Changing Commitments to Family and Work. New York: Harpers. Men who aim for one sort of life also may end up with something quite different. These two books by Gerson explore life course trajectories.


Maccoby, Eleanor. 1998. The Two Sexes: Growing Up Apart; Coming Together. Psychologist and longtime scholar of gender, Maccoby examines gender patterns, including the relations of males and females to each other from childhood onward. She examines biological, socialization, and cognitive influences on the development of gender.


Sullivan, Maureen. 2004. The Family of Woman: Lesbian Mothers, Their Children, and
The Undoing of Gender. Berkeley: University of California Press. Interviews with and observation of thirty-four families headed by lesbian mothers who conceived children through donor insemination. Develops the implications of new family forms for the traditional gender order.

Tavris, Carol. 1993. The Mismeasure of Women: Why Women Are Not the Better Sex, The Inferior Sex, or The Opposite Sex. New York: Simon and Schuster. A review of research that takes the position that research does not support many of the alleged sex differences between males and females in abilities and traits.


Chapter 6

Blumstein, Philip, and Pepper Schwartz. 1983. American Couples: Money, Work, and Sex. New York: Morrow. This report of research on four types of couples—married couples and heterosexual, gay male, and lesbian cohabiting couples—is still worth reading despite its age because it remains the most comprehensive study of its kind.


Zahn-Waxler, Carolyn, ed. 1995. *Sexual Orientation and Human Development.* Special issue of *Developmental Psychology* (v. 31). Academic journal articles including biosocial and social construction perspectives on homosexuality. Articles on the pressures and problems of gay youth and gay and lesbian relationships and parenthood, as well as some integrative essays. Useful for gay males and lesbians contemplating parenthood and for parents of gay male or lesbian youth.

**Chapter 10**

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), it was inspired by Martin’s fatherhood in his second marriage, observed by David, his son from his first marriage.


Simon, Rita J., and Howard Altstein. 2000. *Adoption Across Borders: Serving the Children in Transracial and Intercountry Adoptions*. Lanham MC: Rowman and Littlefield. Summary book, capping the authors thirty years of research on transracial and international adoption. Examines the findings of their studies of white, African American, Hispanic, Korean, and Jewish families, with comparisons to other scholars’ research on transracial and international adoption.


aspects and sectors of nonmarital childbearing.


**Chapter 12**


Beach, Betty. 1989. *Integrating Work and Family Life: The Home-Working Family*. Albany: SUNY Press. You may be interested in reading about this alternative if you contemplate freelance work, a home business, or a computer link to a workplace.


Eisenberg, Susan. 1998. *We’ll Call You If We Need You: Experiences of Women Working*
Construction. New York: ILR Press. Interviews with women in construction, who tell their stories in their own words.


Potuchek, Jean L. 1997. Who Supports the Family? Gender and Breadwinning in Dual-Earner Marriages. Stanford CA: Stanford University Press. A study of two-earner married couples that differentiates among them according to the degree that the wife is considered a breadwinner.

Romero, Mary. 1992. Made in the U.S.A. New York: Routledge. A well-written, provocative, and moving qualitative study of how race/ethnicity and social class impact the kind of paid work that women do. Romero questions whether women in divergent social classes are bonded by sisterhood or oppression.

Chapter 14

Hill, Shirley A. 2005, editor. Black Intimacies: A Gender Perspective on Families and Relationships. Walnut Creek CA: Altamira. This reader on black couple relationships includes material on intimate partner power from a gender perspective.


*Child Abuse and Neglect*. A monthly international journal of child maltreatment around the globe.

*Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*. Journal dedicated to definitions of and research on elder maltreatment.

**Chapter 16**


Vistas in Family Living. Newbury Park CA: Sage. Articles examine the diverse settings of nonresidential parenting, but devote considerable attention to postdivorce families.


Myers, Michael F. 1989. Men and Divorce. New York: Guilford. Written by a therapist, this book is based on the premise that men have difficulty coping with divorce and that many divorcing men fall between the cracks, receiving insufficient helpful attention. Topics include: the newly separated man; abandoned husbands; divorced fathers; gay divorcing men, and common themes in treatment (intimacy, control, sexuality, grief, sexism, and loneliness.

Paul, Pamela. 2002. The Starter Marriage and The Future of Matrimony. American Demographics editor explores brief marriages through interviews with more than sixty individuals, married five years or less with no children.

of divorce and adjustment patterns of children.