Psychology of Human Relations – Chapter 10 Concept Notes Outline

1. Briefly describe the major predictors of marital success.

Marital satisfaction of the partner’s parents, marrying older, longer courtship, low perfectionism and insecurity, good premarital communication, and low stress are all predictors of marital success

1. Discuss one of the family life cycle stages, including the key developmental tasks and changes in family status.

Launching children and moving on. Key task: accepting a multitude of exits from and entries into the family system. Add’l changes: renegotiation of marital system as dyad, development of adult-to-adult relationships between grown children and parents, realignment of relationships to include in-laws and grandchildren, dealing with disabilities and death of parents (grandparents)

1. How can work and career issues affect marital adjustment?

Can affect both positively (social contacts, esteem, etc.) and negatively (stress seepage, childcare, etc)

1. How do things like divorce and remarriage affect children?

Potential for mental and developmental issues for children (disputed), other research suggests it is a short term stress that most recover from within a few years. Remarriage also appears to have an overall small effect on children’s well being

1. What are some of the major reasons why people return to abusive relationships?

To give the abuser one more chance, lack of financial resources, emotional dependency, and lack of housing.