I. Marriage

A. Is marriage a failing institution in America?

B. Marriage is still popular!

1. %, trend, remarriage

2. comparison

a. historical: 1950s

b. Other Industrial Societies:

i. US highest

ii. others declining

C. Changes

1. Age: marriage

a. 1950s

b. present

c. reasons

2. Marriage and happiness

a. 1950s

b. present

D. Are married people happy?

1. self-reporting: “very happy”

2. Objective correlates.

a. health

b. life expectancy

3. Reasons

a. income

b. behavior

c. health care

d. support

4. exceptions

a. married women and mental illness

b. married women w/ children

E. Despite this lots of divorce

1. Rate

2. Comparison

a. 50s

b. other countries

II. Marriage as a complex institution

A. Romantic love and expectation

1. Deeply personal relationship

a. emotionally fulfilling

b. sexually fulfilling

2. Conventional wisdom: “happy ever after”

B. Economic relationship

1. expectations

2. "American dream"

C. Power relationship

1. patriarchy: doctrine of coverture

2. surveys

D. Home as workplace

E. Child bearing and child rearing

F. Regulates sexual behavior

III. Enduring Marriage

A. Self-reporting = Erikson's intimacy model

B. Sociological studies = utilitarian

IV. Stress and marriage

A. Economics

1. money, job, hours

2. insecurity

3. American Dream and downward mobility

B. Children

1. Whether? When? Rais them? Expense

2. happiness

C. Failed Expectations

1. personal happiness

2. romantic love/sex

D. Power

1. occupation 2. education

3. stay at home mom 4. violence

E. Housework

V. Enduring marriages

A. Utilitarian

1. practically beneficial

2. capacity: adjust expectations

B. Economically stable

C. Religious sanction

D. Educational attainment

VI. Divorce

A. Rate and pattern in US

B. Comparative

C. Divorce

1. age

2. class

3. race

4. education?

D. Life after divorce

1. divorce: marital misconduct vs no fault

2. woman

a. downward mobility

b. children/ child support

c. emotionally stressful

3. man

a. upward mobility

b. emotionally stressful

4. children

a. lose contact with one parent

b. emotional difficulties: school

c. marry young

VII. Family violence: intimate partner abuse

A. Women

1. types

a. psychological

b. physical

2. extent (physical)

i. murder

ii. injured

B. Men: Battered Husband

1. Are There battered husbands?

2. injury: 84% of those treated in hospitals

3. murder: 10x as many women are murdered

4. violence against men

a. retaliatory

b. preemptive

C. Social factors and intimate partner abuse

1. patriarchal household

a. insubordination

b. success

2. financial stress: job loss, debt

3. jealousy

4. pregnancy

5. intergenerational transmission

6. isolation from community

a. withdrawal from family and friends

b. relocations

7. alcohol and drug abuse, BUT

D. What needs to be done?

1. less discretion for police

2.. counseling

3. safe haven

4. mandatory sentencing

E. Why don’t some women leave?

1. children

2. he really loves me

3. no place to go, no resources

4. violence gets worse

VIII. Family and violence: child abuse

A. Family is most dangerous place for children

1. Killed

2. Permanently disabled

3. abused and neglected

a. physical abuse: starved, beaten, burned, cut, tied, chained, sexually molested

b. sexual abuse: 100,000

c. psychological abuse: millions

d. neglect: inadequate care, supervision.

4. self-reporting survey

a. 97% admit hitting a child 3 years of age or younger

b. 20% spank or slap infants as young as 6 months

B. Causes of child abuse

1. 30% of abusers were abused children

2. especially demanding parents

a. poor performance equals

b. being bad

3. economic strain

a. especially fathers loss of status within the home

b. lower class

4. social isolation

5. alcohol

C. Other Consequences

1. learning disabilities

2. juvenile delinquency

3. early marriage

4. run away: approx 1 million

5. foster care

D. Who speaks for the children?