# Posters for "Timeline of Family Studies" activities

To become familiar with the material before class, students are welcome to access this information online at:

www.marybold.com/timeline.htm

# Before 1850

Human behavior explained by traditional beliefs, folklore, religion, superstition

1850 **-** 1900

## Positivism the dominant philosophy of science

# First psychology "texthook"

### Anthropologists conducting comparative studies and taking a moralizing stance © 2000 by Mary Bold / www

1880 **-** 1900

# Industrial revolution in the U.S.

# Time of U. S. industrialization

urbanization

#### Concerns:

- social reform
- \* the endangered family
- \* industrialization

### Richards's Oekology: "the science of our normal lives" AKA home economics

# Birth of family science



tied to sociology + home economics

# Federal stats on marriage and divorce began

1900 **-** 1920

# First wave: behaviorism

# First wave: feminism

## Right to vote extended to women (1920)

## Social scientists striving for valuefree methodology in research

#### World War I

1920 -

1940

### "Best interest of the child" considered in custody cases

### Family defined as "a unity of interacting personalities"

## NCFR founded for the interdisciplinary field of family studies

# Family study recognized as a growing field

# Freudian theory spreading

## Greatest growth of symbolic interactionism as a theory

(1930s & 1940s)

#### Concerns:

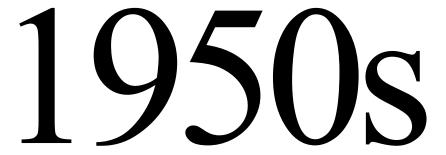
- \* divorce
- \* extramarital sex
- women's roles
- \* the personal domain

Social scientists using both quantitative and qualitative research methods, including polling and surveys



#### World War II

#### 41% of families look like the Cleavers (in terms of employment and marriage)



#### Korean War

#### Concerns:

- \*\* security
- returning to "normal"
  gender roles

# Birth rate up +

### marrying age down

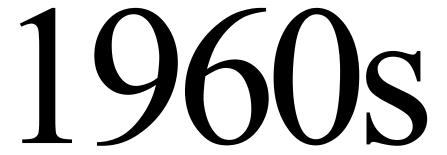
# Americans moving to the suburbs

# Nuclear family as an ideal form

## Academics begin calling themselves "social scientists"

#### Groundbreaking work: effect of nonrepresentation of ethnicity on children (Kenneth B. Clark)

#### Symbolic interactionism textbook emphasizes family roles and stress



#### Major social upheaval including protests on college campuses

#### 43% of families look like the Cleavers (in terms of employment and marriage)

Late in decade: home economics departments began to be redefined and renamed as 'human ecology' schools

## Ethologists tie animal instinct to human development

# Research on parenting styles

# Growth of graduate education

#### Theories of psychosocial development, cognitive development, behaviorism based on operant conditioning



## Mid-decade: women into the paid work force in large numbers

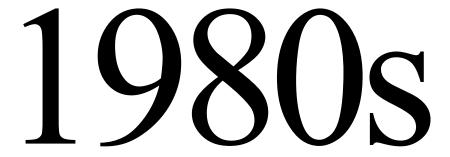
# Second wave: feminism

### Decade of greatest change in women's roles and divorce rate

#### Sociobiology

### Globalization of scholarship

#### Number of grad students trained in a theory determines the subsequent popularity of that theory (Mullins)



# Postpositivism becoming dominant view

#### Multicultural, Black, and feminist studies emerging in the family field

# (treatest development of human ecology

theory



## Stepfamily predicted as the next traditional American family

#### New family form emerging: intentional childbearing/adoption by gay and lesbian couples

#### Among family scientists, no consensus about what constitutes a family

# Fathering as an area of research

## Group Socialization Theory