



FAMILY

- Is the basic social institution and the primary group in society
- Accdg to Murdok, **family is a social group characterized by common residence, economic cooperation and reproduction.**
- Accdg to Burges and Locke, **family is a group of persons united by ties of marriage, blood or adoption, constituting a single household, interacting and communicating with each other in their respective social roles of husband and wife, mother and father, son and daughter, brother and sister, and creating and maintaining a common culture.**



- Accdg and to *Murray and Zentner (1997)* is a **social system and primary reference group made up of two or more persons living together who are related by blood, marriage or adoption or who are living together by arrangement over a period of time.**



- F father
- A and
- M mother
- I implying the presence of children where
- L love must prevail between me and
- Y you



CHARACTERISTICS OF A FAMILY

- The family as a social group is universal and is significant element in man's social life.
- It is the first social group to which the individual is exposed.
- Family contact and relationships are repetitive and continuous.
- The family is very close and intimate group.
- It is setting of the most intense emotional experiences during the life time of the individual.
- The family affects the individual social values, disposition and outlook in life.
- The family has the unique position of serving as a link between the individual and the larger society.
- The family is also unique in providing continuity of social life.



Functions of Family

- Regulates sexual behavior and reproduction
- Biological maintenance function
- Socialization function
- Provide legitimate children with a status
- Social control function
- Economic function
- Educational, recreational, religious and political functions



Classification of Family Structure

▪ **Based on Descent**

- **Patrilineal-** affiliates a person with a group of relatives through his or her father.
- **Matrilineal-** affiliates a person with a group of relatives through his or her mother.
- **Bilateral-** affiliates a person with a group of relatives related through both his or her parents.



Classification of Family Structure

▪ **Based on Authority**

- **Patriarchial-** authority is vested on the oldest male in the family, often the father.
- **Matriarchial-** authority is vested in the mother or mother's kin.
- **Matricentric-** prolonged absence of the father gives the mother a dominant position in the family, although the father may also share with the mother in decision making.



Classification of Family Structure

- **Based on Internal Organization and Membership**
 - **Nuclear Family.** Also known as **primary or elementary family.**
 - **Extended Family.** Extensions maybe through the parent-child relationship or husband-wife relationship, as in polygamous marriage.



Classification of Family Structure

- Based on Place of Residence
 - **Patrilocal-** requires the newly wed to reside near the groom's parents.
 - **Matrilocal-** near the bride's parents.
 - **Bilocal-** provides the couple the choice to reside on either parents.
 - **Neolocal-** permits the couple to reside independently of their parents.
 - **Avunculocal-** prescribes the newly wed couple to reside with or near the maternal uncle of the groom.



Family systems theory

- The family is viewed as a system where the family members are **interdependent** and are working towards specific **purposes** and **goals**.
- Families are viewed as **open systems** continually interacting with **other systems** in the community.



- Families consist of special functional subsystems:
 - marital subsystem (parents)**
 - sibling subsystem (children)**
 - individual parent –child system subsystem**
- Boundaries regulate the input and output to and from other systems that interact with the family system.



- Boundaries also protect the family from demands and influences of other systems.

View of a person:

- *The person is a **member** of the family system and is also considered a **subsystem**.



Developmental stage theory

- Families are viewed as ever changing and growing; and each family is expected to accomplish tasks at every stage of development. Accomplishment of these tasks is a prerequisite for success in achieving the tasks of the next stage of development.
- Major task of family: create an environment where each member could master developmental tasks.



View of the person:

* The person is a member of the family where each new member adds to the complexity of the interaction within the family.



- Accordingly, the main functions of a family include the following:
 1. to develop a sense of family purpose and affiliation
 2. to add and socialize new members
 3. to provide and distribute care and services to members
 4. to organize members and resources in meeting family goals.



View of person:

*The person is seen as fulfilling roles within the social system.



Interactional theory

- The family is defined as a unity of interacting personalities with assigned position and roles, expectations and norms of behavior.
- View of person:
 - * The person is capable of interacting with other family members and is seen as fulfilling roles within the family.



Role theory

- Family life is structured according to the roles that are assumed by the person in interaction with others. Roles are learned through socialization and there is high mutual dependence on division of labor within the family.
- Each family member has specialized roles.



View of person:

- The person is seen in terms of roles which are specialized or shared and depend on age, sex, social norms and status.
- A person experiences role reciprocity or strain.
- Role reciprocity or mutual exchange of responsibilities ensures that personal and family needs are almost always met and that everyone in the family would have a potential for positive growth.



- Role strain occurs when individual have difficulty meeting others' or their own expectations and obligations.
- Role strain may be manifested in two ways:
 - *Role conflict- unclear, incomplete, contradictory elements in role which makes the performance of one's role difficult.



- Role overload- consider the impact of the distribution of power among the members of the family. Usually, the person with less power assumes more unwanted burdens while the person with more power has less dependency needs.



Crisis theory

- The family is made up of members when individually experience a state of disequilibrium from situational or societal sources of stress called **stress**.
- Forms of crisis:
 - Developmental Crisis**- transitional periods in personality development characterized by disturbances in cognitive and affective functioning.



- **Situational crisis-** sudden, unexpected threats to, or loss of basic resources or life goals.
- Basic assumptions:
 - * All family members are affected by the inability of one member to cope.
 - * The family assists members with coping problems by adopting coping mechanisms as a group.



- View of person:
 - *Crisis in a person may take the form of illness which may pose a problem to the entire family.



Stages of Family

STAGES	TASKS
1. Beginning Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Establishing a mutually satisfying marriage*Planning to have or not to have children
2. Child-bearing family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Having and adjusting to infant*Supporting the needs of all three members*Renegotiating marital relationships



Stages of Family

STAGES	TASKS
3. Family with a pre-school children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*adjusting to cost of family life*adapting to the needs of pre-school children*Coping with parental loss of energy and privacy
4. Family with school age children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Adjusting to the activity of the growing children*Promoting joint decisions between children and parents*Encouraging and supporting children's educational achievements



Stages of Family

STAGES	TASKS
5. Family with teenagers and young adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Maintaining open communication among members*Supporting ethical and moral values within the family*Balancing freedom with responsibility of teenagers*Releasing young adults with appropriate rituals and assistance
6. Post-parental family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Strengthening marital relationships*Maintaining supportive home base*Preparing for retirement



Stages of Family

STAGES	TASKS
7. Aging Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">*Maintaining ties with younger and older generations*Adjusting for retirement*Adjusting to loss of spouse*Closing family house



Family Influences on Health Care

- Families help determine the following:
 - Whether or not to seek treatment.
 - What type of treatment is appropriate.
 - Who should provide the treatment or care.
 - Where the treatment or care should be provided.



Family Influences on Health Care

- Families are often the major caregivers for their relatives.
- Extended families and communities have traditionally acted as a buffer against excessive stress and illness.



Family Influences on Health Care

- Lack of social support from family or significant others results in psychological and spiritual isolation, which may negatively impact a person's physiological state.