Presentation topic: Family

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Family

In terms of sociology:
A primary social group consisting of parents and their offspring, the principal function of which is provision for its members.

Reference:
    http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Family+(sociology)

Types of family

Nuclear family:
  o A mother, father & one or more children

Single parent family:
  o Only one parent & one or more children

Blended family:
  o 2 parents, one or both of whom have children from a
    previous relationship

Extended family:
  o All the immediate relatives of a family-
    grandparents, aunts, cousins, etc

The Family System

o A set of interrelated parts or subsystems
o Each part serves function for whole; whole supports each part
o Strives toward equilibrium
o Resists sudden change
o Has goals
o Must be treated as a whole

Types of family systems

Joint family system:

o All members of a clan live together

o The income of the individual is not treated as his personal property

Separate family system:

o Every-one is responsible for his own immediate dependants.

o His income belongs only to him

Reference:
        http://www.al-islam.org/islamic-family-life-rizvi/2.htm

Joint family system

Advantages	Disadvantages
- Is a very good ex-ample of humanism, benevolence, mutual trust and co-operation	- This system kills the initiative to work harder
- 'Togetherness' is expected to create happiness and peace of mind	- It sometimes becomes the chief cause of domestic strife

Reference:
http://www.al-islam.org/islamic-family-life-rizvi/2.htm

Separate family system

Advantages	Disadvantages
▪ There are as such no advantages of separate family system	▪ To remain aloof from one's own relatives is likely to kill the finest of human instincts ▪ This system may breed selfishness and meanness

Reference:
http://www.al-islam.org/islamic-family-life-rizvi/2.htm

The wise family system of Islamic society

Islam removed the basic cause of lethargy by decreeing that everyone is responsible for the expenses of his own dependants. Thus, the evil effects of the Joint Family System were avoided; at the same time, everyone was emphatically enjoined to "keep the bond of relationship intact." This prevented the tendency to selfishness and aloofness from one's own flesh and blood.

Reference:
    http://www.al-islam.org/islamic-family-life-rizvi/2.htm

Transactional pattern in family

Family's characteristic pattern of interacting includes:

- Habits
- Rules of communication
- Nature of relationships
- Definition of reality
- Feedback

Family interaction patterns

Closed:
- Rigid
- Cohesive
- Stresses loyalty, duty

Open:
- Flexible
- Democratic
- Stresses disclosure of feelings

Random:
- Chaotic
- Individualist
- Avoids real interaction
- Few or no rules

Difference between healthy & unhealthy families

Concepts related to family structure	Healthy families	Unhealthy families
Boundaries	Freedom of speech	Rigid expectations
Power and Intimacy	Equal power & consideration for feelings	Unequal power & no consideration for feelings
Freedom of Expression	Accepted differences	Avoid adversity
Warmth, Joy and Humor	Allow members to feel at ease	Do not seek to comfort others
Value Systems	Individuals find higher meaning in life	No acceptance of differing views

Reference:
http://www.albany.edu/aging/FamilySystemsTheory.pdf

Global functions Of families

➤Economic support - food, clothing, shelter, etc...

➤Emotional support -
  intimacy, companionship, belonging, etc...

➤Socialization of child - raising
  children, parenting

Reference:
    http://freebooks.uvu.edu/SOC1010/index.php/ch13-family.html

Global functions Of families

➢Control of sexuality – defines and controls when and with whom (IE: marriage)

➢Control of reproduction – the types of relationships where children should/could be born

➢Ascribed status – contexts of race, socioeconomic status, religion, kinship, etc

Reference:
    http://freebooks.uvu.edu/SOC1010/index.php/ch13-family.html

Types of family conflicts

Situational conflicts:

➤Everyday events, minor, easily resolved

Personality conflicts:

➤Most difficult to resolve

Structural conflicts:
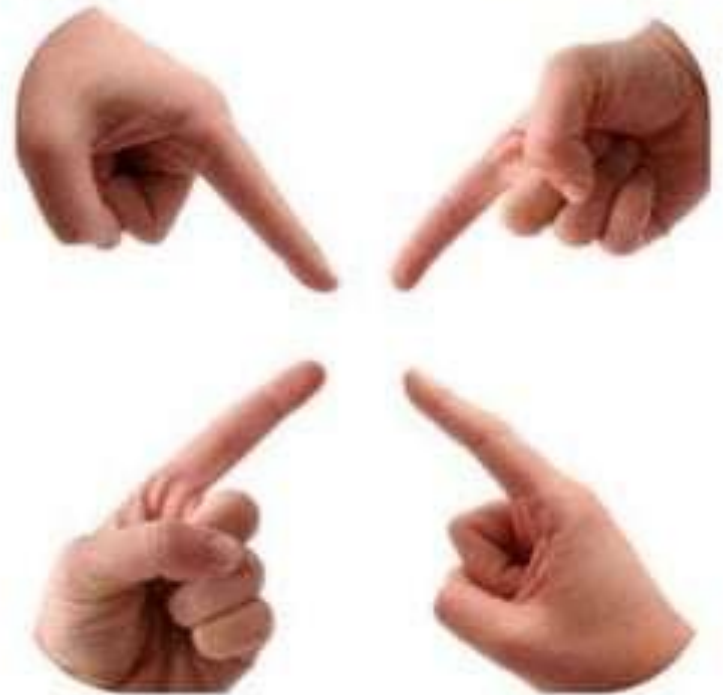
➤ Major decisions, roles, power

Stages in conflict management

1. Arguing
2. Fighting fairly
3. Bargaining
4. Mediation
5. If above steps fail, separation

Functions of family conflicts

❑Maintains boundaries

❑Helps recognize the other

❑Improves communication

Recommendation for improving family system

Utilizes the entire family in understanding and treating problematic feelings and behavior