

***Understanding Human Sexuality 15th edition Hyde
Test Bank***

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CORRECT ANSWERS ARE LOCATED IN THE 2ND HALF OF THIS DOC.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1) *Sociobiology* is defined as the application of _____ biology to understanding the social behavior of animals, including humans.
 - A) sociocultural
 - B) normative
 - C) evolutionary
 - D) molecular

- 2) Which of the following is true of sociobiology?
 - A) It is based on the assumption that human sexuality is the result of culture alone.
 - B) It tries to explain why certain patterns of sexual behavior have evolved in humans.
 - C) It assumes that people are entirely free and responsible for developing their own potential.
 - D) It creates a framework within which the economic stratification of society can be studied.

- 3) _____ is a theory that all living things have acquired their present forms through gradual changes in their genetic endowment over successive generations.
 - A) Existentialism
 - B) Positivism
 - C) Evolution
 - D) Structuralism

- 4) Evolution occurs via _____, the process by which the animals that are best adapted to their environment are more likely to survive, reproduce, and pass on their genes to the next generation.
 - A) existentialism
 - B) cultural relativism
 - C) communal integration
 - D) natural selection

- 5) _____ is a process in nature resulting in greater rates of survival of those plants and animals that are adapted to their environment.
 - A) Existentialism
 - B) Natural selection
 - C) Structural functionalism
 - D) Environmentalism

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- 6) Sociobiologists suggest that the characteristics used to judge a person's attractiveness are indicative of the health and vigor of an individual, which in turn are probably indicators of the person's
- A) social status.
 - B) superego.
 - C) extrinsic values.
 - D) reproductive success.
- 7) What does sociobiology assert about the attachment between an infant and a parent?
- A) It has no significance in contemporary societies.
 - B) It is a biological mechanism that reduces infant vulnerability.
 - C) It applies only to parents belonging to Western cultures.
 - D) It has no impact upon the infant's chances of survival.
- 8) Which of the following is true of the sociobiology concept of parental *investment*?
- A) It is rarely beneficial to infants raised in Western societies.
 - B) It damages an infant's chances of survival in contemporary societies.
 - C) It refers to the number of offspring that parents can produce each year.
 - D) It refers to the behavior and resources invested in offspring to ensure their survival.
- 9) _____ is a specific type of selection identified by Darwin that creates differences between males and females.
- A) Sexual selection
 - B) Individual selection
 - C) Survival selection
 - D) Ecological selection
- 10) Which of the following is a criticism of sociobiology?
- A) It rests on an outmoded model of evolutionary theory.
 - B) It includes the survival of the group in its analysis.
 - C) It fails to value the importance of reproduction in survival.
 - D) It does not consider the mating preferences of females.
- 11) Which of the following does sociobiology ignore?
- A) the survival of a group and a species
 - B) the mating preferences of males
 - C) an individual's struggle for survival
 - D) the mating preferences of females

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- 12) Sociobiology has been criticized because
- A) it ignores the competition among members of one gender for mating access to members of the other gender.
 - B) it assumes that reproduction is the central function of sex.
 - C) it believes that humans are ruled by their unconscious minds.
 - D) it does not study the mating preferences of females.
- 13) According to research analyzing waist-to-hip ratios across a large number of cultures, which of the following is true?
- A) The preference for a .70 hip-to-waist ratio by men is hardwired into their brains by evolution.
 - B) The preference for a .70 hip-to-waist ratio by men has been proven to exist across all cultures.
 - C) The .70 hip-to-waist ratio is most common in societies where women are economically dependent on men.
 - D) The .70 hip-to-waist ratio is most common in societies where women are financially independent.
- 14) _____ is the study of the psychological mechanisms that have been shaped by evolution.
- A) Environmental psychology
 - B) Structural functionalism
 - C) Evolutionary psychology
 - D) Cultural relativism
- 15) Which of the following is true of evolutionary psychology?
- A) It does not recognize that every observable human characteristic has adaptive significance.
 - B) It allows for the fact that some traits displayed by humans may be simply "design flaws."
 - C) It believes that human cognitive structures evolved over the years just as human behavior did.
 - D) It believes that men and women are identical when it comes to their mating preferences.

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- 16) Evolutionary psychology has been criticized because
- A) it does not give weight to the fact that emotional structures have evolved like human behavior.
 - B) it assumes that every characteristic that we observe must have some adaptive significance.
 - C) it allows for the fact that some traits displayed by humans may be simply "design flaws."
 - D) it believes that men and women are identical when it comes to their mating preferences.
- 17) Psychoanalytic theory was proposed by
- A) Sigmund Freud.
 - B) B. F. Skinner.
 - C) Ivan Pavlov.
 - D) Edward Thorndike.
- 18) Freud's term for sex drive or sex energy is
- A) *thanatos*.
 - B) *superego*.
 - C) *id*.
 - D) *libido*.
- 19) Freud's term for the death instinct is
- A) *thanatos*.
 - B) *fatalism*.
 - C) *determinism*.
 - D) *anima*.
- 20) Freud believed that the two major forces motivating human behavior are
- A) libido and *thanatos*.
 - B) id and ego.
 - C) ego and superego.
 - D) the Oedipus complex and Electra complex.
- 21) According to Freud, which component of human personality operates on the pleasure principle?
- A) ego
 - B) id
 - C) superego
 - D) libido

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- 22) Which of the following is true of the id, according to Freud?
- A) It operates on the reality principle.
 - B) It operates on idealism.
 - C) It is present only during adulthood.
 - D) It is a reservoir of psychic energy.
- 23) According to Freud, which component of the human personality operates on the reality principle?
- A) ego
 - B) id
 - C) superego
 - D) *thanatos*
- 24) Which of the following is true of the ego, according to Freud?
- A) It operates on the pleasure principle.
 - B) It tries to keep the id in line.
 - C) It prevents people from being rational.
 - D) It is a reservoir of psychic energy.
- 25) According to Freud, which component of the human personality operates on idealism?
- A) ego
 - B) id
 - C) superego
 - D) *thanatos*
- 26) Which of the following is true of the superego, according to Freud?
- A) It operates on the reality principle.
 - B) It operates on the pleasure principle.
 - C) It is present only during infancy.
 - D) It is the conscience.
- 27) According to Freud, which of the following is true of the three major parts of human personality?
- A) The id operates on idealism.
 - B) The ego is the reservoir of psychic energy.
 - C) The id focuses on rational, realistic interactions.
 - D) The superego persuades the ego to strive for moral goals.

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- 28) Within the Freudian framework, a nun who takes a vow of celibacy and devotes her life to helping the poor is most likely to have a
- A) weak ego.
 - B) strong id.
 - C) weak superego.
 - D) strong superego.
- 29) Within the Freudian framework, a married man who has an extramarital affair even though he believes it is immoral is most likely to have a
- A) strong id.
 - B) strong ego.
 - C) strong superego.
 - D) weak id.
- 30) A woman is on a business trip and meets an old friend she dated in college. She finds that she is still attracted to him, and something inside her tells her, "Go ahead. Invite him to your room and kiss him." However, she is happily married with two young and adorable children. She and her old friend end up chatting for a while and then go their separate ways. According to the Freudian framework, which of the following parts of her personality is most likely to have prevailed in this situation?
- A) id
 - B) *thanatos*
 - C) superego
 - D) libido
- 31) According to Freud, the id, ego, and superego
- A) develop sequentially.
 - B) develop simultaneously.
 - C) are functional from birth.
 - D) are present only in men.
- 32) Which of the following is true of erogenous zones?
- A) They are areas of the body that are completely insensate.
 - B) They are areas of the body that are particularly sensitive to sexual stimulation.
 - C) They are present only in men, not in women.
 - D) They are present only in women, not in men.

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- 33) According to Freud's psychoanalytic theory, the first stage of psychosexual development a child goes through is the _____ stage.
- A) phallic
 - B) anal
 - C) oral
 - D) genital
- 34) According to Freud, during the _____ stage of psychosexual development, a child's interest is focused on elimination.
- A) latent
 - B) phallic
 - C) anal
 - D) oral
- 35) Freud believed that a child passes through a sequence of stages of psychosexual development. The stage in which boys and girls have considerably different experiences is the _____ stage.
- A) oral
 - B) anal
 - C) phallic
 - D) rectal
- 36) The phallic stage
- A) occurs before the oral stage.
 - B) is experienced only by girls.
 - C) is marked by the Oedipus complex.
 - D) is marked by oral fixation.
- 37) According to Freud, which of the following is true of the phallic stage?
- A) It is the stage during which a child is focused on elimination.
 - B) It is the stage during which a boy feels castration anxiety.
 - C) It is the stage during which a girl displays hostility toward her father.
 - D) It is the stage during which a boy displays hostility toward his mother.
- 38) The Oedipus complex
- A) is resolved at the end of the phallic stage.
 - B) occurs before the oral stage.
 - C) is resolved at the end of the oral stage.
 - D) occurs during the oral stage.

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- 39) According to Freud, the _____ complex is the sexual attraction of a little girl for her father.
- A) Oedipus
 - B) Electra
 - C) *thanatos*
 - D) superego
- 40) According to Freud, during the phallic stage of development a girl is likely to experience _____, which is part of the Electra complex.
- A) penis envy
 - B) castration anxiety
 - C) oral fixation
 - D) anal envy
- 41) According to Freud, a boy shifts to identifying with his father, taking on the father's gender role and acquiring the characteristics expected of men by society, during the _____ stage of psychosexual development.
- A) anal
 - B) oral
 - C) rectal
 - D) phallic
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- 42) According to psychoanalytic theory, after the resolution of the Oedipus or Electra complex, children pass into a prolonged stage known as
- A) cadency.
 - B) latency.
 - C) potency.
 - D) the genital stage.
- 43) According to Freud, during the _____, sexual impulses are repressed or are in a quiescent state.
- A) phallic stage
 - B) genital stage
 - C) refractory period
 - D) latency period

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- 44) What does contemporary research say about Freud's theory of latency?
- A) Modern research shows that this period occurs during approximately the second year of life.
 - B) Modern research shows that this period immediately follows the oral stage of psychosexual development.
 - C) Modern research shows that children repress their sexual curiosity during this period.
 - D) Modern research shows that children continue to engage in behavior with sexual components during this period.
- 45) According to Freud, with puberty sexual urges reawaken and a child moves into the _____ stage of psychosexual development.
- A) genital
 - B) oral
 - C) anal
 - D) phallic
- 46) According to Freud's psychoanalytic theory, a person who is addicted to smoking cigarettes is most likely to be fixated at the _____ stage.
- A) phallic
 - B) anal
 - C) oral
 - D) latency
- 47) From a scientific point of view, one of the major problems with psychoanalytic theory is that
- A) it does not take the sexuality of children into account.
 - B) most of its concepts cannot be evaluated scientifically to see if they are accurate.
 - C) it assumes that men are inferior to women, since they lack wombs.
 - D) it is applicable only to women and not to men.
- 48) Freud was criticized by feminists because
- A) he believed that girls were fixated on their mothers during the phallic stage.
 - B) he assumed women to be biologically inferior to men.
 - C) he studied the sexual desires of women and not men.
 - D) he believed that boys were hostile toward their mothers during the phallic stage.

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- 49) The concept _____ was coined by Karen Horney to describe men's wishful feelings about women's reproductive capacity.
- A) castration anxiety
 - B) penis envy
 - C) labian anxiety
 - D) womb envy
- 50) One of Freud's major contributions to the study of human behavior was
- A) his discovery that boys experienced womb envy during the phallic stage.
 - B) his teaching that libido is an important part of personality.
 - C) his discovery that children displayed no sexual curiosity until puberty.
 - D) his assertion that the environment influenced people more than biological determinants.
- 51) How are psychoanalytic and sociobiological theories similar?
- A) They are both based on the notion that much of human sexual behavior is biologically controlled.
 - B) They both place excessive emphasis on the role that learning plays in shaping behavior.
 - C) They both focus on the sexuality and survival of the group, instead of that of the individual.
 - D) They both ignore the role that sex plays in the development of personality.
- 52) _____ is a learning process in which a previously neutral stimulus is repeatedly paired with an unconditioned stimulus that reflexively elicits an unconditioned response. Eventually, the conditioned stimulus itself will evoke the response.
- A) Classical conditioning
 - B) Operant conditioning
 - C) The Electra complex
 - D) The Oedipus complex
- 53) Leah's boyfriend always played a particular pop song during their sexual encounters. Now, whenever she hears that same song, she feels sexually aroused. This process of learning is an example of
- A) classical conditioning.
 - B) operant conditioning.
 - C) the Oedipus complex.
 - D) the Electra complex.

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- 54) _____ conditioning is the process of changing the frequency of a behavior by following it with positive reinforcement (which will make the behavior more frequent in the future) or punishment (which should make the behavior less frequent in the future).
- A) Sociobiological
 - B) Operant
 - C) Oedipus
 - D) Climacteric
- 55) A woman with a vaginal infection repeatedly experienced pain during intercourse, leading her to eventually stop having sexual intercourse. This is an example of
- A) relative conditioning.
 - B) operant conditioning.
 - C) classical conditioning.
 - D) the Electra complex.
- 56) Studies on operant conditioning suggest that
- A) punishments are more effective shapers of our behavior than rewards.
 - B) punishments are not very effective in shaping behavior, as compared with rewards.
 - C) delayed positive reinforcements are more effective than immediate positive reinforcements in shaping behavior.
 - D) delayed punishments are more effective at eliminating behavior than immediate punishments.
- 57) Which of the following is a major difference between psychoanalytic theory and learning theory?
- A) Unlike learning theorists, psychoanalytic theorists believe that the determinants of human sexual behavior occur in early childhood.
 - B) Unlike learning theorists, psychoanalytic theorists believe that sexual behavior can be learned and changed at any time in one's lifespan.
 - C) Unlike psychoanalytic theorists, learning theorists believe that the determinants of human sexual behavior occur in early childhood.
 - D) Unlike psychoanalytic theorists, learning theorists believe that the determinants of sexual behavior have been hardwired by evolution.
- 58) _____ theorists believe that sexual behavior can be changed at any time in one's life span.
- A) Psychoanalytic
 - B) Sociobiological
 - C) Learning
 - D) Deterministic

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- 59) Which of the following statements holds true for behavior modification?
- A) It is based on the principle of *thanatos*.
 - B) It is ineffective in the treatment of sexual disorders.
 - C) It necessitates a detailed analysis of a person's personality.
 - D) It is based on the principles of classical or operant conditioning.
- 60) Behavior modification
- A) focuses on what unconscious forces motivate undesirable behavior.
 - B) cannot be used to treat children and adolescents.
 - C) does not necessitate a detailed analysis of a person's personality.
 - D) is ineffective in the treatment of sexual disorders.
- 61) Which of the following is a behavior modification method based on the principles of classical and operant conditioning that is used to reduce or stop a person's problematic sexual behavior?
- A) neurostimulation
 - B) olfactory aversion therapy
 - C) homeopathic therapy
 - D) psychoanalysis
- 62) In _____, behavior is punished using an unpleasant odor.
- A) neurostimulation therapy
 - B) olfactory aversion therapy
 - C) homeopathic therapy
 - D) electroconvulsive therapy
- 63) Which of the following is true of olfactory aversion therapy?
- A) The patient perceives the problematic behavior to be under their control.
 - B) The aversive stimulus is ineffective if administered by the patient.
 - C) The method cannot be used to treat deviant sexual behavior in adults.
 - D) The method mimics aromatherapy and releases fragrances that soothe the mind.
- 64) Which of the following is true of social learning theory?
- A) It recognizes the processes of imitation and observational learning.
 - B) It states that sexual behavior is innate and cannot be cultivated.
 - C) It proves conclusively that media have little or no influence on young children.
 - D) It proves conclusively that the environment plays no role in shaping a person's behavior.

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- 65) According to social learning theory, the two processes that are useful in explaining the development of gender-stereotyped behaviors are
- A) idealism and realism.
 - B) imitation and observational learning.
 - C) existentialism and determinism.
 - D) positivism and negativism.
- 66) _____ is based on the principle of rewards and costs and assumes that people will choose actions that maximize rewards and minimize costs.
- A) Social exchange theory
 - B) Social stratification theory
 - C) Existentialism
 - D) Positivism
- 67) Which of the following is true of social exchange theory?
- A) It uses the concept of rewards and costs to explain relationships between people.
 - B) It assumes that we have no freedom of choice and that all events in life are predetermined.
 - C) It states that humans are essentially altruistic, putting their own needs after those of others.
 - D) It refutes the theory that humans are hedonistic in nature.
- 68) Steve regularly surprises his spouse, Alex, with flowers and gifts. He always tries to make Alex feel special with fancy dinners and vacations. Alex often takes Steve for granted, however, and does not reciprocate with appreciative behavior. According to social exchange theory, which of the following is most likely to be true?
- A) Steve's rewards are greater than his costs.
 - B) Steve's costs are greater than his rewards.
 - C) Steve's rewards are greater than Alex's rewards.
 - D) Steve's costs are less than Alex's costs.
- 69) Social exchange theory
- A) attempts to predict conditions under which people try to change their relationships.
 - B) does not take the needs and obligations of people into account.
 - C) applies only to primitive, tribal societies and not contemporary, urban societies.
 - D) assumes that we have no freedom of choice and that all events in life are predetermined.

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- 70) According to social exchange theory, a state of _____ exists when participants in a relationship believe that the rewards they receive from it are proportional to the costs they bear.
- A) disequilibrium
 - B) existentialism
 - C) equity
 - D) fatalism
- 71) Which of the following is true of critical race theory?
- A) A foundational concept of the theory is that race is socially constructed.
 - B) Intersectionality overcomplicates the study of systemic racism and is thus avoided.
 - C) It argues that racial categories influence the development of institutions such as the law.
 - D) It argues that institutions are characterized by the implicit bias form of racism.
- 72) Social exchange theory has been criticized because
- A) it applies only to men and not to women.
 - B) it does not take the equity of relationships into account.
 - C) it applies the concept of rewards and costs to romantic relationships.
 - D) it gives weight to concepts like altruism and martyrdom.
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- 73) Which of the following is a shortcoming of social exchange theory?
- A) It applies only to people from primitive, tribal societies.
 - B) It cannot explain selfless behavior such as altruism and martyrdom.
 - C) It applies only to women and not to men.
 - D) It does not take the equity of relationships into account.
- 74) Which of the following is true of cognitive psychology?
- A) It insists that psychologists should study only behaviors that can be directly observed.
 - B) It believes that people's thoughts are insignificant because their actions are predetermined.
 - C) It believes that it is very important to study people's thoughts.
 - D) It insists that people's perception and evaluation of events is unimportant.
- 75) A(n) _____ is defined as a general knowledge framework that a person has about a particular topic.
- A) anime
 - B) schema
 - C) animus
 - D) *thanatos*

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- 76) A(n) _____ theory was proposed by psychologist Sandra Bem to explain gender-role development and the impact of gender on people's daily lives and thinking.
- A) Oedipus
 - B) equilibrium
 - C) schema
 - D) geopolitical
- 77) Which of the following is true regarding gender schemas?
- A) Our gender schema allows us to process information without the influence of gender stereotypes.
 - B) Our gender schema predisposes us to process information based on gender.
 - C) Our gender schema helps us analyze information that contradicts gender stereotypes.
 - D) Our gender schema makes storing information contrary to gender stereotypes easy.
- 78) Which of the following is most likely an example of gender-schema-consistent information?
- A) a male carpenter
 - B) a female plumber
 - C) a female construction worker
 - D) a male nurse
- 79) Which of the following is most likely an example of gender-schema-inconsistent information?
- A) a female nurse
 - B) a female bouncer
 - C) a male carpenter
 - D) a male truck driver
- 80) Upon what evidence is gender-neutral evolutionary theory based?
- A) mathematical modeling and proofs
 - B) interviews and other field work
 - C) archaeological evidence
 - D) There is no evidence; it is a speculative theory.
- 81) Based in feminist theory, _____ refers to ways in which we perform gender or sexuality based on society's norms.
- A) performativity
 - B) heteronormativity
 - C) symbolic action theory
 - D) intersectionality

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- 82) Which of the following is a core argument of gender-neutral evolutionary theory?
- A) Humans differ from other species in that the environments in which they operate differ enormously.
 - B) Displaying fixed behaviors is not adaptive for humans.
 - C) Biology, though incredibly varied, is ultimately destiny.
 - D) The best way to deal with multiple, varied environments is the adoption of a fixed mating strategy.
- 83) In which of the following ways does social cognitive theory differ from social learning theory?
- A) It does not consider consequences relevant to the likelihood of a learned behavior being performed.
 - B) It is not based on any principles of operant conditioning.
 - C) It includes cognitive processes like self-efficacy.
 - D) It lacks any components of imitation or observational learning.
- 84) Sun-Yi is an advocate of feminist theory, while Stefan is an advocate of Darwin's theory of evolution. They are discussing the theoretical perspectives on sexual phenomena. Which of the following statements is Sun-Yi most likely to offer in support of her argument?
- A) People are better off with gender roles.
 - B) Gender is a dimension of equality, just as race and social class are.
 - C) Rape is an expression of men's power over women.
 - D) Women's sexuality has been vividly expressed.
- 85) Which of the following is true of the law's influence on sexuality?
- A) It tends to confirm the dominant group's ideologies, including those regarding sexuality.
 - B) It largely exerts a micro-level influence on sexuality, concentrating on individual behavior.
 - C) Sexual norms determine which laws are passed.
 - D) Laws are mutable and thus largely incapable of performing as mechanisms of social control.
- 86) Which of the following is an assertion of feminist theory?
- A) Women have greater status and power than men in a culture.
 - B) Women's sexuality has been repressed and depressed, but rarely expressed.
 - C) Unlike race and social class, gender is a dimension of equality.
 - D) The experiences of all women and men are the same regardless of one's social class and sexual orientation.

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- 87) _____ is an approach that says that one should simultaneously consider a person's multiple group memberships and identities, including gender, race, social class, and sexual orientation.
- A) Homogeneity
 - B) Heteronormativity
 - C) Socialization
 - D) Intersectionality
- 88) Which of the following is true of queer theory?
- A) It supports the gender binary.
 - B) It argues that social norms privilege heterosexuality and marginalize other sexual orientations.
 - C) It argues that sexual identities are fixed for an individual.
 - D) It assumes that heterosexuality is the only pattern of sexuality that is normal and natural in a society.
- 89) In the study of human sexuality, sociologists
- A) assume that human sexuality shapes society and not vice versa.
 - B) believe the sexuality of people in a society is unaffected by institutions like family and religion.
 - C) learn by observing primitive societies, not by observing urban societies.
 - D) assume that the appropriateness or inappropriateness of a particular sexual behavior depends on the institutional context within which it occurs.
- 90) When sociologists discuss the effects of religion and the economy on sexuality, their level of interest is at the _____ level.
- A) macro
 - B) micro
 - C) small-scale
 - D) basic
- 91) The _____ ideology is a basis for the assertion that marriage is exclusively for a man and a woman, since only a heterosexual couple can reproduce.
- A) recreational
 - B) relational
 - C) procreational
 - D) bilinear

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- 92) According to the _____ ideology, sex outside marriage and same-gender sex are permissible if they take place within the context of loving relationships.
- A) schematic
 - B) procreation
 - C) recreational
 - D) relational
- 93) Which of the following is true of how the family as an institution influences sexuality?
- A) It is the only source of influence on sexuality for children.
 - B) It involves teaching children appropriate norms for behavior.
 - C) It prevents the peer group from exerting any influence.
 - D) It instructs children to live outside the framework of societal rules.
- 94) According to a _____ ideology, a wide range of individual and social problems require medical treatment.
- A) symbolic
 - B) religious
 - C) relational
 - D) therapeutic
- 95) The idea that many people refrain from public nudity and exhibitionism for fear of arrest and incarceration best illustrates that the law
- A) is a mechanism of social control.
 - B) gives people the freedom to express their sexuality.
 - C) exerts influence on sexuality through socialization of children.
 - D) has no significant impact on people's behavior.
- 96) The _____ perspective focuses on how culture shapes and controls our sexual expression.
- A) sociobiological
 - B) geopolitical
 - C) psychosomatic
 - D) sociological
- 97) _____ posits that people can communicate successfully with one another only to the extent that they ascribe similar meanings to objects and people.
- A) Sociobiology
 - B) Geopolitical theory
 - C) Psychoanalysis
 - D) Symbolic interaction theory

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- 98) Which of the following is a criticism of symbolic interaction theory?
- A) It overemphasizes the role of emotions in sexual interactions.
 - B) It does not acknowledge the importance of symbolic communication.
 - C) It portrays humans as other-directed individuals.
 - D) It does not consider rational, conscious thought.
- 99) Which of the following is true of sexual scripts?
- A) The concept of sexual scripts suggests that most human sexual behavior occurs spontaneously.
 - B) Sexual scripts are enacted by all couples in exactly the same way.
 - C) Sexual scripts help us function independent of social norms.
 - D) Sexual scripts teach us an etiquette of sexual behavior.
- 100) Sexual scripts
- A) tell us the meaning we should attach to a particular sexual event.
 - B) have no significant impact on people's sexual expression.
 - C) do not shape the sexual behavior of people.
 - D) suggest that human sexual behavior is unpredictable and spontaneous.
- 101) Professor Khatri is giving a lecture on the theoretical perspectives on sexuality. She states that sexuality does not solely depend on one's gender. In addition to gender, an individual's sexuality varies by race, sexual orientation, and social class. In this scenario, which of the following concepts is she most likely explaining to her students?
- A) gender schema
 - B) sexual selection
 - C) microaggression
 - D) intersectionality
- 102) Critical theories that explain sexual phenomena most likely discuss
- A) the role of genetics in describing human sexual behavior.
 - B) Freud's psychoanalytic theory and learning theory.
 - C) social interaction theory and sexual scripts.
 - D) various behaviors and types of people as social constructions.
- 103) Which of the following theories that explain sexual phenomena uses the social constructionist perspective?
- A) learning theory
 - B) feminist theory
 - C) cognitive theory
 - D) psychoanalytic theory

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- 104) In the context of the theoretical perspectives on sexuality, queer theory is based on the
- A) social cognitive perspective.
 - B) psychological perspective.
 - C) biological perspective.
 - D) social constructionist perspective.
- 105) In the context of the theoretical perspectives on sexuality, feminist theorists argue that
- A) people are better off without gender roles.
 - B) the sexual experiences of all women are the same.
 - C) women should have greater status and power in society than men.
 - D) the sexual experiences of all men are the same.
- 106) In the context of the theoretical perspectives on sexuality, _____ questions the gender binary that separates people into categories of men and women.
- A) queer theory
 - B) symbolic interaction theory
 - C) the theory of sexual strategies
 - D) learning theory
- 107) In the context of the theoretical perspectives on sexuality, queer theory argues that
- A) social norms privilege homosexuality.
 - B) people fall into one of just two categories—men or women—based on the differences created by sexual selection.
 - C) sexual identities are not fixed for an individual.
 - D) people are either gay or straight, and there are no other possibilities in between.

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

- 108) What is sociobiology? How do humans choose mates, according to sociobiologists?
- 109) Explain the concept of parental investment. What does research say about parental investment by men in their stepchildren?

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- 110) According to Freud, what are the three components of the human personality?
- 111) According to Freud, how does the Electra complex in girls differ from the Oedipus complex in boys?
- 112) What were some of the criticisms leveled at Freud's psychoanalytic theory?
- 113) Sexual behavior plays dual roles in learning theory. Explain.
- 114) Describe some of the components of racism that critical race theory seeks to examine.
- 115) Explain the relationship between gender schema theory and stereotypes.

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116) Briefly explain queer theory.

117) What is meant by the *medicalization of sexuality*? Give some examples.

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Answer Key

Test name: Chapter 02

1) C

Sociobiology

2) B

Sociobiology

3) C

Sociobiology

4) D

Sociobiology

5) B

Sociobiology

6) D

Evolutionary Perspectives

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7) B

Sociobiology

8) D

Sociobiology

9) A

Sociobiology

10) A

Sociobiology

11) A

Sociobiology

12) B

Sociobiology

13) C

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Sociobiology

14) C

Evolutionary Psychology

15) C

Evolutionary Psychology

16) B

Evolutionary Psychology

17) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

18) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

19) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

20) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

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21) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

22) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

23) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

24) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

25) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

26) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

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27) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

28) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

29) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

30) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

31) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

32) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

33) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

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34) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

35) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

36) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

37) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

38) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

39) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

40) A

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Psychoanalytic Theory

41) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

42) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

43) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

44) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

45) A

Psychoanalytic Theory

46) C

Psychoanalytic Theory

47) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

48) B

Psychoanalytic Theory

49) D

Psychoanalytic Theory

50) B

Psychoanalytic Theories

51) A

Learning Theory

52) A

Learning Theory

53) A

Learning Theory

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54) B

Learning Theory

55) B

Learning Theory

56) B

Learning Theory

57) A

Learning Theory

58) C

Learning Theory

59) D

Learning Theory

60) C

Learning Theory

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61) B

Learning Theory

62) B

Learning Theory

63) A

Learning Theory

64) A

Learning Theory

65) B

Learning Theory

66) A

Social Exchange Theory

67) A

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Social Exchange Theory

68) B

Social Exchange Theory

69) A

Social Exchange Theory

70) C

Social Exchange Theory

71) A

Critical Race Theory

72) C

Social Exchange Theory

73) B

Social Exchange Theory

74) C

Cognitive Theories

TBEXAM.COM

75) B

Cognitive Theories

76) C

Cognitive Theories

77) B

Cognitive Theories

78) A

Cognitive Theories

79) B

Cognitive Theories

80) A

Gender-Neutral Evolutionary Theory

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81) A

Performativity

82) B

Gender-Neutral Evolutionary Theory

83) C

Learning Theory

84) C

Feminist Theory

85) A

Social Institutions

86) B

Feminist Theory

87) D

Feminist Theory

TBEXAM.COM

88) B

Queer Theory

89) D

Social Institutions

90) A

Social Institutions

91) C

Social Institutions

92) D

Social Institutions

93) B

Social Institutions

94) D

Understanding Human Sexuality Edition 15 by Hyde

Social Institutions

95) A

Social Institutions

96) D

Social Institutions

97) D

Symbolic Interaction Theory

98) C

Symbolic Interaction Theory

99) D

Sexual Scripts

100) A

Sexual Scripts

101) D

Feminist Theory

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102) D

Critical Theories

103) B

Feminist Theory

104) D

Queer Theory

105) A

Feminist Theory

106) A

Queer Theory

107) C

Queer Theory

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108) Short Answer

Sociobiology

Sociobiology is defined as the application of evolutionary biology to understanding the social behavior of animals, including humans. Sexual behavior is a form of social behavior, and so sociobiologists try, often through observations of other species, to understand why certain patterns of sexual behavior have evolved in humans. Sociobiologists argue that many of the characteristics we evaluate in judging attractiveness—for example, physique and complexion—are indicative of the health and vigor of the individual. These in turn are probably related to the person's reproductive potential; the unhealthy are less likely to produce many vigorous offspring. Natural selection would favor individuals preferring mates who would have maximum reproductive success. Thus, perhaps our concern with physical attractiveness is a product of evolution and natural selection.

109) Short Answer

Sociobiology

According to sociobiology, parents are most interested in the survival and reproductive success of their genetic offspring. *Parental investment* refers to the behavior and resources invested in offspring to achieve this end. Research indicates that fathers invest the most money on the genetic children of their current union and the least money on stepchildren from a past relationship. However, they spend an equal amount on their genetic children and the stepchildren of their current relationship, perhaps to cement the pair-bond with their current partner.

110) Short Answer

Psychoanalytic Theory

Freud described the human personality as being divided into three major parts: the id, the ego, and the superego. The id is the basic part of personality and is present at birth. It is the reservoir of psychic energy and operates on the pleasure principle, thus making it pretty irrational. The ego operates on the reality principle and tries to keep the id in line. It functions to make a person have realistic, rational interactions with others. The superego is the conscience and it operates on idealism. Thus, it aims to inhibit the impulses of the id and to persuade the ego to strive for moral goals rather than realistic ones.

111) Short Answer

Psychoanalytic Theory

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The Oedipus complex and Electra complex are associated with the third stage of psychosexual development—the phallic stage. According to Freud, the resolution of the Oedipus complex is a key factor in personality development as, once the castration anxiety becomes too much, the boy stops desiring his mother and starts identifying with his father. He starts taking on the gender roles and characteristics expected of men by society. In comparison, in the Electra complex, the girl suffers from penis envy over the fact that she does not have a penis. She begins to desire her father sexually and wishes to be impregnated by him to substitute for the unobtainable penis. Because she already lacks a penis, she does not experience castration anxiety as in the case of boys. Thus, the Electra complex in the girl is never completely resolved. Owing to this incomplete resolution, the girl remains somewhat immature compared with men.

112) Short Answer

Psychoanalytic Theory

From a scientific point of view, one of the major problems with psychoanalytic theory is that most of its concepts cannot be evaluated scientifically to see whether they are accurate. Another criticism is that Freud derived his data almost exclusively from his work with patients who sought therapy from him. Thus, his theory may provide a view not so much of human personality as of disturbances in human personality. Feminists have also been critical of Freudian theory as a male-centered theory that may cause harm to women. They object to Freud's assumption that because women do not have a penis they are biologically inferior to men, and to his distinction between vaginal and clitoral orgasms. Finally, many modern psychologists feel that Freud overemphasized the biological determinants of behavior and instincts and that he gave insufficient recognition to the importance of the environment and learning.

113) Short Answer

Learning Theory

According to operant conditioning, behaviors that are rewarded and reinforced are more likely to occur again, while those that are punished are less likely to be repeated. In learning theory, sexual behavior plays dual roles. It can be used as a reward or a positive reinforcer, as in the case of a person who frequents nightclubs because of the probability of "hooking up" with someone; and it can also be the behavior that is rewarded or punished, as in the case of a man who contracts a sexually transmitted disease (STD) after having unprotected sex.

114) Short Answer

Social Exchange Theory

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Racism occurs at many levels, from individuals' subtle racist beliefs (implicit bias) to interpersonal interactions (racial microaggressions) and institutional racism, all of which critical race theory seeks to highlight. Institutional racism refers to the policies of institutions, such as government, businesses, and the law, that advantage some racial groups and disadvantage others. In public education funding, for example, local property taxes dominate, causing children of low-income neighborhoods to attend underfunded schools that offer fewer opportunities, compared with a child growing up in a wealthy suburb.

115) Short Answer

Cognitive Theories

A gender schema predisposes individuals to process information on the basis of gender. It is comprised of the attributes that we generally associate with men and women, and in this way reinforces gender stereotypes. Gender schemas help us remember information that is consistent with the schema (and the stereotype), while they distort or filter out information that is schema- and stereotype-inconsistent. Owing to this, stereotypes—whether they are about men and women or about heterosexuals, gays and lesbians, or other groups—may be very slow to change.

116) Short Answer

Queer Theory

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Queer theory is broader than just the topic of sexual orientation and includes other topics that have been considered “deviant,” such as intersex and transgender. Queer theory questions the social categorization of sexuality and gender. It challenges binaries (the idea that people fall into one of just two categories), especially the sexual orientation binary—that is, the assumption that people are either gay or straight and there are no other possibilities or spaces in between. Similarly, it questions the gender binary that separates people into categories of men and women, as if they were opposites, with no recognition of similarities or other gender possibilities. It also argues that sexual identities are not fixed for the individual. That is, sexual identities may vary depending on the situation or time in one's life. Another definition of *queer* is peculiar or odd—that is, different from the norm. In this sense, queer theory questions what is categorized as peculiar and what is not. It questions norms. It uses this approach to challenge heteronormativity, the belief that heterosexuality is the only pattern of sexuality that is normal and natural. Queer theory argues that social norms privilege heterosexuality and marginalize other sexual orientations.

117) Short Answer

Social Institutions

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The domination of sexuality by the biomedical model is referred to as the *medicalization of sexuality*. Medicalization has two components: Certain behaviors or conditions are defined in terms of health and illness, and problematic experiences or practices are given medical treatment. The medicalization of male sexuality has occurred with the development of drugs to treat erectile dysfunction, and many physicians and pharmaceutical companies are seeking to medicalize female orgasmic dysfunction by finding a pill that will “cure” it.

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Chapter 2

Theoretical Perspectives on Sexuality

Lecture Outline

Are You Curious?

Questions are posed regarding male preference in female figures, arousing nature of scents, and the origins of patterns of sexual interactions.

Introduction

Some of the major theories in the social sciences have had many—and different—things to say about sexuality, and it is these theories that are considered in this chapter. Theories provide people with answers to the question “why?”

Theories provide the framework for academic endeavors by answering the question of why people engage in the behaviors that they do.

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I. Evolutionary Perspectives

- **Sociobiology** is defined as the application of evolutionary biology to understanding the social behavior of animals, including humans.
- In terms of **evolution**, what counts is producing lots of healthy, viable offspring who will carry on one's genes.
- Evolution occurs via **natural selection**, the process by which the animals that are best adapted to their environment are more likely to survive, reproduce, and pass on their genes to the next generation.
- How do humans choose mates? One major criterion is the physical attractiveness of the person. Sociobiologists argue that many of the characteristics we evaluate in judging attractiveness—for example, physique and complexion—are indicative of the health and vigor of the individual.
- Sociobiologists have an explanation for why the family structure of a man, a woman, and their offspring is found in every society. Two mechanisms that facilitate these conditions are a pair-bond between mother and father and attachment between infant and parent.

- **Parental investment** refers to behaviors or other resources invested in the offspring by the parent that increase the offspring's chance of survival.
- **Sexual selection** is a selection that creates differences between males and females. It consists of two processes:
 - Competition among members of one gender (usually males) for mating access to members of the other gender.
 - Preferential choice by members of one gender (usually females) for certain members of the other gender.
- **Evolutionary psychology** focuses on psychological mechanisms that have been shaped by natural selection.
 - If behaviors evolved in response to selection pressures, it is plausible to argue that cognitive or emotional structures evolved in the same way.
- One line of research has concentrated on *sexual strategies*. According to this theory, females and males face different adaptive problems in short-term, or casual, mating and in long-term mating and reproduction.
 - According to the theory, females engage in intrasexual competition for access to males.
- Evolutionary psychology is based on assumptions about what the ancestral environment was like. While we can't study it directly, we can study very traditional societies such as the Ache and Mayan.
- Critics question the data used to support much of the research. While these theories claim that the processes and behaviors are the result of human evolution, and therefore universal, most of the data testing them come from WEIRD (Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, Democratic) societies.
- Evolutionary biologist Patricia Gowaty of UCLA has proposed a gender-neutral evolutionary theory that offers an alternative to sociobiology and evolutionary psychology. She argues that it is most adaptive for individuals to be flexible in their behaviors, and that is exactly what evolution has selected for—flexibility and adaptability.

II. Psychological Theories

- Four of the major theories in psychology are relevant to sexuality: psychoanalytic theory, learning theory, social exchange theory, and cognitive theory.
- Sigmund Freud's **psychoanalytic theory** has been one of the most influential of all psychological theories. Because Freud saw sex as one of the key forces in human life, his theory gives full treatment to human sexuality.
 - Freud termed the sex drive **libido**, which he saw as one of the two major forces motivating human behavior (the other being *thanatos* or the death instinct).

- Freud described the human personality as being divided into three major parts: the id, the ego, and the superego.
 - The **id** is the basic part of personality and is present at birth. It is the reservoir of psychic energy (including libido), and it operates on the *pleasure principle*.
 - The **ego** operates on the *reality principle* and tries to keep the id in line. The ego functions to make the person have realistic, rational interactions with others.
 - The **superego** is the conscience. It contains the values and ideals of society that we learn, and it operates on *idealism*.
- Freud saw the libido as being focused in various regions of the body known as **erogenous zones**. An erogenous zone is a part of the skin or mucous membrane that is extremely sensitive to stimulation; touching it in certain ways produces feelings of pleasure.
- Freud believed that the child passes through a series of stages of development. In each of these stages, a different erogenous zone is the focus.
- The first stage, lasting from birth to about 1 year of age, is the *oral stage*. The child's chief pleasure is derived from sucking and otherwise stimulating the lips and mouth.
- The second stage, which occurs during approximately the second year of life, is the *anal stage*. During this stage, the child's interest is focused on elimination.
- The third stage of development, lasting from age 3 to perhaps age 5 or 6, is the *phallic stage*. The boy's interest is focused on his phallus (penis), and he derives great pleasure from masturbating.
 - Perhaps the most important occurrence in this stage is the development of the **Oedipus complex**, which derives its name from the Greek story of Oedipus, who unknowingly killed his father and married his mother.
 - In the **Electra complex**, a girl's incestuous desires for her father result from a desire to be impregnated by him, to substitute for the unobtainable penis.
- Freud said that following the resolution of the Oedipus or Electra complex, children pass into a prolonged stage known as *latency*, which lasts until adolescence.
- With puberty, sexual urges reawaken, and the child moves into the *genital stage*. During this stage, sexual urges become more specifically genital, and the oral, anal, and genital urges all fuse together to promote the biological function of reproduction.
- From a scientific point of view, one of the major problems with psychoanalytic theory is that most of its concepts cannot be evaluated scientifically to see whether they are accurate.
- Research in the developing area of neuropsychanalysis suggests that what Freud termed the unconscious is represented by widespread neural networks in the brain that are active in the background while the conscious mind is busy with other things.
- Many modern psychologists feel that Freud overemphasized the biological determinants of behavior and instincts and that he gave insufficient recognition to the importance of the environment and learning.

- While psychoanalytic and sociobiological theories are based on the notion that much of human sexual behavior is biologically controlled, it is also quite apparent that much of it is learned.
- **Classical conditioning** is a concept usually associated with the work of the Russian scientist Ivan Pavlov (1849–1936).
 - The process of learning that occurs in classical conditioning takes place when a new stimulus, the conditioned stimulus (CS; e.g., the sound of a bell) repeatedly occurs paired with the original unconditioned stimulus (food). After this happens many times, the conditioned stimulus (the ringing bell) can eventually be presented without the unconditioned stimulus (food) and will evoke the original response, now called the conditioned response (CR, salivation).
 - Classical conditioning is useful in explaining a number of phenomena in sexuality. One example is fetishes, the attachment of great erotic significance to some object other than a human being.
- **Operant conditioning**, a concept that is often associated with the psychologist B. F. Skinner refers to the following process: A person performs a particular behavior (the operant). That behavior may be followed by either a reward (positive reinforcement) or a punishment. If a reward follows, the person will be likely to repeat the behavior again in the future; if a punishment follows, the person will be less likely to repeat the behavior. In operant conditioning terms, sexual intercourse has repeatedly been associated with a punishment (pain), and so the behavior becomes less frequent.
 - Another principle of operant conditioning that is useful in understanding sexual behavior holds that consequences, whether reinforcement or punishment, are most effective in shaping behavior when they occur immediately after the behavior.
 - A third principle that has emerged in operant conditioning studies is that, compared with rewards, punishments are not very effective in shaping behavior.
- Psychoanalytic theorists believe that the determinants of human sexual behavior occur in early childhood, particularly during the Oedipal complex period. Learning theorists, in contrast, believe that sexual behavior can be learned and changed at any time in one's life span—in childhood, in adolescence, in young adulthood, or later.
- **Behavior modification** involves a set of techniques, based on principles of classical or operant conditioning, that are used to change (or modify) human behavior. These techniques have been used to modify everything from problem behaviors of children in the classroom to the behavior of schizophrenics.
- Social learning theory is a somewhat more complex form of learning theory. It is based on principles of operant conditioning, but it also recognizes two other processes at work: imitation and observational learning.
 - Imitation is useful in explaining how children acquire gender-stereotyped behavior.

- A later version of social learning is cognitive social learning theory or social cognitive theory. Successful experiences with an activity over time create a sense of competence, or **self-efficacy**, at performing the activity.
- **Social exchange theory** uses the concept of reinforcement to explain stability and change in relationships between people. It views social relationships primarily as exchanges of goods and services among persons.
- Social exchange theory assumes that we have freedom of choice and often face choices among alternative actions. It assumes that we choose actions which maximize rewards and minimize costs.
- Cognitive psychology can readily explain some aspects of human sexuality. A basic assumption is that what we think influences what we feel.
- To a cognitive psychologist, how we perceive and evaluate a sexual event makes all the difference in the world.
- Psychologist Sandra Bem (1981) has proposed a schema theory to explain gender-role development and the impact of gender on people's daily lives and thinking. A **schema** is a general knowledge framework that a person has about a particular topic.
 - One of the interesting implications of gender schema theory is that stereotypes—whether they are about males and females, or gay people, or other groups—may be very slow to change.

III. Critical Theories

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- The *social constructionist* viewpoint calls our attention to the fact that behaviors and types of people are social constructions, categories that are developed by groups and subcultures and then applied to objects in the world around them.
- Feminist theory was not proposed by a single theorist, but rather by many independent scholars.
 - Gender signals status in a culture, with men having greater status and power.
 - Sexuality in the theory includes many specific issues, including rape, abortion, birth control, sexual harassment on the job, and pornography. According to feminist analysis, women's sexuality has been repressed and depressed but rarely expressed.
- Feminist theory highlights the importance of gender roles and gender socialization. Our culture has well-defined roles for males and for females. From their earliest years, children are socialized to conform to these roles.
- **Intersectionality** is an approach that says that one should simultaneously consider a person's multiple group memberships and identities, including gender, race, social class, and sexual orientation.

- A concept that comes out of feminist theory and queer theory, **performativity**, refers to ways in which we perform gender or sexuality based on society's norms, much as actors perform in a play.
- Over the years, "queer" has been used as a derogatory term referring to LGB individuals.
- Queer theory questions the social categorization of sexuality and gender. It challenges binaries (the idea that people fall into one of just two categories), especially the sexual orientation binary—that is, the assumption that people are either gay or straight and there are no other possibilities or spaces in between.
 - Similarly, it questions the *gender binary* that separates people into male and female, as if they were opposites, with no recognition of similarities or other gender possibilities.
- Queer theory also challenges **heteronormativity**, the belief that heterosexuality is the only pattern of sexuality that is normal and natural.
- **Critical race theory** is a theoretical framework that can be used to examine the ways in which race and racism have an impact on social structures and institutions. A foundational concept in critical race theory is that race is not a biological fact, but instead *race is socially constructed*.
- **Institutional racism** (also termed systemic racism or structural racism) refers to the policies of institutions, such as government, businesses, and the law, which advantage some racial groups and disadvantage other racial groups.

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IV. Sociological Perspectives

- Sociologists are especially interested in the ways in which social interaction and the larger society shape human sexuality.
 - An important sociological theory is **symbolic interaction theory**. Its basic premise is that human nature and the social order are products of symbolic communication among people.
 - People can communicate successfully with one another only to the extent that they ascribe similar meanings to objects and people.
 - The outcome of social influences is that each of us learns a set of *sexual scripts*. Sexual behavior is a result of elaborate prior learning that teaches people an etiquette of sexual behavior.
 - *Scripts* are plans that people carry around in their heads for what they are doing and what they are going to do; they are also devices for helping people remember what they have done in the past.
- Scripts also tell us the meaning that we should attach to a particular sexual event.
- Sociologists approach the study of sexuality with three basic assumptions:
 - Every society regulates the sexuality of its members.

- The appropriateness or inappropriateness of a particular sexual behavior depends upon the institutional context within which it occurs.
- Basic institutions of society (religion, economy, family, medicine, and law) affect the rules governing sexuality in that society.
- In the American culture, the Judeo-Christian religious tradition has been a powerful shaper of sexual norms.
- The nature and structure of the economy is another macro-level influence on sexuality.
- The family is a third institution influencing sexuality. The family exerts a particularly important force on sexuality through its *socialization* of children.
- The institution of medicine has become a major influence on our sexuality over the last 100 years. Physicians tell us what is healthy and what is unhealthy.
 - The domination of contemporary theory and research by the biomedical model is referred to as the **medicalization of sexuality**.
- The legal system is another institution influencing sexuality at the macro-level.
 - Laws determine norms.
 - Laws are the basis for the mechanisms of social control.
 - The law reflects the interests of the powerful, dominant groups within a society.

Lecture and Discussion Ideas

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Textbook Themes: Main themes of the textbook include (1) sexuality as intimacy, (2) gender roles, (3) sexuality and popular culture, (4) commonality of sexual variation, and (5) significance of ethnicity. What are your reactions to these themes?

Note to the instructor: Some students may have especially strong feelings about traditional gender roles and gay and lesbian relationships. Some may feel uncomfortable about discussing ethnicity because of the taboos surrounding the topic, especially when it is linked to sexuality.

Gender/Sexual Orientation/Biological Sex: Discuss the differences among gender, sexual orientation, and biological sex. Some students mistakenly believe that same-gender sexuality is a form of gender confusion or that gay males or lesbians want to be the other sex. Some believe that gay males are “feminine” and lesbians “masculine,” mistakenly confusing gender and orientation issues.

Nature and Nurture: What are some ways that we see nature and nurture interact in a romantic, companionate, or passionate way? Other than procreation, what other evolutionary mechanisms does sexuality serve?

Gender Schema Theory: Define and describe psychologist Sandra Bem's gender schema theory. What is a schema? What does Bem's theory suggest about the difficulty of unlearning stereotypes?

Applying Gender Schema Theory: How can Sandra Bem's gender schema theory help people understand why various daily experiences appear natural to them? As a class, apply this theory while considering the prevalence of, for example, women in commercials selling cleaning products, men in commercials selling fast food, women working as nurses, and men working in local and federal government. How does gender schema theory work to make all these phenomena seem normal and natural?

Freud on Women: What is psychoanalytic theory? Why can it be called male-oriented? How exactly might it cause harm to women? What kinds of harm, in particular, can you imagine it causing?

Sexual Scripts: Sexual scripts tell us how sexual interaction occurs, but what else do they tell us? Imagine a typical sexual encounter. Would you do this with your Uncle Harold? Would you have done this at age 5? Would you do this in a classroom while the professor was lecturing? Are you more likely to do this at 10 a.m. or 10 p.m.? How are sexual scripts useful for an individual and for society? How can they be oppressive or restrictive?

Our Culture: Is it meaningful or useful to speak of the U.S. culture as a single entity? If so, when can such instances be considered true? Is U.S. culture exclusively comprised of Western culture? What other traditions have influenced the U.S. culture? When is the oversimplification of U.S. culture a problem? Why? When is it crucial to talk about the U.S. culture as more than a single entity?

Script Theory and the Sambia: Could script theory be used to explain the pattern of gay and straight behavior of Sambia males? How?

Socially Desirable Responding: In survey data, one of the issues is that people respond in a socially desirable manner. To what extent do you believe that people "lie" when asked about their religious behaviors (e.g., "Do you often go to church?") and to what extent do you believe people "lie" about their sexual behavior (e.g., "What is the number of sexual partners you've had?"). How does this relate to sexual norms within a religious context?

Social Institutions and Female Sexuality: From a sociologist's point of view, how have the social institutions of family, health care/insurance, work, religion, and government controlled female sexuality? Give an example of each. How might each institution be reconstituted to be less restrictive of female sexuality?

Learning Theory and Sexual Orientation: Learning theory makes sense out of what appears to us to be a puzzling sexual behavior pattern among the Sambia of Papua New Guinea. What assumptions do we have about sexual orientation that makes the behavior pattern appear

puzzling, and in need of explanation, in the first place? How would learning theory explain American sexual behavior patterns?

Critical Thinking: How is critical thinking defined? Why is it important to build your critical thinking skills?

Developing Critical Thinking Skills: Give examples of a value judgment and an objective statement concerning sexuality. What are some examples of an opinion, a biased statement, and a stereotype regarding sexuality? Discuss how these can be identified.

Reading a Journal Article: Discuss the significance of journals in publishing scientific information.

Operational Definitions: Research hinges on an operational definition that specifically includes *and* excludes things from the definition. Define aggression. (Note to the instructor: You can expect the usual—hitting, pushing, punching, kicking.) What about indirect forms—spreading rumors, keying someone's car? Now what about sports? Are hockey players aggressive? What about football? What about consensual sex between adults that involves harm to one of the participants? The role of definitions is to both include things like hitting and spreading rumors while excluding sports and other consensual adult behaviors.

Theories and Hypothesis: A researcher believes that frozen foods do not have calories. Calories are measures of heat and frozen food by definition can have no heat. Therefore, frozen foods are calorie free. Explain what events this theory might lead to: diets of frozen candy bars, ice cream, Starbucks Frappuccinos, frozen cookie dough, and so on that lead to weight loss. What is the theory? The hypotheses? How can they be tested?

Feminist Scholarship: Discuss the validity of the main tenets of feminist research. These include that (1) gender is significant in all aspects of social life, (2) the female experience of sex has been devalued, (3) power is a critical element in male/female relationships, (4) traditional empirical research needs to be combined with qualitative research and interpretative studies, and (5) ethnicity is important. The second and third propositions may generate considerable discussion.

Polling Questions

Polling 1: Pair Bonding and Sex

Bonobo sexual behaviors include the only nonhuman example of face-to-face genital sex, tongue kissing, and oral sex known in the wild. How many of you have used sex to cement a bond between yourself and your partner?

Polling 2: Ethnic Identity and Sex

Do you think that someone's ethnic identity affects their sexual behavior? Do you think that your ethnic identity affects your sexual behavior?

Polling 3: Trading Sex for Goods and Services

How many of you think that having sex with someone after a nice dinner is the same as receiving money for sex? How many of you have had sex with someone because they had bought you expensive things?

Polling 4: Chivalry and Virtue

The 18th and 19th centuries introduced the ideas of virtue and chivalry. In general, do you think these ideas favor males or females?

Polling 5: Sexual Chauvinism Over Time

How many of you agree with the statement, "Men today are less chauvinistic than they were 20 years ago?" How many of you agree with the statement, "Men of my father's age tend to be chauvinistic toward women?"

Polling 6: Sex Approving or Disapproving?

Do you think the United States is a sex-approving or sex-disapproving culture? Do you think it has become more approving in your lifetime? Do you think it will continue to become more accepting, or will it swing back to become more disapproving?

Activities

Note to the instructor: Any classroom activity requires careful ethical reflection by the instructor before assigning the exercise. Some of these principles parallel those in human subject research. Students should have a basic right to privacy about their own sexuality. They should not be coerced into revealing private information if it is identifiable.

What Students Want to Learn: Pass out 3×5 cards and ask students to anonymously write what they want to learn in the class and why they are taking the class. Collect the cards, and then randomly distribute them to groups to discuss; have groups exchange cards every few minutes. Then ask class members to identify what students most want to learn and their reasons for taking the class.

Kinds of Learning: Have students discuss how each kind of learning is different from the next. Separate your students into four or eight groups and assign each of them one of the following

theories of learning: classical conditioning, operant conditioning, behavior modification, and social learning theory. As a group, ask your students to figure out what differentiates their theory from the others. Then, paying special attention to how their theory differs from the others, ask them to use it to explain an adolescent male who masturbates three times a week and an adolescent female who never touches her privates. As a class, you might discuss which theory appears to best explain these masturbatory patterns.

Vocabulary Quiz: Pass out Handout 1: Vocabulary Quiz and ask students to answer the questions in order to test their knowledge.

Note to the instructor: Questions 1, 3, 6, 8, and 9 are true.

The Sexual Script: On pieces of 8 × 10 inch paper, separately write possible actions that fit into a sexual script (e.g., they learn each other's name; they go out to dinner; they talk; they kiss; one person receives oral sex; the other person receives oral sex; one touches the other's chest, and then vice versa; one touches the other's genitals, and vice versa; they tell their sexual histories; they have intercourse; they say "I love you") and go on a series of dates (e.g., Date 1, Date 2, Date 3). Pass out one piece of paper to each student and ask students to line up in a typical order. How much agreement is there? Where is the order contentious? Why? What would happen if we moved "they tell their sexual histories" to before "they kiss?" What would happen if we moved "they touch genitals" to before "they touch chest?" How rigid is the sexual script? Does the sexual script apply to a dating situation or every time two people come together? Has the sexual script changed over history? How?

A Problem for Sociobiology? Some have argued that many characteristics we see as attractive indicate health and therefore good genes. In groups or as a class, brainstorm a list of characteristics that signal attractiveness to your students and/or bring in a contemporary magazine and examine it for characteristics that are thought to be attractive. Then, evaluate each characteristic as a signifier of health. Are some of the requirements for attractiveness less than healthy? Unhealthy? What are the most important requirements? Are these requirements signifiers of health? What else might such characteristics signify?

Note to the instructor. The thinness requirement for women is an excellent example of an unhealthy characteristic that is a signifier of attractiveness in our culture. What else might smallness, weakness, and fragility suggest about a woman? Are those things valued as feminine in our culture? The positive value placed on tanned or bronze skin is another example of an unhealthy characteristic.

Sexual Ideologies of Institutions 1: Social institutions influence our sexuality. Arrange your students into groups and assign each group two of the following institutions: religion, economy, family, medicine, and law. Ask each group to debate the dominant sexual ideology of their assigned institutions. Then, ask them to think about how the dominant sexual ideology of their assigned institutions has changed throughout history. Finally, ask your students to discuss how the two institutions interact and affect each other in powerful and consequential ways.

Sexual Ideologies of Institutions 2: Arrange your students into groups and assign each group a major social institution (religion, economy, family, medicine, law). Ask each group to discuss the following questions: What is this institution's sexual ideology or ideologies? How does the institution promote its ideology? Is its ideology in conjunction with or in contrast to popular ideologies of sexuality? What other institutions does it interact with, and how?

Sexual Ideologies of Institutions 3: Have students research one major social institutions (religion, economy, family, medicine, law) and write a short essay. Have them address the following questions: What is this institution's sexual ideology or ideologies? How does the institution promote its ideology? Is its ideology in conjunction with or in contrast to popular ideologies of sexuality? What other institutions does it interact with, and how?

Theoretical Perspectives on Sexual Variations: This exercise helps students learn to apply theories as explanations for different sexual behaviors. Pass out Handout 2: Theoretical Perspectives on Sexual Variations. For each of the selected paraphilias, ask your students to try to explain the paraphilias from each of the perspectives identified. Check your students' suggestions against the answers provided.

Note to the instructor: The given answers presume a male subject. Address this in discussion with your class. Note that most paraphilias are more common in males than in females.

Suggested Media

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Before Stonewall: The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community (1984, 1 hour 27 minutes, The Cinema Guild). Using filmed recollections and archival material, this program traces the social, political, and cultural development of the gay and lesbian community.

The Clio's 2000 (2002, 1 hour 28 minutes, Films for the Humanities & Sciences). A compilation of the Clio-award winning commercials of 2000.

The Diary of Adam and Eve by Mark Twain (1978, 15 minutes, Indiana University Audio Visual Center). Retells and embellishes the story of Adam and Eve using separate diaries that comment on the same situations to point out the differences in the sexes.

The Kids Are All Right (2010, 1 hour 46 minutes, R drama/comedy/romance, Focus Features). Available on DVD, or streaming on a variety of providers. Lesbian couple Jules (Julianne Moore) and Nic (Annette Bening) have been together for almost 20 years and have two teenage offspring named Joni and Laser, who were conceived via artificial insemination. Unbeknownst to their mothers, Joni and Laser seek out their biological father, a restaurateur named Paul (Mark Ruffalo). Complications arise when the teens bond with Paul and invite him into their lives.

Killing Us Softly 4: Advertising's Image of Women (2010, 46 minutes, Media Education Foundation).

“At once provocative and inspiring, *Killing Us Softly 4* stands to challenge yet another generation of students to take advertising seriously, and to think critically about its relationship to sexism, eating disorders, gender violence, and contemporary politics.”

Miss Representation (2011, 1 hour 25 minutes, Girls' Club Entertainment).

Available on DVD and from The Representation Project (<https://thereproject.org>). Explore how the mainstream media's often disparaging portrayals of women contribute to the under-representation of females in positions of leadership.

“Too Sexy, Too Soon” | *Nightline* | ABC News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMyBUIEY-yo>

Do tween fashion trends push girls to mature too fast? Parents share their concerns about their daughters' sexy attire, marketing to young girls even before they hit puberty.

Internet Resources

APA

<http://www.apa.org/>

APA: Sex

<https://www.apa.org/topics/sex-sexuality> TBEXAM.COM

Behavior Genetics Association

<http://www.bga.org/>

Cornell University Library: Human Sexuality Collection

<http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/HSC/>

“The Human Sexuality Collection seeks to preserve and make accessible primary sources that document historical shifts in the social construction of sexuality, with a focus on U.S. lesbian and gay history and the politics of pornography.”

The Evolutionary Psychology FAQ

<http://www.anth.ucsb.edu/projects/human/evpsychfaq.html>

Evolutionary Psychology Lab

<http://www.toddkshackelford.com/>

Homepage for the Evolutionary Psychology Lab and Dr. Todd Shackelford.

The Kinsey Institute: Exploring Sexuality, Relationships, and Well-Being

<http://www.kinseyinstitute.org/>

Established in 1947, the Kinsey Institute is the trusted source for critical issues in sexuality, gender, and reproduction.

Additional Readings

Dines, G., & McMahon, J. M. (Eds.). (2015). *Gender, race and class in media: A critical reader* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. An analysis of media entertainment culture.

Francoeur, R. T., & Noonan, R. (Eds.). (2004). *The continuum complete international encyclopedia of sexuality*. New York: Continuum. The foremost reference work on sexual behavior throughout the world.

Rosewarne, L. (2016). *Intimacy on the internet: Media representations of online connections*. New York: Routledge. Media representations are categorized and analyzed to explore what they reveal about the intersection of gender, sexuality, technology, and the changing mores regarding intimacy.

Sales, N. J. (2016). *American girls: Social media and the secret lives of teenagers*. New York: Vintage Books. Though limited by its single-gender focus, the author discusses the ways in which the sexual behavior of teenagers is being changed and shaped by new technology, including the influence of online porn.

Strasburger, V. C., Wilson, B. J., & Jordan, A. B. (2014). *Children, adolescents, and the media* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. Explores mass media, including the sexual messages the media convey and their impact on adolescents.

Tiefer, L. (2004). *Sex is not a natural act and other essays* (2nd ed.). Boulder, CO: Westview Press. A revised collection of provocative essays on sex and its many meanings in our culture.

Handout 1: Vocabulary Quiz

1. Sociobiology is the study of how bodies are socially constructed. True False Don't Know
2. Evolutionary psychology is the study of psychological mechanisms that have emerged out of evolution. True False Don't Know
3. Psychoanalytic theory assumes that we are not conscious of all our motivations. True False Don't Know
4. According to Freud, the ego is the part of the personality that contains the libido. True False Don't Know
5. Classical conditioning involves a process of changing the frequency of a behavior by following it with reinforcement or punishment. True False Don't Know
6. Self-efficacy is a sense of competence at performing an activity. True False Don't Know
7. A schema is a script for an activity. True False Don't Know
8. The sociological approach emphasizes the impact of institutions. True False Don't Know
9. A cognitive theorist would argue that it is important to study people's thoughts. True False Don't Know
10. Operant conditioning emphasizes the importance of imitation and identification. True False Don't Know

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Handout 2: Theoretical Perspectives on Sexual Variations

For each of the following sexual variations, attempt to apply principles from the text to explain how it might develop.

Fetishism

1. Classical conditioning explanation:
2. Psychoanalytic explanation:

Exhibitionism

1. Observational learning explanation:
2. Psychoanalytic explanation:

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Continued next page.

Handout 2: Theoretical Perspectives on Sexual Variations (Continued)

Sadism

1. Observational learning explanation:
2. Classical conditioning explanation:

Masochism

1. Classical conditioning explanation:
2. Psychoanalytic explanation:

Voyeurism

1. Operant conditioning explanation: TBEXAM.COM
2. Observational learning explanation:

Handout 2: Answers

Fetishism. (1) Early sexual experiences occur in conjunction with a particular object; with repeated pairings of the object and arousal, the individual comes to associate arousal with the object in question. (2) The fetish object is a defense against castration anxiety. During childhood, the male with the fetish was sexually attracted to his mother but afraid of being retaliated against, in the form of castration, by his father. In order to avoid this less-than-desirable consequence, he avoids typical sexual interactions and substitutes a safer activity (e.g., sex with a shoe).

Exhibitionism. (1) It might be argued that a male's tendency to display his genitals is learned from viewing sexually explicit materials. If a male's early masturbatory episodes involved viewing erotic magazines or videos in which the males readily present their genitals to approving females, the modeled behavior may later be imitated. (2) Consistent with the explanations for fetishism and transvestism, the male is fixated at the phallic stage of development when concern about castration is paramount. In exhibitionism, the male presents his genitals to a female, whose startled response reassures him that he has not been castrated and his genitals are still there.

Sadism. (1) The modeling of such behaviors in violent pornography may lead to imitation of this behavior. (2) A boy, while inflicting pain on someone, experiences intense arousal accompanied by erection (a frequent concomitant of general physiological arousal). The association between inflicting pain and having an erection leads to the development of the sadistic paraphilia.

Masochism. (1) A boy may happen to experience sexual arousal while being spanked. The pairing of the arousal and the spanking leads to an association between the two. When he is punished in the same way on subsequent occasions, he will become aroused. (There's also an element of operant conditioning within this perspective. Having developed the association, he will likely seek out similar situations (i.e., in which punishment leads to arousal) as he gets older. Each experience with spanking or punishment would lead to the associated rewards; in this way, using spanking to get sexual pleasure becomes operantly conditioned. (2) One idea is that masochism is a manifestation of the death instinct. Another possibility is that masochism results because the person finds it too threatening to express aggression against someone else. So, as a sort of defense mechanism, the aggression is expressed against one's self.

Voyeurism. (1) A young male, by chance, happens upon a woman removing her clothes (perhaps a neighbor across the yard). Becoming sexually aroused, he masturbates. This is reinforcing, and he looks for similar situations. (2) A male learns in our society, because of the wide availability of pornography and the predominance of sexual imagery in the media, that watching sex and sexual activity is the norm and socially encouraged. Observing that other males do so, he imitates these models' behavior, generalizing his viewing to live women.