

**SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY**  
Comprehensive Examination Reading List  
Department of Sociology, University of Arizona  
Revised May 2023

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**Foundations**

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- Coser, Rose L. 1964. "Authority and Structural Ambivalence in the Middle-Class Family." Pp. 370-383 in *The Family: Its Structures and Functions*. Rose L. Coser (Ed.). New York: St. Martin's Press.
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- Hartmann, Heidi. 1981. "The family as the locus of gender, class, and political struggle: The example of housework." *Signs*, 6(3): 366-394.
- Levi-Strauss, Claude. 1969. *The Elementary Structures of Kinship*. Boston: Beacon Press. Ch. III-V.
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- Parsons, Talcott. 1954. "The Incest Taboo in relation to Social Structure and the Socialization of the Child." *British Journal of Sociology*. 5:101-17.
- Ridgeway, Cecilia L., and Shelley J. Correll. 2004. "Motherhood as a Status Characteristic." *Journal of Social Issues* 60(4): 683-700. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.0022-4537.2004.00380.x>
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**Historical Changes in Family Structure**

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Raymo, James M., Hyunjoon Park, Yu Xie, and Wei-jun Jean Yeung. 2015. "Marriage and Family in East Asia: Continuity and Change" *Annual Review of Sociology* 41:471-492.

Ruggles, Steven. 2015. "Patriarchy, Power, and Pay: The Transformation of American Families: 1800-2015." *Demography* 52: 1797-1823.

Seltzer, Judith A. et al. 2005. "Explaining Family Change and Variation: Challenges for Family Demographers." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 67:908-925.

Tilly, Louise and Joan Wallach Scott. 1978. *Women, Work, and Family*. New York: Routledge.

Timmermans, Stefan, and Pamela J. Prickett. 2022. "Who Counts as Family? How Standards Stratify Lives." *American Sociological Review* 87(3):504-528.

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### **Race, Class, and Families: Cultural, Structural, and Critical Approaches**

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Burton, Linda M., Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Victor Ray, Rose Buckelew, and Elizabeth Hodge Freeman. 2010. "Critical Race Theories, Colorism, and the Decade's Research on Families of Color." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72(3): 440-459.

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Dreby, Joanna. 2012. "The Burden of Deportation on Children in Mexican Immigrant Families" *Journal of Marriage and Family* 74(4): 829-845.

Glenn, Evelyn Nakano. 1983. "Split Household, Small Producer, and Dual Wage Earner: An Analysis of Chinese American Family Strategies." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 45: 35-46.

Lareau, Annette. 2002. "Invisible Inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White Families." *American Sociological Review* 67:747-776.

Lichter, Daniel T., Diane K. McLaughlin, George Kephart, and David J. Landry. 1992. "Race and the Retreat from Marriage: A Shortage of Marriageable Men?" *American Sociological Review* 57:781-799.

Moynihan, Daniel Patrick. 1967. "The Negro Family: The Case for National Action." pp. 39-124 in *The Moynihan Report and the Politics of Controversy*. Lee Rainwater and William L. Yancey (Ed.). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

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## LGBTQ Families

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Biblarz, Timothy J., and Evren Savci. 2010. "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Families." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 72: 480-497.

Biblarz, Timothy J., and Judith Stacey. 2001. "(How) Does the Sexual Orientation of Parents Matter?" *American Sociological Review* 66, 2 (April): 159-183.

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Meadow, Tey. 2018. *Trans Kids: Being Gendered in the Twenty-First Century*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press.

Ocobock, Abigail. 2020. "Leveraging legitimacy: Institutional work and change in the case of same-sex marriage." *American Journal of Sociology* 126, 3: 513-544.

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## Gender and Families

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Anderson, Nadina L. 2017. "To Provide and Protect: Gendering Money in Ukrainian Households." *Gender & Society*, 31(3), 359–382.

Bianchi, Suzanne M. 2000. "Maternal Employment and Time with Children: Dramatic Change or Surprising Continuity?" *Demography* 37: 139-154.

Budig, Michelle J. and Paula England. 2001. "The Wage Penalty for Motherhood." *American Sociological Review* 66: 204-255.

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Moore, Mignon R. 2008. "Gendered power relations among women: A study of household decision making in Black, lesbian stepfamilies." *American Sociological Review* 73(2): 335-356.

Pedulla, David, and Sarah Thebaud. 2015. "Can We Finish the Revolution? Gender, Work-Family Ideals, and Institutional Constraint." *American Sociological Review* 80(1): 116-139.

Rao, Aliya H. 2022. "Relational Work in the Family: The Gendered Microfoundation of Parents' Economic Decisions." *American Sociological Review* 87(6):1094-1120.

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#### Gender, Paid Work and Families

Hochschild, Arlie. 1999. *The Time Bind: When Work Becomes Home and Home Becomes Work*. New York: Metropolitan Books. (Chapters 3, 4, 14, 15)

Killewald, Alexandra, and Margaret Gough. 2013. "Does Specialization Explain Marriage Penalties and Premiums?" *American Sociological Review* 78:477-502.

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Weisshaar, Katherine. 2018. "From Opt Out to Blocked Out: The Challenges for Labor Market Re-Entry After Family-Related Employment Lapses." *American Sociological Review* 83(1):34-60.

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#### Gender and Unpaid Family Labor

Allison, Daminger. 2019. "The Cognitive Dimension of Household Labor." *American Sociological Review* 84(4):609-633.

Bianchi, Suzanne M., Liana C. Sayer, Melissa A. Milkie, and John P. Robinson. 2012. "Housework: Who Did, Does or Will Do It, and How Much Does it Matter." *Social Forces* 91:55-63.

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Brines, Julie. 1994. "Economic Dependency, Gender, and Division of Labor at Home." *American Journal of Sociology* 100: 652-688.

DeVault, Marjorie, 1991. *Feeding the Family: the Social Organization of Caring as Gendered Work*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Ch. 4.

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## **Coupling and Uncoupling: Marriage, Cohabitation, and Divorce**

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### Marriage and Cohabitation

Axinn, William G. and Arland Thornton. 1992. "The Relationship between Cohabitation and Divorce: Selectivity or Causal Relationship." *Demography* 29:357-374.

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Gibson-Davis, Christina M., Kathryn Edin, and Sara McLanahan. 2005. "High Hopes but Even Higher Expectations: The Retreat from Marriage among Low-Income Couples." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 67: 1301-3012.

Harknett, Kristen, and Sara McLanahan. 2004. "Racial and Ethnic Differences in Marriage after the Birth of a Child." *American Sociological Review* 69: 790-811.

Musick, Kelly and Larry Bumpass. 2012. "Reexamining the Case for Marriage: Union Formation and Changes in Well-Being." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 74:1-18.

Stanley, Scott M., Galena Kline Rhoades, and Howard J. Markman. 2006. "Sliding versus deciding: Inertia and the premarital cohabitation effect." *Family relations* 55, 4: 499-509.

Sweeney, Megan M. 2002. "Two Decades of Family Change: The Shifting Economic Foundations of Marriage." *American Sociological Review* 67:132-147.

#### Divorce and Remarriage

Amato, Paul and Christopher J. Anthony. 2015. "Estimating the Effects of Parental Divorce and Death with Fixed Effects Models" *Journal of Marriage and Family* 76:370-386.

Amato, Paul R. and Juliana M. Sobolewski. 2001. "The Effects of Divorce and Marital Discord on Adult Children's Psychological Well-Being." *American Sociological Review* 66:900-921.

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Sayer, Liana, Paula England, Paul. D. Allison, and Nicole Kangas. 2011. "She Left, He Left: How Employment and Satisfaction Affect Women's and Men's Decisions to Leave Marriages." *American Journal of Sociology* 116: 1982-2018.

Smock, Pamela J. 1994. "Gender and the Short-Run Economic Consequences of Marital Disruption." *Social Forces* 73(1):243-62.

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#### Single-Parent Families, Step-Families, and Blended Families

Brown, Susan L. 2006. "Family Structure Transitions and Adolescent Well-being." *Demography* 43:447-461.

Bumpass, Larry L., Kelly Raley, and James A. Sweet. 1995. "The Changing Character of Stepfamilies: Implications of Cohabitation and Nonmarital Childbearing." *Demography* 32:425- 436.

Carlson, Marcia J. and Frank F. Furstenberg, Jr. 2006. "The Prevalence and Correlates of Multipartnered Fertility among Urban U.S. Parents." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 68:718- 732.

Hertz, Rosanna. 2008. *Single by Chance, Mothers by Choice: How Women are Choosing Parenthood without Marriage and Creating the New American Family*. New York: Oxford University Press. Ch. 1-5, 7, Conclusion.

Stacy, Judith. 1990. Brave new families. *New York: Basic*. Ch. 1, 2, 11.

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## Parents and Children

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Greene, Margaret E. and Ann E. Biddlecom. 2000. "Absent and Problematic Men: Demographic Accounts of Male Reproductive Roles." *Population and Development Review* 26:81-115.

Hamilton, Laura, Simon Cheng, and Brian Powell. 2007. "Adoptive Parents, Adaptive Parents: Evaluating the Importance of Biological Ties for Parental Investment." *American Sociological Review* 72: 95-116.

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King, Valarie, Kathleen Mullan Harris, and Holly E. Heard. 2004. "Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Nonresident Father Involvement." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 66:1-21.

McLanahan, Sara and Gary Sandefur. 1994. *Growing Up with a Single Parent: What Hurts, What Helps*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press

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Zelizer, Viviana A. 1981. "The price and value of children: The case of children's insurance." *American Journal of Sociology* 86(5):1036-1056.

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## VII. Fertility and Reproduction

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Geronimus, Arlene T. and Sanders Korenman. 1992. "The Socioeconomic Consequences of Teen Childbearing Reconsidered." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 107:1187-1214.

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## **The Family and the State**

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- Fong, Kelley. 2020. "Getting Eyes in the Home: Child Protective Services Investigations and State Surveillance of Family Life." *American Sociological Review* 85(4):610-638.
- García, Brígida and Orlandina De Oliveira. 2011. "Family Changes and Public Policies in Latin America." *Annual Review of Sociology* 37: 593-611.
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- Misra, Joya, Stephanie Moller, and Michelle J. Budig. 2007. "Work-Family Policies and Poverty for Partnered and Single Women in Europe and North America." *Gender & Society* 21(6): 804-827.
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