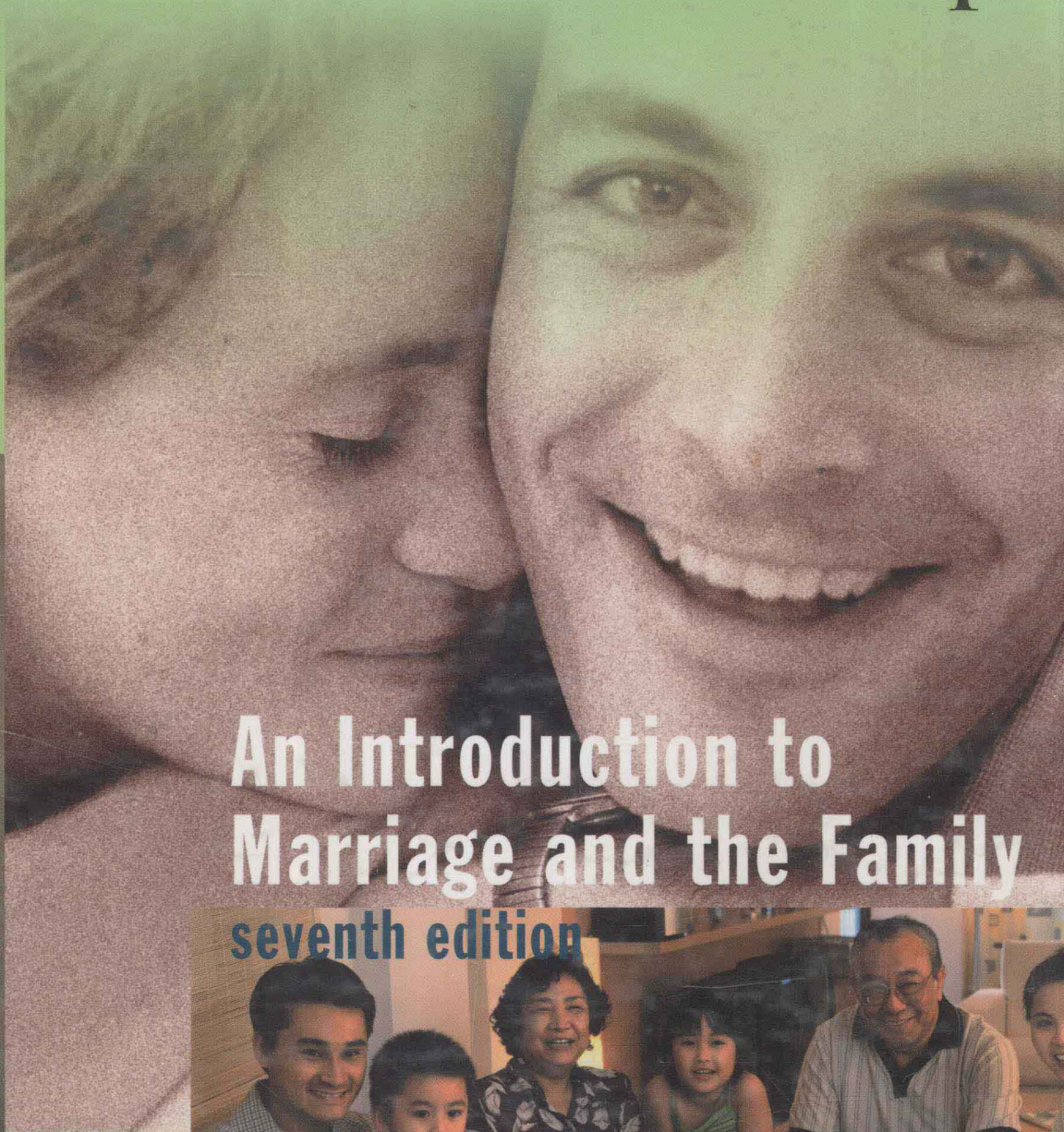
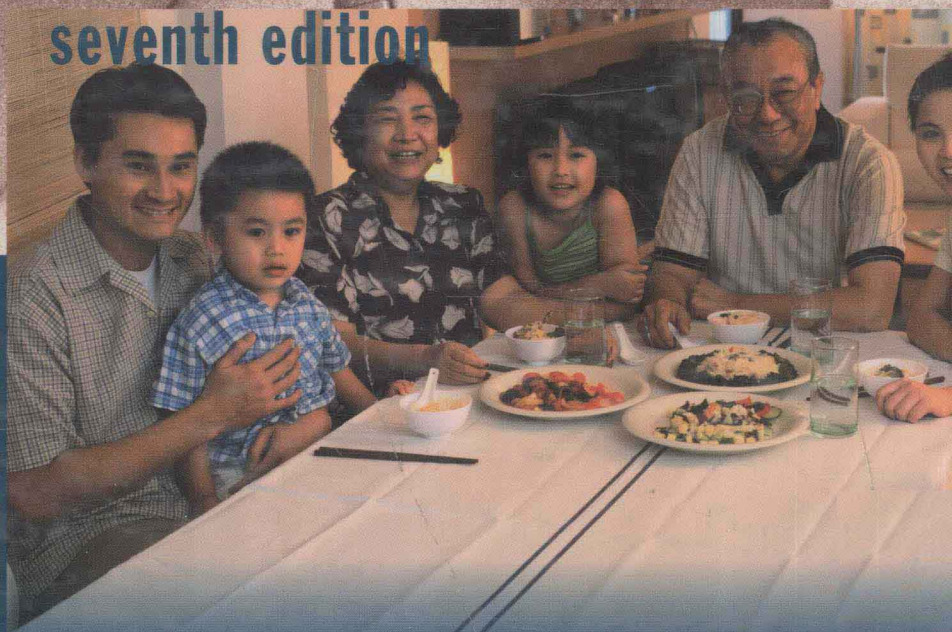
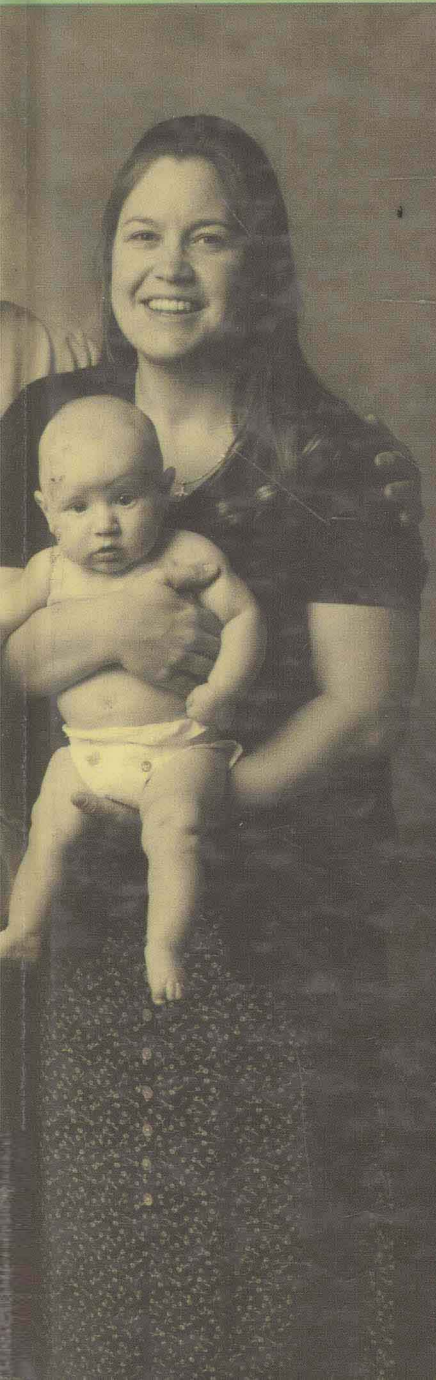


# Choices in Relationships



**An Introduction to  
Marriage and the Family**

**seventh edition**



David Knox & Caroline Schacht



# Choices in Relationships

**An Introduction to Marriage and the Family** Seventh Edition

David Knox

*East Carolina University*

Caroline Schacht

*East Carolina University*

Sociology Publisher: Eve Howard  
Assistant Editor: Analie Barnett  
Sr. Editorial Assistant: Stephanie M. Monzon  
Marketing Manager: Matthew Wright  
Marketing Assistant: Kasia Zagorski  
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**Asia**

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**To Isabelle,**  
*who now faces her most important choices*

# Preface

This seventh edition of *Choices in Relationships* reflects the feedback on previous editions from students and teachers engaged in the study and teaching of marriage and family relationships. There is now cultural and societal agreement that making choices, more than ever, is the central issue in relationships today. This issue remains the focus of this text and, to this end, we provide the most recent research to assist in making such decisions. Before this text went into print, the authors attended the National Council on Family Relations Annual meeting to ensure the latest cutting edge research/content for the text. We thank our colleagues and students for their input.

Beyond choices in relationships, our concern is to introduce students to basic content in marriage and the family. Theoretical viewpoints, social policies, and research cautions reflect the rigor of this text for university students. Our goal has been to create a “student friendly” text that instructors may adopt with the confidence that their students are studying solid research-based content.

## NEW CONTENT

Examples of **new** content in this edition include:

### Chapter 1: Choices

- Waite and Gallagher's *The Case for Marriage* (and the criticism of their new book)
- Teaching marriage skills in public high schools
- Racial differences in marital commitment
- Family patterns and racial heritage

### Chapter 2: Gender

- John Money's sex reassignment fiasco
- Current dating scripts
- Gender egalitarianism in cross-cultural perspective
- Women's body image and physical intimacy

### Chapter 3: Love

- Love style and casual sexual encounters
- Chinese versus American love styles
- Rationality of love in United States today
- Positive outcomes of jealousy

**Chapter 4: Dating/Cohabitation**

- Chinese parental influence on dating
- Long-distance dating relationships
- Infidelity among cohabitants and marrieds
- Use of Internet for mate selection

**Chapter 5: Mate Selection**

- Endogamy and racial heritage
- Interracial dating—new attitudes and behavior
- Educational homogamy preferences across cultures
- Complementary needs and marital discord

**Chapter 6: Lifestyle Diversity**

- Singlehood perceptions of Chinese-Americans and Japanese-Americans
- Alternatives to Marriage Project
- National data on homosexuality in Mexico
- Sexual identity fluidity

**Chapter 7: Marriage Diversity**

- Most important loss for those who never marry
- Effect of marriage on men
- Jewish/other interreligious marriage
- Men's age preferences for marital partner

**Chapter 8: Communication**

- Disclosure and commitment
- Conflict resolution strategies that work
- Marital happiness and disclosure
- Openness to cross-sex friends

**Chapter 9: Sexual Values**

- Outcomes of first intercourse
- Levels of sexual intimacy and relationship commitment
- Characteristics of ideal sexual partner
- Predictors of early intercourse

**Chapter 10: Planning Children**

- Chinese one-child policy—then and now
- Teen pregnancy, education, and second birth
- Cost of rearing a child
- New section on adoption

**Chapter 11: Nurturing Children**

- Effect of children on marital happiness among Chinese
- Factors associated with marital happiness following birth of baby
- Family values in Africa
- Outcomes of harsh discipline on mothers and their childrearing practices

**Chapter 12: Work and Family**

- Comparison of working hours in United States and rest of industrial world
- Comparison of marrieds and singles on financial satisfaction
- What husbands say and what husbands do about egalitarian role relationships
- Deaths in day care

### **Chapter 13: Violence and Abuse in Relationships**

- Background factors of men who abuse women
- Impact of emotional abuse/neglect on adult college students
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Effect of marital relationship on healing from previous abuse

### **Chapter 14: Divorce**

- Personality factors associated with divorce
- Gender role ideology factors associated with divorce
- Wallerstein's twenty-five-year follow-up on children of divorce (and criticisms)
- Parental alienation syndrome

### **Chapter 15: Remarriage and Stepfamilies**

- Time needed to recover from divorce
- Embittered ex-spouses who do not recover
- New study on second wives
- Stepfamilies around the world

### **Chapter 16: Stress and Crisis**

- Burnout and its antidotes
- Effect of intimacy on stress reduction
- Racial differences in extramarital relationships
- Parental reactions to death of an infant

### **Chapter 17: Aging in Marriage**

- Racial differences in caregiving
- Elderly gays, lesbians, bisexuals
- Long-term care insurance
- Supreme Court ruling on grandparents' rights—or lack of them

### **Appendixes**

- Living Will
- Durable Power of Attorney

## **FEATURES OF THE TEXT**

Pedagogical features of previous editions identified by the reviewers as valuable have been retained in this new edition while new features have been added. Beyond the choices theme, theoretical grounding, and up-to-date research, the features of this edition include the following:

**Social Policy** Identifies social policy issues related to marriage/family with which U.S. society is confronted. Examples include marriage education in public schools, HIV/STI partner notification policies, legalization of same-sex marriage, and physician-assisted suicide of aging family members.

**Self-assessment** Provides a scale for students to complete in order to measure a particular aspect of themselves and/or their relationship with their partner. Examples include the Relationships Dynamics Scale, the Student Sexual Risks Scale, and the Family Functioning Style Scale.

**Choices** Each chapter ends with a section detailing two or three choices relevant to the content of the chapter. Examples include “Who Is the Best Person for You to Marry?” “When Is the Best Time to Marry?” and “Should I Put My Parent in a Nursing Home?”

**National Data** To replace speculation with facts, we present data from national samples.

**International Data** Reflects data from around the world.

**Diversity in the United States** Emphasizes race, age, religious, economic, and educational differences in regard to marriage and family in the United States.

**Diversity in Other Countries** Provides a glimpse of gender roles, love, courtship, and marriage and family patterns in other societies and cultures.

**Time for Reflection** Encourages critical thinking and reflection on a unique insight into the topic being discussed. These have been placed in the margin for emphasis so as not to interrupt the flow of the text. An example of this feature from Chapter 15 (Remarriage and Stepfamilies) follows:

#### TIME FOR REFLECTION

Betty DeGeneres, the mother of Ellen DeGeneres, noted that the breakup of her daughter with Anne Heche was particularly difficult since there is **no rite of passage** or public closure for gays and lesbians, as there is for heterosexuals who end a relationship.

**Key Terms** **Boldfaced** in the text, listed at the end of each chapter, and defined in the glossary at the end of the text.

**Weblinks** Internet addresses are provided at the end of each chapter. We have checked to ensure that each site was operative at the time the text went to press.

## SUPPLEMENTS AND RESOURCES

*Choices in Relationships, Seventh Edition* is accompanied by a wide array of supplements prepared for both the instructor and student. Some new resources have been created specifically to accompany the seventh edition, and all of the continuing supplements have been thoroughly revised and updated.

### Supplements for Instructors

**Instructor's Manual with Test Bank** This supplement, written by the authors, offers the instructor learning objectives, key terms, detailed lecture outlines, student projects/classroom activities, as well as *InfoTrac® College Edition* and Internet exercises for each chapter. The test bank contains 40–50 multiple-choice questions, in addition to a variety of true/false, short answer, and discussion questions per chapter.



**ExamView Computerized Test Bank** Create, deliver, and customize tests and study guides (both print and online) in minutes with this multifeatured assessment and tutorial system. *ExamView* offers both a Quick Test Wizard and an Online Test Wizard that guides instructors step by step throughout the process of creating tests. Tests appear onscreen exactly as they will print or display online. *ExamView's* complete word processing capabilities allow instructors to enter an unlimited number of new questions or edit existing questions.

**SocLink 2002: A Microsoft® PowerPoint® Presentation Tool** SocLink 2002 is an easy-to-use CD-ROM with which instructors can create customized lecture Power Point presentations for class. SocLink 2002 includes nearly 500 pieces of graphic art from Wadsworth Introductory to Sociology, Marriage and Family, and Social Problems titles. A unique feature of SocLink 2002 is the ability to choose and integrate video segments into lectures. SocLink 2002 gives instructors the ability to utilize images from the text to customize their own lecture presentations OR to use and manipulate the pre-made lecture presentations already on the CD-ROM.

**Wadsworth's Marriage and Family Transparency Acetates** A set of full-color acetates taken from all Wadsworth Marriage and Family texts is available to help prepare lecture presentations.

**CNN® Today: Marriage and Family Video Series, Volume I, Volume II, Volume III, Volume IV** The CNN Today Marriage and Family Video Series is an exclusive series jointly created by Wadsworth and CNN for the marriage and family Sociology course. Each video in the series consists of approximately forty-five minutes of footage originally broadcast on CNN within the last several years and selected specifically to illustrate important concepts in marriage and family. The videos are broken into short two- to seven-minute segments, which are perfect for classroom use as lecture launchers, or to illustrate key sociological concepts. An annotated table of contents accompanies each video with descriptions of the segments and suggestions for their possible use within the course.

**Wadsworth Sociology Video Library** Qualified adopters can also select from an extensive selection of videos from Films for the Humanities and Sciences. Ask your Wadsworth/Thomson Learning representative for more information.

## Supplements for Students

**Study Guide** Written by the authors, this student review manual features learning objectives, key terms, detailed chapter outlines, *InfoTrac College Edition* projects, Internet exercises, and a personal application section for each chapter. Students can test and apply their knowledge of concepts with chapter practice tests consisting of multiple-choice, true/false, completion, and essay questions.

**Interactions CD-ROM for *Choices in Relationships, Seventh Edition*** New to this edition, this free interactive learning tool available to bundle with the text. *Interactions* includes an in-depth review of each chapter, self-quizzes, an electronic glossary, enriching multimedia images and clips, and hot links to relevant Web sites that can be accessed through the student's computer Internet browser.

**Researching Sociology on the Internet Guide** Prepared by D. R. Wilson, Houston Baptist University and David L. Carlson, Texas A&M University, this guide is designed to assist Sociology students with doing research on the Internet. Part One contains general information necessary to get started and answers questions

about security, the type of sociology material available on the Internet, the information that is reliable and the sites that are not, the best ways to find research, and the best links to take students where they want to go. Part Two looks at each main discipline in the area of Sociology and refers students to sites where the most enlightening research can be obtained. Specific drawbacks and issues to watch out for in each of the different areas are noted, as well as specific resources and subjects that are well represented in the online world.

## Web-Based Resources

**Choices in Relationships, Seventh Edition Web Site** This textbook's Web site features online quizzes, chapter-related Internet links and Internet exercises, *InfoTrac College Edition* exercises, flashcards of chapter key terms, lecture outlines for instructors, and more useful resources that correlate directly with the text.

### The Wadsworth Sociology Resource Center: Virtual Society

<http://sociology.wadsworth.com>

The Wadsworth Sociology Resource Center contains a wealth of information and tools for both instructors and students, including access to the Web sites for *Choices in Relationships*, *InfoTrac College Edition*, and *WebTutor*. Instructors and students can also find Virtual Tours in Sociology, *MicroCase*® Online, career information, links to useful Sociology Web sites, and much, much more.

**WebTutor™** *WebTutor* is a content-rich teaching and learning tool that helps students succeed by taking the course beyond classroom boundaries. *WebTutor* is rich with study and mastery tools, communication tools, and course content. Professors can use *WebTutor* to provide virtual office hours, post syllabi, set up threaded discussions, track student progress with the quizzing material, and more. *WebTutor* is available on both WebCT and Blackboard platforms.

### InfoTrac College Edition

<http://www.infotrac-college.com/wadsworth>

*InfoTrac College Edition* (available with this text) gives instructors and students four months' free access to an easy-to-use online database of reliable, full-length articles (not abstracts) from hundreds of academic journals and popular sources, all available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Available only to North American college and university students. Journals subject to change.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## Reviewers for the Seventh Edition

Sampson Lee Blair, Arizona State University  
David Daniel Bogumil, Wright State University

Elisabeth O. Burgess, Georgia State University  
Laura Cobb, Purdue University and Illinois State University  
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## E-Mail Questions/Choices

We invite you to E-mail us any specific questions you have about the choices you are making in your life. We are interested in E-mail from you not only to provide us an opportunity to make the text relevant to your life and relationships, but also so that you can tell us about important choices you have made in your relationships that may benefit others. We are already planning the eighth edition of this text and would like to include input about student choices. We love the study of marriage and the family and believe that our focus, *Choices in Relationships*, emphasizes the heart of what students are concerned about. We check our E-mail frequently and will respond to your messages.

**David Knox**, E-mail: [KnoxD@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:KnoxD@mail.ecu.edu)

**Caroline Schacht**, E-mail: [SchachtC@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:SchachtC@mail.ecu.edu)

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