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Lesbian Marriage

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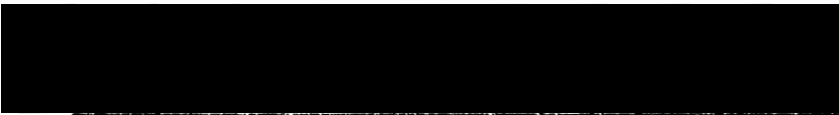
AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF Sandi Parks for the Master of Science in
Psychology presented May 20, 1975.


Title: Lesbian Marriage.

APPROVED BY MEMBERS OF THE THESIS COMMITTEE:


Hugo Maynard, Chairman


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Nancy Porter

Research findings on marriage as a heterosexual institution were reviewed and research was carried out to determine if certain of them were applicable to lesbian "marriage" as well. Marriage was defined as a relationship in which two people have lived together with strong emotional and sexual involvement for a year or more. Subjects were volunteers from among women age 22 or older, who were childless, and who were involved in the women's movement, as well as their friends, lovers and husbands. There were 14 lesbian couples, 14 lesbians who had never been married and 6 lesbians who had been married but weren't currently and who were involved

in a sexual relationship at the time of the study. Subjects were asked to fill out various forms, including (not all subjects completed all the forms) a questionnaire of background information; Interpersonal Checklists on actual-self, ideal-self, lover or spouse, how they think their spouse (or lover) sees them, how they think their spouse (or lover) sees herself (himself); a Security-Insecurity Inventory; a Marital-Roles Inventory; and a Socioemotional Valuation Index.

Results indicated that for this population of lesbians and heterosexuals: (a) Homogenous trait matching occurs among lesbians so that a mate is chosen who is perceived as resembling the self ($p < .005$). The evidence did not support the theory of ideal-self fulfillment, proposed by Karp, Jackson and Lester, for lesbians; (b) Married lesbians do not score higher in insecurity on a Security-Insecurity test than never-married lesbians, the average score for this sample being almost exactly the same (single lesbians scoring higher). There is insufficient evidence to conclude that heterosexually married women score higher in insecurity than married lesbians though results were in the expected direction ($p < .15$); (c) Marital satisfaction is higher among lesbians than among women involved in a heterosexual marriage ($p < .05$); (d) There is insufficient evidence to conclude that spouses in lesbian marriage make more nearly equal amounts of adjustment than do spouses in heterosexual marriage, though results were in the expected direction ($p < .1$). Although none of the hypotheses concerning interpersonal perception and marital satisfaction were supported by the evidence it was

tentatively concluded from looking at the pattern of the results that lesbian marriages are not split into roles so that one partner is assigned the instrumental, task-oriented roles and the other the expressive, integrative roles.

LESBIAN MARRIAGE

by

SANDI PARKS

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

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in
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Although there is no such thing as homosexual marriage in a legal sense, and it is virtually non-existent in a religious sense, there do exist homosexual relationships in which the partners have lived together with strong emotional and sexual involvement. In the absence of civil marriage these relationships must be taken as the closest equivalent to marriage. To be a lesbian, at least an overt lesbian, a woman must have a relationship with another woman. But the tendency has not been to study lesbians in terms of relationships between lesbians. Most frequently in Psychology, the study of lesbians has been as a separate group in terms of personality characteristics, early childhood experiences, sexual identity, life style, etc. This study, in contrast, will focus on lesbianism as a relationship between women.

If one were to define lesbian marriage as a relationship in which two women have lived together with strong emotional and sexual involvement for a year or more, (which is the operational definition which will be used in this paper) then lesbian marriages frequently occur. Saghir and Robins (1973) report that in their sample of 57 homosexual women (members of the Daughters of Bilitis in Chicago and San Francisco), 93% had relationships lasting more than one year and accompanied by strong emotional and sexual involvement. During young adulthood (age 20-29), 82% of the sampled women were involved in a homosexual relationship

lasting more than one year. Of these women, age 20-29, who were having affairs, 89% lived with their partner, 80% of the total living with their partner for a year or more.

TABLE I
AVERAGE DURATION OF LESBIAN AFFAIRS

Age range of group (yrs.)	15-19 (N=57)		20-29 (N=56)		30+ (N=25)	
Duration in years	f	%	f	%	f	%
No affairs	42	74	10	18	8	32
1-3	13	87	37	80	12	70
4-6	2	13	7	15	4	24
7-9	0	0	1	2	1	6
10+	0	0	1	2	0	0
Total with affairs	15	26	46	82	17	68

Note.-"Affair" is defined as a sexual relationship lasting a year or longer.

Note.-Source: Saghir and Robins. Male and Female Homosexuality, Baltimore: The Williams and Wilkins Company, 1973.

TABLE II
DURATION OF TIME DURING WHICH THOSE HAVING AFFAIRS LIVED WITH THEIR PARTNERS

Age range of group (yrs.)	15-19 (N=15)		20-29 (N=46)		30+ (N=16)	
Duration of affair (yrs.)	f	%	f	%	f	%
None	7	47	5	11	2	12
1	8	53	4	9	5	31
1-3	0	0	28	61	7	44
4-6	0	0	7	15	1	6
7-9	0	0	1	2	1	6
10+	0	0	1	2	0	0
Total living with partner	8	53	41	89	14	87

Note.- Source: Saghir and Robins, Male and Female Homosexuality, 1973.

Considerable research has been done on marriage as a heterosexual institution. This research has not been duplicated on homosexual unions. A purpose of this present research is to examine past findings of research on heterosexual marriage and to investigate their applicability, if any, to lesbian marriages.

Selection Of Marital Partners

According to Tharp (1963), marriage research began in the 1880's with Pearson's comparisons of the anthropometric characteristics of spouses, and from that time until our own, the organizing issue in all mating research has remained the same, namely the degree of similarity between husbands and wives. That is, do "likes marry likes" (homogamy), or do "unlikes" marry (heterogamy)?

When cultural variables are considered, sociology has produced convincing evidence for the homogamy of several. Hollingshead (1950) carried out a definitive piece of research demonstrating homogamy with respect to race, age, religion, ethnic origin and social class. Katz and Hill (1958) reviewed the literature and added residential propinquity to the sociological variables influencing mate selection.

Beginning in the 1920's sociologists extended their investigations to psychological factors affecting mate selection. In the early studies by Burgess and Cottrell, King, Locke, Terman, Kirkpatrick and others, that has been summarized by Burgess and Wallin in their book Engagement and Marriage (1953), homogamy - not heterogamy - seems the determining variable, although relationships are of a very low order. For example, Burgess and Wallin reported that of the 42 items of the Thurstone Neurotic

Inventory, 14 showed a greater than chance expectation of homogamy for engaged couples. These ranged from (in ratio of obtained to expected similarity) 1.17 to 1.04. Comparable results are reported for items on the Bernreuter Personality Inventory and the Strong Interest Test by Terman (1938)

In 1954, R. F. Winch added a new dimension to the homogamy- heterogamy issue by elaborating the theory of complementary needs. Summarized by Tharp (1963), the theory holds

that though homogamy of social characteristics establishes a 'field of eligibles', mate selection within this field is determined by a specific kind of heterogamy of motives - complementarity. This complementarity may be of two kinds: (a) that in which partners differ in degree of the same need, or (b) differ in kind of need. The mate is selected who offers the greatest probability of providing maximum need satisfaction, as the partners act according to their complementary pattern of motives. (p. 104).

Research attempts at verification of this theory have had mixed results. Winch himself (1954) found that when he used clinical interviews to make judgements of pattern of needs that the complementary theory was supported. However, when T.A.T. protocols were used the evidence tended to favor a homogamous theory of attraction. The needs studied were 12 taken from Murray's list.

Boverman and Day (1954), using the Edwards Personal Preference Schedule (EPPS) which drew from Murray's needs list and includes 10 of the 12 needs used by Winch, were unable to find support for the complementary theory. On same-need matching, more evidence was found for homogamy than for complementarity; and on different-need matching no evidence was found for either.

Schellenberg and Bee (1960) again used the SPPS on couples recently married, engaged or going steady. All the evidence was in favor of homogamy, not complementarity, and was statistically significant for marrieds and for the total group. Katz and Krauss (1960) compared husband-wife pairs with randomly assigned pairs, using the EPPS. The results were overwhelmingly opposed to complementarity. Hobart and Lindhold (1963) found evidence to support the homogamous theory; Kerchhoff and Davis (1962), the complementary theory; and Nesselroad (1967) using the 16 Personality Factor test found support for the homogamous theory with some variables and the complementary theory with others.

Karp, Jackson and Lester (1970) suggested that part of the reason for differing results was that Winch didn't adequately define on which traits or needs complementary selection was likely to hold. They proposed a corollary to the complementary need theory of mate selection. The corollary presented the theory of ideal-self fulfillment and proposed that two factors operate in mate selection: (a) homogamous trait matching so that a mate will be chosen who is perceived as resembling the self; and (b) where the actual-self differs from the ideal-self, a mate will be perceived as resembling the ideal-self rather than the actual-self. Fifty engaged women who were asked to rate their actual-self and ideal-self and fiance's actual-self using 54 adjectives from the Interpersonal Checklist supported both hypotheses.

Karp, et al. mention that they hope to do additional research on ideal-self fulfillment using different populations. This study is

investigating whether her findings apply as well to childless lesbians. The hypotheses to be tested in this section, as well as all others in this thesis, should be taken to apply only to the population of women aged 22 or over who are involved in the women's movement (or to their husbands in some cases). The hypotheses are:

H1a. In childless lesbian marriages, or among unmarried lesbians with lovers, the perception of the spouse or lover resembles the perception of the actual-self.

H1b. In childless lesbian marriages, or among unmarried lesbians with lovers, for traits where perception of the actual-self differs from the perception of the ideal-self, the perception of the spouse or lover resembles the perception of the ideal-self.

Marriage And Health

There is a considerable research literature which shows that while heterosexual marriage appears beneficial in almost every regard for men, this is not necessarily so for women. Thus while married women, like married men, do live longer than their single counterparts, married men over the age of 45 have better health than never-married men, but married women have worse health than never-married women throughout adulthood.

When psychological health or well-being is considered the same pattern emerges of married men having the advantage over never-married men, while the reverse is true of women. One clear exception to this is when the measure of well-being used is self-reported happiness. In studies by Gurin, Veroff and Feld (1957), Bradburn and Caplowitz (1962)

Bradburn (1963) and Knupfer, Clark and Room (1966), both married men and married women more often reported themselves happy than their single counterparts. Single women, however, generally report themselves happy in larger proportions than single men.

TABLE III

PERCENT OF HEALTHY^a MEN AND WOMEN BY MARITAL STATUS AND AGE

Age Range	Men		Women	
	Married %	Never Married %	Married %	Never Married %
17-44	91.8	92.7	91.4	94.0
45-64	80.0	73.0	80.9	83.2
65+	48.8	47.4	57.6	65.2

Note.—The source is an unpublished table of the National Center for Health Statistics. Data are from 1968 Health Interview Survey. Found in Bernard (1972).

^aHealth defined in terms of absence of chronic condition or restricted activity.

Using other measures unmarried women appear healthier than married women. In a very early study, Willoughby (1938) compared men and women, married and unmarried, in various age groups. He found that married more than unmarried women reported that they were troubled by ideas that people were watching them on the street, were fearful of falling when on high places, had their feelings easily hurt, were happy and sad by turns without apparent reason, regretted impulsive statements, cried easily, felt hurt by criticism, sometimes felt miserable, found it hard to make up their minds, sometimes felt grouchy, were burdened by a sense of remorse, worried over possible misfortune, changed interests quickly, were bothered when people watched them perform a task, would cross the street to avoid meeting people, were upset when people crowded ahead of them in line,

TABLE IV

SUMMARY OF STUDIES COMPARING HAPPINESS OF SINGLE AND MARRIED MEN AND WOMEN

Study	Not too happy				Very happy			
	Men		Women		Men		Women	
	Single %	Married %	Single %	Married %	Single %	Married %	Single %	Married %
Gurin, et al., national sample, 1957	13	8	11	7	11	36	26	43
Bradburn et al., four rural Ill. communities, 1962	31	14	15	11	13	27	27	27
Bradburn, five urban and sub-urban communities, 1963	19	9	14	7	18	35	18	38
Knupfer et al., San Francisco, 1962	21	7	12	10	16	39	24	39

Note.—The source is Knupfer, Clark and Room, *The mental health of the unmarried. American Journal of Psychiatry*, 1966, 122, p. 842.

would rather stand than take a front seat when late, were self-conscious about their appearance, and felt prevented from giving help at the scene of an accident.

A study of midtown Manhattan residents (Srole, et al., 1962) found single men to be more often judged impaired mentally than married men, while the reverse was true of women except for those between the age of 40 and 49. Genevieve Knupfer, et al. (1966) found depression, severe neurotic symptoms, phobic tendency and passivity to have a higher incidence among single than among married men, but a lower incidence among single than among married women. U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare data indicate that while married men had fewer than expected symptoms of psychological distress, married women had more than expected. The reverse is true of never married men and women. Finally Dorothy Ross in an unpublished study "The Story of the Top One Percent of the Women at Michigan State University" (reported by Bernard, 1972) found that those women who married lost independence and "impulse expression"; after marriage they became more submissive and conservative.

TABLE V

PERCENT OF IMPAIRED MALE AND FEMALE RESPONDENTS
IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN MENTAL HEALTH
SURVEY BY AGE AND MARITAL STATUS

Age	Men		Women	
	Married	Single	Married	Single
20-29	11.7	20.5	13.4	11.2
30-39	19.6	30.4	22.1	12.1
40-49	19.0	37.5	18.1	24.6
50-59	25.7	46.1	30.6	25.6

Note.- Source: Leo Srole, et al., Mental health in the metropolis.
New York: McGraw-Hill, 1962, pp. 177-178.

TABLE VI

SELECTED PERSONALITY DIMENSIONS AMONG MARRIED MEN AND WOMEN
30 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER BY MARITAL STATUS
(PER CENT SCORING HIGH)

Personality dimension	Men		Women	
	Married	Single	Married	Single
Depression	37	50	54	35
Severe neurotic symptoms	17	30	11	4
Phobic tendency	30	40	55	44
Passivity	50	66	74	57

Note.--Source: Knupfer, et al., The mental health of the un-
married, American Journal of Psychiatry, 1966, 122, p. 842.

TABLE VII

SELECTED SYMPTOMS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS AMONG MARRIED AND NEVER
MARRIED MEN AND WOMEN

Symptom	Men		Women	
	Married	Never married	Married	Never married
Nervous breakdown	-.76	+1.00	+.57	-.86
Felt impending nervous breakdown	-.51	-.07	-.18	-4.48
Nervousness	+.31	-1.05	+1.05	-3.04
Inertia	-.76	+.29	+1.00	-3.04
Insomnia	-1.17	+1.92	+.60	-1.68
Trembling hands	-.23	-.52	-.54	-.76
Nightmares	-.75	+1.28	0.00	-2.35
Perspiring hands	+.55	-1.18	.38	-1.18
Fainting	-.11	+.81	+.26	+.09
Headaches	+.80	-1.91	+.97	-1.63
Dizziness	+.24	-.79	-.10	-2.99
Heart Palpitations	+.02	-3.87	+.46	-3.43

Note.--0.00 is expected frequency.

Note.--Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Selected symptoms of psychological distress, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1970, Table 17, pp. 30-31.

This study is investigating whether it is also true of lesbian women that single women are psychologically healthier than married women. The hypotheses to be tested are:

H2a. Never married childless lesbians are psychologically healthier than lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage.

H2b. Lesbians who are involved in a childless, lesbian marriage are psychologically healthier than women involved in a childless heterosexual marriage.

Marital Satisfaction

Though approximately the same percentages of women as men tend to say that their marriage is happy (Terman, 1938; Burgess and Cottrell, 1939; Gurin, Veroff, and Feld, 1960; Veroff and Feld, 1970), Locke (1951) found that among happily married couples, fewer wives than husbands report agreement with their spouse on such family problems as finances, recreation, religion, affection, friends, sex, in-laws, time together, and life aims and goals; and more wives report serious marital difficulties. The proportion of those happily married wives who reported no difficulties at all was considerably lower than the proportion of happily married men who reported none. The wives reported problems in more than twice as many areas as did their husbands. Likewise in a national sample Veroff, et al., (1970) found that women more often than men stated that there were problems in their marriages (54% of mothers and 39% of childless wives versus 47% of fathers and 31% of childless husbands). Without specifying sources (though listing an extensive bibliography), Jesse Bernard (1972) states,

There is a considerable research literature reaching back over a generation which shows that: more wives than husbands report marital frustration and dissatisfaction; more report negative feelings; more wives than husbands consider their marriages unhappy, have considered separation or divorce, have regretted their marriages; and fewer report positive companionship. Only about half as many wives (25%) as husbands (45%) say there is nothing about their marriage that is not as nice as they would like. And twice as many wives (about a fourth) as husbands (12%) in a Canadian sample say that they would not remarry the same partner or have doubts about it. Understandably, therefore, more wives than husbands seek marriage counseling, and more wives than husbands initiate divorce proceedings. (p. 26).

This study is investigating how the marital satisfaction of women in a lesbian marriage compares with the marital satisfaction of women involved in a heterosexual marriage. Since several studies (Renee, 1970; Bollings and Feldman, 1970) have found that the presence of children is inclined to have a negative effect on marital satisfaction, particularly for the wife, only childless marriages are being considered. The hypothesis is:

H3. Marital satisfaction is higher among lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage than among women involved in a childless heterosexual marriage.

Expectations And Adjustments To Marriage

Burgess and Wallin (1953) asked a sample of husbands and wives three to five years after marriage who made the greater adjustment in marriage, "the preponderance of replies...was that the wives made the greater adjustment". Both husbands and wives agreed.

Hurvitz (1959) devised a Marital Roles Inventory which dealt with functional roles.

Functional roles are the behavioral aspect of the status of husband or wife, the role-set that includes all the activities which link the individual as an actor to the social structure. The husband's functional roles include earning the living, being a companion to his wife, and being a model of men for his children; the wife's functional roles include being the homemaker, being a companion to her husband, and caring for the children's everyday needs. (p. 106).

The inventory contains a list of role-sets for the husband and a list of role-sets for the wife. One set of instructions requests each spouse to number her/his own role-set "in the order of importance in which you actually carry out your roles or functions in your family at the present time." This procedure gives the rank order of the spouse's performance of her/his own functional roles. The second set of instructions requests each spouse to number her/his mate's role-set "in the way you want or prefer your wife (husband) to carry out her (his) roles or functions in your family at the present time."

In a middle-class sample of 104 couples Hurvitz found (at a significance level of $p < .001$) that the wives' performance of their functional roles is more like their husbands' expectation of them than the husbands' performance of their functional roles is like their wives expectations of them.

There is a lack of data on what functional roles for the partners in a lesbian marriage might be (if in fact there are such functional roles, given that lesbian marriages are not approved of by the community at large). Role-sets might exist, however, that link the partner in a lesbian marriage to the social structure of a lesbian community. A modification of the role-sets defined by Hurvitz will be used to investigate the following hypothesis in regard to adjustments in marriage:

H4. Spouses in childless lesbian marriages make more nearly equal amounts of adjustment in marriage than do spouses in childless heterosexual marriages.

Interpersonal Perception And Marital Satisfaction

Although the classic studies of marriage used self-ratings and ratings by others as techniques in marriage research, Kelly (1941) was the first to consider perception of personality as an operative force in its own right: "the actual relative position of the husband and wife on a personality trait continuum are not as important in determining their compatibility as the belief of the husband and wife regarding their relative positions on these scales." (p. 193). He used his 36 item personality rating scale, administered for self-perception and perception of spouse to investigate this proposition. He found that subjects rate themselves less favorably than they rate their spouses, and less favorably than they are rated by their spouses. The Burgess-Terman-Miles Compatibility Index was also administered to each subject, yielding the findings that high compatibility is associated with more favorable self-ratings, and accompanied by spouse ratings which are yet more favorable. These findings hold true for both husband and wife. Kelly concludes that an individual's personal satisfaction in marriage is related both to the self-regard and to the judgement of the self's inferiority or superiority vis-a-vis the spouse.

Preston, Peltz, Mudd and Froscher (1952) used a group of 55 couples who had received premarital counseling (the more happily married group) and 116 couples who had received post-marital counseling (the less

happily married group). Using a personality rating scale of 17 items - selected from those used by Kelly (1941) and Burgess and Cottrell (1939) - Kelly's results were substantially verified, except that the less-happily married men judged their wives much more severely than themselves. Further results were that (a) self-ratings of spouses show positive correlations of the same order as those of the classic studies with a tendency for greater congruence in happy than in unhappy couples (Median correlations = .30 and .19, respectively); (b) Higher correlations occur, however, between ratings of self and ratings of spouse. This tendency is likewise stronger with more happily marrieds.

Dymond's (1954) study dealt with a spouse's ability to predict her/his mate's responses to items on a personality inventory. Using 15 subjects well known to her with a mean length of marriage of 10.4 years, one hundred MMPI items, pertaining to interaction with others, were administered to each with instructions to answer for oneself and then to predict the spouse's answer. In order to control for stereotype of reply, all items which were answered uniformly by more than two-thirds of the group were eliminated, leaving 55 items. Scores were then related to the happiness of the marriage as rated by the subjects themselves and validated by Dymond's rating. The usual finding occurred: happily married spouses resembled each other more than the unhappily married. Her principle hypothesis was also verified: happy's predict mate's replies significantly better than do unhappy's. Further there is significantly less association between similarity of self-spouse and accuracy of prediction in the happy than in the unhappy group. Dymond concludes, "Married love is not blind...the better each partner understands the other's perception of himself and his

world, the more satisfactory the relationship." (p.171).

These studies indicate that with increase in self-similarity, increase of perceived self-similarity and increase in predictive ability, happiness is greater.

Corsini (1956a,b) using 20 volunteer students and their spouses as subjects, used the Burgess-Wallin scale to assess marital happiness. A 50-item adjective Q sort was sorted four times by each subject: (a) for self, (b) for spouse, (c) prediction of spouse, and (d) prediction of the spouse's description of the subject. Every conclusion with respect to couples was checked by drawing random samples of non-couples, and the same operations for couples duplicated. He agreed that (a) happiness is associated with similarity of self-perceptions (how wife sees herself x how husband sees himself), (b) understanding of the mate is not related to similarity of self and mate. However he also discovered that although understanding can be shown to exist between husbands and wives, this understanding is related to marital happiness only in those comparisons when the husband is the target of Q sorts (that is, wife's prediction of husband's self perception x husband's self perception; and husband's prediction of wife's perception of him x wife's perception of husband). In these instances, husband-wife correlations vary positively with marital happiness for both mates. This suggests that it is the husband's role in marriage that is the crucial one for marital satisfaction of both spouses. However, Corsini then showed that the above-stated relationship was no more true for husband and wife than for randomly-paired men and women who did not even know each other. This led him to suggest that the relevant relationship may exist between marital happiness and a stereotyped

conception of the husband. He then demonstrated that the greater "conformity" of male self-perception (measured by the mean correlations for each male against all other males) is positively correlated with happiness for both husband and wife. None of these relationships hold when perception of the female is the variable considered.

All this suggests that congruence, necessary for happiness, between self-perception and perception by the spouse is particularly crucial for the male; further, that agreement as to the qualities of the husband most often partakes largely from widely shared expectations of husbandly qualities.

Luckey (1960) lends support to these ideas. Eighty-one couples, all of some education at the University of Minnesota, were selected from a much larger subject-pool in order to provide two groups highly differentiated on the Locke and Terman marital happiness scales. The Leary Interpersonal Checklist was completed by each subject for self, spouse, ideal self, mother and father. Luckey's results support Corsini's. Satisfaction in marriage is related to the congruence of the husband's self-concept and that held of him by the wife. The relation does not hold for concepts of wives. Happiness is also related to: (a) congruence of the husband's self and ideal self concepts; (b) congruence of husband's self-concept and his concept of his father; and (c) congruence of the wife's concepts of their husbands and concepts of their fathers. Tharp (1963) summarizes these results as follows:

It seems, therefore, that the maximally happy marital situation can be described as follows: husband and wife agree that he is as he wishes to be, namely, like his father; and as she wishes him to be, namely like her's. Surely this broad area of agreement is the culturally defined male sex-role - more specifically, the male subrole of husband. (p. 101).

Stuckert (1963) came up with similar results. He used the Burgess-Wallin scale of marital satisfaction and the ten personality needs most frequently listed in a study of marital choice by Strauss (1947), including:

1. Importance of love in marriage
2. Being able to confide in one's spouse
3. Showing affection
4. Respecting one's ideals
5. Appreciating the achievements of the other
6. Understanding the other's needs
7. Helping in making important decisions
8. Stimulating the other's ambition
9. Showing respect for the other
10. Giving self-confidence in relations with other people

These ten roles were ranked for importance by each spouse three times. The respondents were asked to evaluate the relative importance of these factors in regard to: (a) their importance in marriage in general; (b) their importance in his/her own marriage; (c) their importance from the point of view of his/her spouse.

Using couples early in marriage, he found: (a) the accuracy with which the wife perceives the marital expectations of her husband is related to her marital satisfaction; (b) the accuracy of the husband's perception of his wife's views is not associated with satisfaction.

Finally, Taylor (1967) used the Wallace Marital Success Test to obtain an adjusted and an unadjusted group of 50 couples each, who also

filled out Interpersonal Checklists for self, spouse, how spouse sees you, how spouse views self. The following were found to have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction: (a.1) Congruence between the husband's self-perception and wife's perception of husband, t score = 4.58; (a.2) Congruence of wife's self-perception with husband's perception of wife, $t = 2.57$; (b.1) Congruence between the husband's self-perception and the wife's prediction of the husband's self-perception, $t = 2.64$; (b.2) Congruence between the wife's perception of the husband and the husband's prediction of the wife's perception of him, $t = 2.19$. Congruence between wife's self-perception and husband's prediction of wife's self-perception, and congruence between the husband's perception of wife and the wife's prediction of the husband's perception of her, were not significantly related to marital satisfaction. Taylor concludes "the findings suggest that empathic (defined as ability to predict another's perception) accuracy is more significant with respect to perception of the husband than in perceptions of the wife." (p. 24).

Another intraindividual finding is that a subject's feeling that their spouse agrees with their perception is positively related to marital satisfaction. That is: (a) Congruence between husband's self-perception and husband's prediction of wife's perception of him, $t = 6.15$; (b) Congruence between husband's perception of wife and husband's prediction of wife's perception of herself, $t = 3.57$; (c) Congruence between wife's self-perception and wife's prediction of husband's perception of her, $t = 6.39$; (d) Congruence between wife's perception of husband and wife's prediction of husband's perception of himself, $t = 3.37$.

To summarize these research finds:

1. The self-ratings of spouses are positively correlated and there is greater similarity with greater marital happiness;
2. Self-ratings and ratings of spouse are even more highly correlated and again there is greater similarity with greater marital happiness;
3. Marital satisfaction is positively correlated with congruence between husband's self-perception and wife's perception of husband. It has sometimes been found also to be correlated with congruence between wife's self-perception and husband's perception of wife but correlations are generally of a lower order;
4. Marital satisfaction is positively correlated with congruence between: (a) husband's self-perception and husband's prediction of wife's perception of him; (b) husband's perception of wife and husband's prediction of wife's perception of herself; (c) wife's self-perception and wife's prediction of husband's perception of her; and (d) wife's perception of husband and wife's prediction of husband's perception of himself. In other words marital satisfaction is positively correlated with thinking that the spouse agrees with one's own perception, particularly one's own perception of oneself;
5. Marital satisfaction is positively correlated with congruence between husband's self-perception and wife's prediction of husband's self-perception, and with congruence between wife's perception of husband and husband's prediction of wife's perception of him;
6. Marital satisfaction is positively correlated with congruence between: (a) husband's self-perception and his ideal-self

perception; (b) husband's self-perception and his perception of his father; (c) wife's perception of husband and her perception of her father; (d) husband's self-perception and a stereotype of "husband".

Tharp (1963) suggests that some findings of role theorists help explain the findings that congruence of perception when the husband is the target is more important to marital satisfaction than when the wife is the target. I will summarize some of the theories and studies he mentions.

Tharp states that the role analysis approach to marriage has had its advocates for many years. Kargman (1957) has argued for the efficacy of role analysis, as opposed to the intrapsychic approach, in enabling both counsellor and client to appreciate marriage relationship problems. Earlier, Mangus had presented an elaboration of role theory as it might be applied to marriage counselling. Tharp states that the most sophisticated psychosocial treatment of marriage relationships now available is that of Parsons and Bales (1955).

Parsons demonstrates that in the process of development, need dispositions, object relations, and identification are inextricably related; so that although needs may certainly be considered as relatively enduring, as an individual finds himself engaged in a given social interaction, or assuming a given social role, this situation organizes the enduring need units. Any theory of action must deal not with the isolated units but with the role-ascribed organization of these units. Thus, "role-expectation is itself a motivational unit". (Parsons and Bales, 1955, p. 107). (Tharp, 1963, p. 109).

Parsons, himself, offers this metaphor:

...highly differentiated need dispositions constitute a kind of "keyboard". A given role orientation is a tune played on that keyboard. Many different tunes will strike the same notes but in different combinations, and some will be altogether omitted from some tunes...the pattern of the tune is not deducible from the structure of the keyboard. (Parsons, et al., 1955, p. 171).

The two dominant roles are the male and female sex roles. Following an analysis of child socialization in terms of family structures,

Parsons concludes:

If this general analysis is correct, then the most fundamental difference between the sexes in personality type is that relative to the total culture as a whole the masculine personality tends more to the predominance of instrumental interests, needs and functions, presumably in whatever social system both sexes are involved, while the feminine personality tends more to the primacy of expressive interests, needs and functions. We would expect, by and large, that other things being equal, men would assume more technical, executive and "judicial" roles, women more supportive, integrative and "tension-managing" roles. (p. 101).

Parsons then applies these principles to marriage roles. In his system there are two primary axes of personality differentiation, power and instrumental-expressive. In marriage he theorizes that power equalization is the norm. As to the instrumental-expressive axis,

...the husband has the primary adaptive responsibilities relative to the outside situation, and that internally he is in the first instance "giver of care," or pleasure, and secondarily the giver of love, whereas the wife is primarily the giver of love and secondarily the giver of care or pleasure. (Parsons and Bales, 1955, p. 151).

Tharp (1963) says that the most ambitious attempt to test Parsons' hypothesis has been that of Farber (1957). Parsons and Bales (1955) make the broad assignment of task oriented roles to the husband, and socioemotional roles to the wife (each role being subordinate to the common value system). Farber used three variables, of which the third was: 3. Socioemotional Valuation in Interaction: measured by the following five values, which, along with others, were ranked by subjects in order of importance: (a) "companionship", the family

members feeling comfortable with each other and being able to get along together; (b) "Personality development", continued increase in family members ability to understand and get along with people and to accept responsibility; (c) "satisfaction" of family members "with amount of affection shown," feeling that the members of the family really need each other emotionally and trust each other fully; and (e) "a home", having a place where the family members feel they belong, where they feel at ease, and where other people do not interfere in their lives.

From this Farber hypothesized: 1. The rankings of items relating to socioemotional aspects of interaction by wives tends to be higher than the rankings by their husbands. He used 90 couples in his sample and found that, as for Hypothesis 1, Parsons' prediction of husband-wife differentiation in marriage roles along an instrumental-expressive axis was confirmed.

Tharp (1963) summarizes the research on interpersonal perception and instrumental-expressive roles and marital satisfaction as follows:

Modal role definitions exist and are sex differentiated. They are provided for by parental identifications. The husband role is the more instrumental, the wife role the more expressive-integrative. The wife being therefore more accomodating, the husband more rigid in role needs, the likelihood of marital success is a function of the husband's possession of the expected instrumental needs and capacities. (p. 115).

These findings would apply to lesbian marriages only if there exists such a split of roles so that one partner is assigned the instrumental, task oriented roles and the other the expressive, integrative, socicemotional roles. In this case it could be expected that the person in the instrumental role would be the one who made the least

adjustments to marriage, and that perceptions and predictions with her as the target would have more effect on marital satisfaction than perceptions and predictions with her spouse as target. One way to test this is to use the Index of Strain scores, arbitrarily designating the partner who made the least adjustments as being in the instrumental role and the other partner as being in the expressive role.

Since both partners would have had the socialization experiences common to women in our culture, the expectation would be that their marital roles would not differ, and so the hypotheses to be tested are:

H5a. In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the instrumental partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

H5b. In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the expressive partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

H5c. In childless lesbian marriages, a pooled measure of congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner, and of congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Expressive partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner will have a higher positive relationship to marital satisfaction than either measure taken separately.

H5d. In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental partner and the spouse's

prediction of the actual-self perception of this partner (i.e. how the expressive partner thinks the Instrumental partner sees herself) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

H5e. In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Expressive partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self perception of this partner (i.e. how the Instrumental partner thinks the Expressive partner sees herself) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

H5f. In childless lesbian marriages, a pooled measure of congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self perception of this partner, and congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Expressive partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self perception of this partner will have a higher positive relationship to marital satisfaction than either measure taken separately.

H5g. In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the spouse's perception of the Instrumental partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her (how the Instrumental partner thinks the Expressive partner will see her) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

H5h. In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the spouse's perception of the Expressive partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her (i.e. how the Expressive partner thinks the Instrumental partner perceives her) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

H51. In childless lesbian marriages, a pooled measure of congruence between the spouse's perception of the Instrumental partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her, and congruence between the spouse's perception of the Expressive partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her will have a higher positive relationship to marital satisfaction than either measure taken separately.

CHAPTER II

METHOD

Subjects

Subjects were volunteers from among women age 22 or older, who were childless, and who were involved in the women's movement in Portland, Oregon, through such organizations as A Woman's Place Bookstore and the Women's Liberation School, as well as their friends, lovers and husbands. The never-married lesbians were on the average 25 years of age, had 15.4 years of education and had been involved in the women's movement 3.7 years. The married lesbians were on the average 28 years of age, had 16.3 years of education, had been involved in the women's movement 4.1 years and had lived with their lovers 3.1 years. The heterosexually married women were on the average 26 years of age, had 15.5 years of education, had been involved in the women's movement 3.7 years and had lived with their husbands or lovers 3.4 years. Their husbands (lovers) were on the average 27 years of age and had 15.7 years of education. Though it is recognized that such women probably differ from the general population on such characteristics as age, level of education and degree of radicalism, this source of subjects was necessary because more heterogeneous lesbian organizations such as Daughters of Bilitis do not exist in Portland and the lesbian movement that does exist is integrated within certain segments of the women's movement. This of course, limits the generalizability of the data obtained.

Subjects included 14 lesbians who were involved in a lesbian marriage and their spouses, 14 women involved in a heterosexual marriage and their husbands (the majority of these were not legally married), 14 lesbian women who had never been married according to the definition of the study, and 6 lesbians who were neither "married" nor "never-married" but who were involved in a sexual relationship at the time of the study. Unmarried women were classified as lesbians on the basis of Kinsey's (1953) heterosexual-homosexual rating scale (see question 3, section II of the appendix). If a woman checked either that she has exclusively homosexual contacts, or basically homosexual with very infrequent heterosexual contacts, she was considered to be a lesbian.

Design and Techniques of Measurement

A cover story (see section I of the appendix) was used to explain the purpose of the study to potential subjects. Each of the women were asked to fill out a questionnaire of background information (see section II of the appendix). In addition subjects filled out various of other forms (described below) according to which group they belonged to as can be seen in TABLE VIII. All forms were filled out at the subjects own convenience.

Interpersonal Checklist (ICL). The ICL is a list of 128 adjectives and adjective phrases each of which can be placed along two intersecting axes whose dimensions are affection-hostility and dominance-passivity. The subject is instructed to check those adjectives that apply to whom-ever or whatever she/he is describing. In the present study these were used to describe yourself as you actually are, yourself as you would

TABLE VIII
FORMS FILLED OUT BY DIFFERENT GROUPS OF SUBJECTS

Groups	Heterosexually married women	Married Lesbians	Heterosexually married men	Never married Lesbians without lovers	Never married Lesbians with lovers	Currently unmarried Lesbians with lovers
Forms	ICLs <u>yourself as you actually are</u> <u>yourself as you would ideally like to be</u> <u>your lover (or spouse)</u> S-I Inventory Marital-Adjustment Test Marital Roles Inventory Socioemotional Valuation Index ICLs <u>how you think your spouse sees herself</u> (<u>himself</u>) <u>how you think your spouse sees you</u>	*	*	*	*	*
	*	*	*	*	*	*

ideally like to be, your lover or your spouse, a friend of your lover or a friend of your spouse, how you think your spouse sees herself (himself), and how you think your spouse sees you.

S-I (Security-Insecurity) Inventory. The purpose of the S-I Inventory is stated by its developers as being to detect and measure the feeling of security (which they define as one of the most important determinants of mental health, almost to the point of being synonymous with it). Scores on the inventory (high scores indicate insecurity) are positively correlated with scores on the Thurstone Neurotic Inventory and the Bernreuter neurotic tendency scale. Reviewers in Buros Mental Measurements Yearbook generally agree that the test is reliable and measures what it purports to measure. The inventory takes 10-15 minutes to complete.

Marital Adjustment Test. This is the short form Marital-Adjustment Test developed by Harvey Locke and Karl Wallace (1959), with one modification. The test, along with the points scored for each response (placed in the answer spaces), is given in section III of the appendix. The modification is in question 10 which in the original is "When disagreements arise they usually result in: husband giving in ____, wife giving in ____, agreement by mutual give and take ____." In the modified form the possible responses are: "me giving in ____, spouse giving in ____, agreement by mutual give and take ____." This short Marital-Adjustment Test was constructed by using a limited number of items from among those on longer tests that were shown to have the highest level of discrimination in the original studies. There are 15 items and possible scores range from 2-158 points. Split-half reliability by the Spearman-Brown

formula was found to be .90 in the original sample of 246 subjects.

Marital Roles Inventory. This is a modification of the Marital Roles Inventory designed by Hurvitz (1959) which was mentioned in the introduction. It was added as questions 16 and 17 to the Marital Adjustment Test. The roles used are a modification of those used by Hurvitz (see section IV of the appendix). The roles which apply only to families with children have been left out. In addition the subjects must choose between one of three different roles to rank in regard to supporting the family, and doing the housework. The roles that are not used are arbitrarily assigned a rank of eight.

The Index of Strain is a measure of the difference between the rank orders that the spouses assign to a particular role-set (their own or the one applying to their mate). The husband's Index of Strain is the difference between the husband's and wife's rank order of the husband's functional roles. The same principle holds for the wife's Index of Strain, and that of the two lesbian spouses. The Index of Strain is computed by taking the cube root of the sum of the cubes of the differences between the ranks the spouses assign to each role. Hurvitz explains this method of arriving at the Index of Strain as follows:

The index of strain is computed by taking the cube root of the sum of the differences between the ranks the spouses assign to each role...In devising the Index of Strain two considerations led to its development in its present form: (1) The first consideration was that minor differences in rank position should not be penalized. When a husband ranks roles A and B in a 1,2 order and his wife ranks them in a 2,1 order, this may be a verbal difference since both cannot be given the same position simultaneously. Such differences are not regarded as having great significance; (2) The second consideration was that major differences in rank positions should be emphasized. When a husband ranks role

A and B in a 1,6 order, and his wife ranks them in a 6,1 order, this is assumed to indicate considerable difference between the two, and "cubing" the difference emphasizes the divergence between the spouses. Taking the cube root of the sum of the cubes of the differences between the ranking brings the Index of Strain back to a workable figure and rounds out the disparity between different scores that may represent approximately the same strain. (p. 109).

Using this method the range in the Index of Strain is 0-11.

Socioemotional Valuation Index. This is a list of nine of the ten values used by Farber (1957) in the study mentioned in the introduction, (the excluded value could only apply to families with children). Subjects were asked to rank these in order of importance as question 18 of the Marital-Adjustment Test (the final question 19 was, "Who has made the greater adjustment in marriage? me ____ my spouse ____ both equally ____."). These nine roles are given in section V of the appendix. The score is simply the sum of the ranks for the five Socioemotional values with a lower score indicating greater importance ascribed to those values.

CHAPTER III

RESULTS

Summary

<u>Hypothesis</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>	<u>Not Confirmed</u>
1a	*	
1b		*
2a		*
2b		*
3	*	
4		*
5a		*
5b		*
5c		*
5d		*
5e		*
5f		*
5g		*
5h		*
5i		*

Ideal Self Fulfillment

Hypothesis 1a. is: In childless lesbian marriages, or among unmarried lesbians with lovers, the perception of the spouse or lover resembles the perception of the actual-self.

The actual-self, ideal-self and spouse's actual-self (or lover's actual-self) ICLs were scored as Karp, et al. (1970) did, using an adjective by adjective comparison. There are then eight possible patterns of how the adjectives could be checked or not checked on the three forms ("X" indicates the adjective was checked).

<u>Pattern</u>	<u>Self</u>	<u>Ideal-Self</u>	<u>Spouse</u>
A	X	X	X
B	X	X	
C	X		X
D		X	X
E	X		
F		X	
G			X
H			

These data were calculated for the 14 married lesbians (one of the two lesbians in each couple was randomly chosen), then the spouse ICLs were randomly paired with the original actual-self and ideal-self ICLs and the same data were calculated. Both of these sets of data were then calculated for a larger group of 35 lesbians (the same 14 married lesbians and 21 unmarried or never-married lesbians with lovers).

Hypothesis 1a. was tested by comparing the number of adjectives falling in patterns A,C,F and H with the number falling in B,D,E, and G for the group of 35 lesbians. Hypothesis 2b, which concerned ideal-self fulfillment, was tested by comparing the number of adjectives falling in patterns D and E with the number falling in C and F for the same group of lesbians. To see whether the results obtained could be spurious ones, the same comparisons were made with random pairing of the spouse ICL.

For the group of 35 lesbians who were married or had lovers the number of adjectives checked in patterns A,C,F and H was greater than the number checked in patterns B,C,E and G 35 times ($p < .0001$). The average number of adjectives that were checked the same for both self and spouse was 94.2. For the 14 married lesbians the number of adjectives checked in patterns A,C,F and G was greater 14 times ($p = .0001$) with an

average number of 96.5. For the 35 lesbians the number of adjectives falling in A,C,F and H for the Self - Ideal-Self - Spouse ICL grouping was greater than for the Self - Ideal-Self - random Spouse ICL grouping 26 of 35 times ($p < .005$). The average number of adjectives for these patterns for the randomly grouped ICLs was 87.86. For the 14 married lesbians the number in patterns A,C,F and H was greater for the non-random ICL grouping 13 of 14 times ($p = .001$), the average number of adjectives in these patterns for the random grouping being 84.79. Hypothesis 1a. was accepted.

The following results are ones about which no hypotheses were made and so levels of significance should be considered less meaningful (those that reach significance) than levels of significance of results about which hypotheses were made. For the group of 14 heterosexually married women the number of adjectives falling in patterns A,C,F and H was greater than those falling in B,D,E and G 14 of 14 times ($p = .0001$). The average number was 86.21 (as compared to an average of 40 of the 58 possible in the Karp, et al. (1970) study. Since there are 128 adjectives on the ICL, 94.8 would be proportionately equivalent to 40. For best friend of fiance Karp, et al. found 38 matches - equivalent to about 90). The number was greater than for the random grouping of ICLs 9 of 14 times (not significant). Therefore, there is insufficient evidence to conclude, for heterosexually married women involved in the women's movement, that the perception of the spouse resembles the perception of the actual-self.

For the group of 14 heterosexually married men the number of adjectives falling in patterns A,C,F and H was greater than those falling

in B,D,E and G 14 of 14 times ($p = .0001$). The average number was 97.57. The number was greater than for the random grouping of ICLs 14 of 14 times ($p = .0001$). These data indicate that, for heterosexually married men (married to women involved in the women's movement), the perception of the spouse resembles the perception of the actual-self.

Hypothesis 1b. is: In childless lesbian marriages, or among unmarried lesbians with lovers, for traits where perception of the actual-self differs from the perception of the ideal-self, the perception of the spouse or lover resembles the perception of the ideal-self.

For the group of 35 lesbians the number of adjectives falling in patterns D and E was greater than the number falling in C and F 28 of 35 times ($p < .001$). The average proportion falling in D and E was .5966. The number was greater than for the randomly paired grouping of ICLs only 11 of 35 times ($p < .03$, but in the opposite direction from what was expected). For the group of 14 married lesbians the number of adjectives falling in patterns D and E was greater than the number falling in C and F 13 of 14 times ($p = .001$). The average proportion was .6156. The number was greater than for the randomly paired grouping of ICLs only 6 of 14 times (not significant and not in the expected direction). These data did not support the hypothesis.

For the group of 14 heterosexually married women the number of adjectives falling in patterns D and E was greater than the number falling in C and F 11 of 14 times ($p = .0298$). The average proportion falling in D and E was .6486 (Karp et al. in 1970 found an average proportion of .634 for 50 heterosexual engaged women). Despite this the number of adjectives in D and E was greater than for the randomly paired

groupings of ICLs only 8 of 14 times (not significant). Therefore these data cannot be considered to indicate that for heterosexually married women (involved in the women's movement), for traits where perception of the actual-self differs from the perception of the ideal-self, the perception of the spouse resembles the perception of the ideal-self.

For the group of heterosexually married men the number of adjectives falling in patterns D and E was greater than the number falling in C and F only 7 times (not significant), and the average proportion falling in D and E was .5332. The number was greater than for the randomly paired grouping of ICLs only 4 of 14 times (not significant and not in the expected direction). There isn't therefore any evidence to indicate that for heterosexually married men (married to women in the women's movement), for traits where perception of the actual-self differs from the perception of the ideal-self, the perception of the spouse resembles the perception of the ideal-self.

Mental Health, Marital Satisfaction, and Adjustments to Marriage

Hypothesis 2a. is: Never-married childless lesbians are psychologically healthier than lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage.

This hypothesis was tested by comparing the scores of the 14 never married lesbians on the S-I Inventory with the scores (averages) of the 14 married lesbian couples. The average score for the never married lesbians was 25.79, while the average was 24 for the married lesbians. Since the test manual states that scores on the S-I Inventory are not normally distributed, a nonparametric test, the Mann-Whitney U test,

was used. U_1 was equal to 94 ($U_{.05} = 61$). This was non-significant and in the opposite direction from what was predicted. Hypothesis 2a. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 2b. 1s: Lesbians who are involved in a childless, lesbian marriage are psychologically healthier than women involved in a childless heterosexual marriage.

The average score on the S-I Inventory for the 14 heterosexually married women was compared with the average score for the 14 lesbian couples to test Hypothesis 2b. The average for the heterosexual women was 31.79, while the average score for the married lesbians was 24 (higher score indicates more insecurity). U_1 was equal to 70 ($U_{.05} = 61$), which was not significant ($p < .15$) though in the expected direction. Hypothesis 2b. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 3 is: Marital satisfaction is higher among lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage than among women involved in a childless heterosexual marriage.

To test hypothesis 3 the scores of the 14 women involved in a heterosexual marriage on the marital-adjustment test were compared with the scores of the 14 lesbian couples. An average of the scores obtained by the two lesbians in each couple was the score used for comparison. The average score for the heterosexually married women was 110.89. The average score for the married lesbians was 120.75. T was equal to 2.056 ($p < .05$). Hypothesis 3 was accepted.

Hypothesis 4 is: Spouses in childless lesbian marriages make more nearly equal amounts of adjustment in marriage than do spouses

in childless heterosexual marriages.

Hypothesis 4 was tested by comparing the absolute value of the differences in the Index of Strain scores for the lesbian pairs in the lesbian marriage group with the absolute value of the difference in the Index of Strain scores for husband and wife pairs in the heterosexual marriage group. The question of who has made the greatest adjustment in marriage served as an independent check on the results. The average difference in Index of Strain scores for the 14 heterosexual couples was 1.585. The average difference for the 14 lesbian couples was .8818. Since the data were obviously not normally distributed (the difference in scores for 7 of the 14 lesbian couples was 0), the Mann-Whitney U test was used. U_1 was equal to 63.5 ($U_{.05} = 61$), which is not significant ($p < .1$) though in the expected direction. As the answers to the question of who made the greater adjustment in marriage was almost universally answered "equal" (only 4 of 56 responses were otherwise) this question was not considered a very sensitive check on the results. Hypothesis 4 was not accepted.

Interpersonal Perception And Marital Satisfaction

On the basis of whether they were found to have made the most or least amount of adjustment in marriage according to their Index of Strain scores one lesbian from each couple was arbitrarily designated the Instrumental partner, while the other was designated the Expressive partner (the Instrumental partner being the one who has made the least adjustments). If the Index of Strain scores were equal, the Socioemotional Valuation scores were equal, the answer to the question of who

had made the most adjustments in marriage was looked at.

Taylor's (1967) method of scoring the Interpersonal Checklists for congruence between any two was modified to control for the number of adjectives checked. His scoring is based on the absolute difference (discrepancies) between the number of adjectives checked for each of the four quadrants of the ICL, for example if a person checked three adjectives in quadrant one and five adjectives in quadrant two, and her spouse checked two adjectives for quadrant one and six adjectives for quadrant two, the discrepancy score for the two quadrants would be two ($(2/10 - 3/20) + (5/10 - 6/20)$). The discrepancy scores would then be a negative indication of congruence. Six discrepancy scores were calculated between various pairs of ICLs as follows:

Discrepancy Score 1 would indicate the amount of discrepancy between the actual-self ICL of the Instrumental partner and the spouse ICL of the Expressive partner;

Discrepancy Score 2 would indicate the amount of discrepancy between the actual-self ICL of the Expressive partner and the spouse ICL of the Instrumental partner;

Discrepancy Score 3 would be the sum of Discrepancy scores 1 and 2;

Discrepancy Score 4 would indicate the amount of discrepancy between the actual-self ICL of the Instrumental partner and the how spouse sees herself ICL of the Expressive partner;

Discrepancy Score 5 would indicate the amount of discrepancy between the actual-self ICL of the Expressive partner and the how spouse sees herself ICL of the Instrumental partner;

Discrepancy Score 6 would be the sum of Discrepancy Scores 4 and 5;

Discrepancy Score 7 would indicate the amount of discrepancy between the spouse ICL of the Expressive partner and the how spouse sees me ICL of the Instrumental partner;

Discrepancy Score 8 would indicate the amount of discrepancy between the spouse ICL of the Instrumental partner and the how spouse sees me ICL of the Expressive partner;

Discrepancy Score 9 would be the sum of Discrepancy Scores 7 and 8.

Correlation coefficients were then calculated between each of these discrepancy scores and the average marital adjustment scores for each couple.

Two lesbian couples could not be classified as Instrumental or Expressive by any of the three possible methods (7 were classified on the basis of Index of Strain Scores, 5 on the basis of the Socio-emotional Valuation Index) so only 12 couples could be included in the analysis of hypotheses 5a - 5i.

Hypothesis 5a. is: In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

Hypothesis 5a. was tested by examining the magnitude of the correlation coefficient of discrepancy score 1 with the average marital adjustment scores for each couple, negative correlations being the expected direction (Hypotheses 5b,d,e,g and h were evaluated similarly

but by using respectively discrepancy scores 2,4,5,7 and 8 rather than 1).

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 1 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple (using Pearson's r_{xy}) was .1137. This is nonsignificant and not in the expected direction. Hypothesis 5a. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5b. is: In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Expressive partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 2 and the average marital adjustment scores for each lesbian couple was .4029. This is nonsignificant and not in the expected direction. Hypothesis 5b was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5c. is: In childless lesbian marriages, a pooled measure of congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental partner and the spouse's perception of the actual-self of this partner, and of congruence between the perception of the actual-self of this partner will have a higher possible relationship to marital satisfaction than either measure taken separately.

Hypothesis 5c. was tested by comparing the correlation coefficient of discrepancy score 3 with the average marital adjustment scores for each couple with the smaller of the two correlations (or the larger in a negative direction) used to test Hypothesis 5a. and 5b. (that is the correlation between discrepancy score 1 and the average

marital adjustment score for each couple, and the correlation between discrepancy score 2 and the average marital adjustment score for each couple). Hypotheses 5f. and 5i. were tested similarly but with 5f. using the smaller of the two correlations used to test hypotheses 5d. and 5e. for comparison with the correlation between discrepancy score 6 and the average marital adjustment scores, and 5i. using the smaller of the two correlations used to test hypotheses 5g. and 5h. for comparison with the correlation between discrepancy score 9 and the average marital adjustment scores.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 3 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple was .3478. The difference between this and the correlation coefficient of hypothesis 5a. of .1137 is not significant and not in the expected direction. Hypothesis 5c. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5d. is: In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental Partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self of this partner (i.e. How the Expressive partner thinks the Instrumental partner sees herself) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 4 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple was $-.2633$. This is nonsignificant. Hypothesis 5d. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5e. is: In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Expressive partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self perception of this partner (i.e. how the Instrumental partner thinks the Expressive

partner sees herself) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 5 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple was $-.0137$. This is nonsignificant. Hypothesis 5e. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5f. is: In childless lesbian marriages, a pooled measure of congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Instrumental partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self of this partner and congruence between the perception of the actual-self of the Expressive partner and the spouse's prediction of the actual-self perception of this partner will have a higher positive relationship to marital satisfaction than either measure taken separately.

The correlation coefficient between the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple and discrepancy score 6 was $-.1378$. The difference between this and the coefficient of H5d. of $-.2633$ is nonsignificant and not in the expected direction. Hypothesis 5f. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5g. is: In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the spouse's perception of the Instrumental partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her (i.e. how the Instrumental partner thinks the Expressive partner perceives her) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 7 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple was $.1429$. This was nonsignificant and not in the expected direction. Hypothesis 5g. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5h. 1s: In childless lesbian marriages, congruence between the spouse's perception of the Expressive partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her (i.e. how the Expressive partner thinks the Instrumental partner sees her) will have a positive relationship to marital satisfaction.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 8 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple was .5899. This is significant at the .05 level but is not in the expected direction. As this is one of six interrelated correlation coefficients tested for significance, a .05 level of significance may have occurred by chance. Hypothesis 5h. was not accepted.

Hypothesis 5i. 1s: In childless lesbian marriages, a pooled measure of congruence between the spouse's perception of the Instrumental partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her, and congruence between the spouse's perception of the Expressive partner and that partner's prediction of the spouse's perception of her, will have a higher positive relationship to marital satisfaction than either measure taken separately.

The correlation coefficient between discrepancy score 9 and the average marital adjustment score for each lesbian couple was .4797. The difference between this and the correlation coefficient of hypothesis 5g. of .1429 was not significant and not in the expected direction. Hypothesis 5i. was not accepted.

Correlation coefficients were then calculated between the sum of discrepancy scores where the Instrumental partner was the target (discrepancy scores 1, 4 and 7) and marital adjustment scores and

between the sum of discrepancy scores where the Expressive partner was the target (discrepancy scores 2, 5 and 8) and marital adjustment scores. The first of these was $-.0276$ and the second was $.3441$. These are both nonsignificant and the second is not in the expected direction.

CHAPTER IV

DISCUSSION

Ideal Self Fulfillment

Hypothesis 1a is: In childless lesbian marriages, or among unmarried lesbians with lovers, the perception of the spouse or lover resembles the perception of the actual-self.

The results supported this hypothesis and hypothesis 1a. was accepted. Thus the finding in studies of heterosexuals that marital partners tend to be chosen who are perceived as being like the self can be extended to lesbians according to the results of this study. The results also indicate that for heterosexually married men (married to women in the women's movement), the perception of the spouse resembled the perception of the actual-self. For heterosexually married women involved in the women's movement the results did not indicate that the perception of spouse resembled the perception of the actual-self. This negative finding could be due to the small size of the sample, or possibly, involvement in the women's movement has led to an evolvment of their identity as women and thus led them to emphasize their differences from men. Before any conclusions can be drawn from this result it should be reaffirmed on a larger sample of women.

Hypothesis 1b is: In childless lesbian marriages, or among unmarried lesbians with lovers, for traits where perception of the actual-self differs from the perception of the ideal-self, the perception of the spouse or lover resembles the perception of the ideal-self.

Using the method of analyzing the data described in Chapter III (in which all results obtained were compared with results obtained when spouse ICLs were randomly paired with actual-self and ideal-self ICLs), the hypothesis was not supported. Nor were the hypothesized relationships found to be true for the heterosexually married women (involved in the women's movement) or men (married to women involved in the women's movement). For the heterosexually married men the result appeared to be valid since for traits where perception of the actual-self differed from the ideal-self, in only a little more than half did perception of the spouse resemble perception of the ideal-self. However, for the heterosexually married women the proportion was near .65 as compared with .634 in the study of 50 heterosexually engaged women by Karp, et al. in which ideal-self fulfillment had been supported by the results. Despite this, the number of adjectives in D and E was greater than for the randomly paired grouping of ICLs only 8 of 14 times (not significant). This finding suggested that there might be another explanation for the number of adjectives in D and E being no greater for non-random than for random grouping of ICLs (for both lesbian and heterosexual women). A possible explanation was that a lover or spouse ICL might be very much the same from one lesbian to another or from one heterosexually married woman to another. In other words, lovers or spouses might be described in much the same terms (idealized) aside from their individual personalities, and these data might be an artifact of that similarity. To adequately test the hypothesis, therefore, it was necessary to collect additional data. Therefore letters were sent

to all the lesbians who were married or had lovers and whose forms could be identified (names had not been asked for in the interests of anonymity) asking them to fill out an additional ICL on friend of my lover (or spouse). They were instructed that the friend chosen should preferably not be a friend of theirs also and, if so, that it should be a friend whom the lover knew first. Replies were received from 14 lesbians, including 5 married lesbians (if both spouses of a couple filled out the ICL, one was randomly chosen to be included in the analysis), and 10 never-married or currently unmarried lesbians with lovers.

For the group of lesbians who filled out a friend of lover ICL for the Self - Ideal-Self - Lover ICL grouping, the number of adjectives falling in patterns D and E (spouse like ideal-self rather than actual-self) was greater than the number falling in C and F (spouse like actual-self rather than like ideal-self) 10 of 14 times (nonsignificant). The average proportion falling in D and E was .6124. The number was greater than for the Self - Ideal-Self - Friend of lover ICL grouping 7 of 14 times (nonsignificant). The average proportion of adjectives falling in patterns D and E for this latter grouping was .6066. As these data also did not support the hypothesis, hypothesis 1b. still was not accepted.

From results obtained in this study it appears that the hypothesis of ideal-self fulfillment applies only to heterosexual women. Neither for lesbians nor for heterosexual men was there sufficient evidence to indicate that this factor operated in selection of a mate. Karp, et al. (1970) had stated in their study that they could not tell

from their positive findings about ideal-self fulfillment whether they resulted from the women choosing someone who had those characteristics they wished they had but lacked (according to their perception) or whether it resulted from idealization of the chosen person. The finding in the present study that random pairing of spouse or lover ICLs with self and ideal-self ICLs made no difference (or a difference in a positive direction) in results suggests that it is idealization. The distinctly negative results for the men in this present study may mean that men do not idealize their spouses as heterosexual women do. Another possibility is that for men there is a greater difference between ideal-self and ideal-woman than there is for women between ideal-self and ideal man. If this were so then a man would idealize his spouse in terms of his concept of ideal-woman rather than ideal-self, and so the idealization would not have shown up in this study. Which of these explanations is more likely can only be determined by further research. It is possible that the negative findings for lesbians are due to a combination of small sample size and the possibility that a friend of the lover may also be a friend of the self and thus subject to some extent of idealization that obscured any idealization of the lover which may have occurred (the percentage of adjectives that Karp, et al. found in patterns D and E for the grouping of self - ideal-self - best friend of fiance was 55.9%, while in the present study the corresponding value was 60.66%). Perhaps also the distinction between friends and lovers is less (a saying prevalent in the lesbian community of Portland "let your friends be your lovers" expresses this value). The other possibility is

that lesbians do not idealize their lovers to the extent that heterosexual women do.

Mental Health, Marital Satisfaction And Adjustments To Marriage

Hypothesis 2a. is: Never-married childless lesbians are psychologically healthier than lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage.

Hypothesis 2a. was not accepted, and both groups scored almost exactly the same on a Security-Insecurity test (never-married lesbians scoring slightly higher on insecurity).

Hypothesis 2b. is: Lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage are psychologically healthier than women involved in a childless heterosexual marriage.

Although the average scores for the heterosexual women were considerably higher in insecurity than for the lesbian women, the results were not significant ($p < .15$) and the hypothesis was not accepted.

Hypothesis 3 is: Marital satisfaction is higher among lesbians who are involved in a childless lesbian marriage than among women involved in a childless heterosexual marriage.

The results supported this hypothesis and it was accepted.

Hypothesis 4 is: Spouses in childless lesbian marriages make more nearly equal amounts of adjustment in marriage than do spouses in childless heterosexual marriages.

Though the average difference in Index of Strain scores (indicating the difference in amount of adjustment) was considerably higher

for the heterosexual couples than for the lesbian couples, the results were not significant ($p < .1$) and hypothesis 4 was not accepted.

Overall these results seem to indicate that lesbian marriage is not as detrimental for lesbians as heterosexual marriage is for heterosexual women. The state of being in lesbian marriage does not carry with it increased amounts of mental unhealthiness (as measured by the Security-Insecurity Inventory) over the never-married state, as does heterosexual marriage. Either lesbian marriage is not as detrimental to the mental health of women or (if it is selection which is the cause of the discrepancy) healthy lesbians are just as likely to choose or be chosen to marry as unhealthy ones. Of the three hypotheses which compared lesbian marriage to heterosexual marriage in some way, there was a consistent trend for the results to be in the expected direction (three of three) although two out of three of them were not statistically significant (one of these barely missed). This and the fact that the results are consistent with one another - i.e., if lesbian marriage does not correlate with more insecurity than the never-married state (and heterosexual marriage does) then it is more reasonable to assume that the higher scores of the heterosexually married women over the married lesbians did not occur by chance - make it seem more likely that the nonsignificant results in regard to Security-Insecurity of married lesbians versus married heterosexual women, and differences in amounts of adjustment between partners in lesbian versus heterosexual marriages was a result of small sample size rather than because the hypotheses were untrue.

In any case married lesbians involved in the women's movement were higher in marital satisfaction than heterosexually married women involved in the women's movement. The mean score of 120.75 also compares very favorably with the mean score of 135.9 for 48 "exceptionally well-adjusted" husbands or wives from the sample of 236 middle-class husbands or wives in the original validation study (Locke, et al., 1959). The average score for 48 "maladjusted" spouses was 71.7, unfortunately the mean for the entire sample was not given. This high marital adjustment score seems reasonable if it is true that lesbians make more nearly equal amounts of adjustment in marriage, and if, as is tentatively concluded later in this chapter, lesbian marriages are not split into roles so that one partner is assigned the Instrumental and the other the Expressive role. This would indicate greater flexibility in the marriage: more concern for the needs and desires of both partners rather than just one, and a more equal sharing of tasks (i.e. making a living) and of the work of attending to the emotional side of the relationship. Through Corsini (1956) demonstrated that "conformity" of male self-perception with a stereotyped conception of the husband is positively correlated with happiness for both husband and wife, perhaps it would be even better for marital happiness if the stereotyped conception of "husband" didn't exist at all or didn't take the form which it does. A possibility which wasn't explored in this thesis is that the communication between lesbian partners is more frequent and/or of better quality than that between heterosexual partners resulting in a deeper relationship and greater satisfaction of partners in it.

Interpersonal Perception And Marital Satisfaction

None of the nine hypotheses relating to interpersonal perception and marital satisfaction were accepted. These hypotheses are listed on pages 24-26. The data used to test these hypotheses can be found in Table IX.

Similar correlation coefficients were calculated for the 14 heterosexually married couples. These are also shown in Table IX. The usual findings for heterosexual marriages are not duplicated here (a positive relationship between marital adjustment scores and congruence between the pairs of ICLs when the husband is the target), none of these values is significant and one is not in the expected direction. This is not surprising since this sample is different from the usual heterosexual marriages in that it is the wife who would be classified as the Instrumental partner in 8 of 14 couples (on the basis of Index of Strain scores 13 times, and once on the basis of Socioemotional Valuation Index) suggesting that the usual findings may not be applicable when the wife is involved in the women's movement. The data for heterosexual couples were reanalyzed in terms of the Instrumental and Expressive partners. The results can be seen in Table IX. Although none of the correlation coefficients is significant, for the Instrumental partner they are all of a reasonable size and in the direction expected if the Instrumental partner were in the role usually played by the husband in heterosexual marriages. This is in contrast to the haphazard pattern that occurred when lesbians were analyzed in terms of Instrumental and Expressive roles. Since correlations would have to be quite large (about .48) to reach significance in a sample this small, it may be best to look at overall

TABLE IX
CORRELATION BETWEEN DISCREPANCY SCORES AND AVERAGE MARITAL SATISFACTION SCORES

ICLs	Lesbian Marriages		Pooled
	Instrumental target	Expressive target	
Self (target) x spouse (other partner)	.1137	.4029	.3473
Self (target) x how spouse sees self (other partner)	-.2634	-.0137	-.1378
How spouse sees me (target) x spouse (other partner)	.1429	.5898*	.4797
Sum	-.0276	.3441	.2579
	Heterosexual Marriages		
	Husband as target	Wife as target	Pooled
Self (target) x spouse (other partner)	-.0784	-.1485	-.1405
Self (target) x how spouse sees self (other partner)	.1422	-.5840**	-.2714
How spouse sees me (target) x spouse (other partner)	-.2732	.0404	-.1692
Sum	-.0946	-.3449	-.2384
	Heterosexual Marriages		
	Instrumental target	Expressive target	Pooled
Self (target) x spouse (other partner)	-.2759	.0870	-.1408
Self (target) x how spouse sees self (other partner)	-.2024	-.2149	-.2074
How spouse sees me (target) x spouse (other partner)	-.3354	-.1319	-.2384
Sum	-.3531	-.1319	-.2384

* p < .05
** p < .025

patterns in trying to interpret the results. It appears that, in heterosexual marriages in which the wife is involved in the women's movement, the Instrumental-Expressive division of roles still exists but that it is not always or usually the case that it is the husband who fills the Instrumental role as in other heterosexual marriages.

It was mistakenly believed by the Experimenter that, if there was not an Instrumental-Expressive division of roles, interpersonal perceptions with both partners as targets would be important to marital satisfaction - rather than only those interpersonal perceptions where the person classified as being in the Instrumental role was the target. The other possibility, which was not considered, was that neither set of interpersonal perceptions would be important to marital satisfaction. This explanation fits the data for the lesbian marriages better than either the explanation that both sets of interpersonal perceptions were important (upon which the hypotheses were based) or the explanation that only those interpersonal perceptions with the Instrumental partner as target were important. It is therefore tentatively concluded that lesbian marriages are not split into roles so that one partner is assigned the instrumental, task oriented roles and the other the expressive integrative roles.

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APPENDIX

Cover Story

A lot of research has been done to investigate factors of character and personality which affect a person's ability to interact successfully with people and to gain satisfaction from interpersonal relationships, including marriage. It has been found, among other things, that different attributes make for satisfaction in relationships for men than for women. However, no one has investigated whether the same attributes lead to success in relationships with persons of your own sex as lead to success in relationships with persons of the opposite sex. Thus it is unknown whether satisfaction in a lesbian relationship requires the same attributes as satisfaction in a heterosexual relationship. This study is being carried out to obtain information about this.

You may participate anonymously in the study and all information obtained about you will be confidential. You will receive a copy of the results of the study if you request it and list your address.

Questionnaire

1. To participate in the study you must fall in one of the following three categories. Please check the one in which you fall.

a. _____. A woman who is childless and is currently involved in a heterosexual relationship in which you are living with a man with whom you are strongly involved sexually and emotionally, and with whom you have been living, and sexually and emotionally involved with for a year or more. It will be necessary for this man also to participate in the study.

b. _____. A woman who is childless and is currently involved in a lesbian relationship in which you are living with a woman with whom you

are strongly involved sexually and emotionally and with whom you have been living, and sexually and emotionally involved with for a year or more. It will be necessary for this woman also to participate in the study.

c. _____. A woman who is childless and who has never been in a relationship in which you have lived for a year or more with a man or a woman with whom you were strongly involved sexually and emotionally.

2. Age _____

Years of education completed _____

Occupation _____

(If in group a.) Age of man you are living with _____

(If in group a.) Years of education of man you are living with _____

(If in group a.) Occupation of man you living with _____

3. Please check one of the following to indicate your sexual orientation over the entire time you have been sexually active. Please place a "1" in the blank by one of them to indicate your present sexual orientation (over the past year or two).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Completely heterosexual contacts | _____ |
| b. Basically heterosexual contacts with very infrequent homosexual contacts | _____ |
| c. Prefer heterosexual contacts but respond to homosexual contacts | _____ |
| d. Equal amounts of heterosexual and homosexual contacts | _____ |
| e. Prefer homosexual contacts but respond to heterosexual contacts | _____ |
| f. Basically homosexual contacts with very infrequent heterosexual contacts | _____ |
| g. Exclusive homosexual contacts | _____ |
| h. No heterosexual or homosexual contacts | _____ |

4. Are you currently involved in any sexual relationship? _____

If yes:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Is this relationship with a man or a woman? | _____ |
| b. Approximately how long have you been involved in this relationship? | _____ |
| c. Are you living with your partner, and if so, for how long have you been doing so? | _____ |

(If you are currently involved in more than one sexual relationship, please number them and answer the questions for each)

5. Please state the number of past sexual relationships you have had:

with men

with women

_____	lasting a week or less	_____
_____	lasting more than a week but less than a month	_____
_____	lasting 1-6 months	_____
_____	lasting more than 6 months but less than a year	_____

with menwith women

_____ lasting 1-3 years
 _____ lasting 4-6 years
 _____ lasting 7-9 years
 _____ lasting more than 10 years

Marital Adjustment Test

1. Check the dot on the scale line below which best describes the degree of happiness everything considered, of your present marriage. The middle point, "happy", represents the degree of happiness which most people get from marriage, and the scale gradually ranges on one side to those few who are very unhappy in marriage, and on the other to those few who experience extreme joy or felicity in marriage.

0 2 7 15 20 25 35

Very
Unhappy

Happy

Perfectly
Happy

State the approximate extent of agreement or disagreement between you and your mate on the following items. Please check each column.

	Always Agree	Almost Always Agree	Occasionally Disagree	Frequently Disagree	Almost Always Disagree	Always Disagree
2. Handling family finances	5	4	3	2	1	0
3. Matters of recreation	5	4	3	2	1	0
4. Demonstrations of affection	5	4	3	2	1	0
5. Friends	8	6	4	2	1	0
6. Sex Relations	5	4	3	2	1	0
7. Conventionality (right, good, or proper conduct)	5	4	3	2	1	0
8. Philosophy of life	5	4	3	2	1	0
9. Ways of dealing with in-laws	5	4	3	2	1	0

10. When disagreements arise, they usually result in: me giving in 0, spouse giving in 2, agreement by mutual give and take 10.
11. Do you and your mate engage in outside interests together? All of them 10, some of them 8, very few 3, none of them 0.
12. In leisure time do you generally prefer: to be "on the go" , to stay at home ? Does your mate generally prefer: to be "on the go" , to stay at home ?
 (Stay at home for both, 10 points; "on the go" for both, 3 points; disagreement, 2 points).

13. Do you ever wish you had not married? Frequently 0, occasionally 3
rarely 8, never 15.
14. If you had your life to live over, do you think you would: marry the
same person 15, marry a different person 0, not marry at all 1 ?
15. Do you confide in your mate: almost never 0, rarely 2, on most
things 10, in everything 10?

Marital Roles Inventory

Husband's role-set - Hurvitz (1959)

I do my (He does his) jobs around the house.

I am (He is) a companion to my (his) wife.

I help (He helps) the children grow by being their friend, teacher and guide.

I earn (He earns) the living and support (supports) the family.

I do my (He does his) wife's work around the house if my (his) help is
needed.

I practice (He practices) the family religion or philosophy.

I am (He is) a sexual partner to my (his) wife.

I decide (He decides) when the family is still divided after discussing
something.

I serve (He serves) as the model of men for my (his) children.

I represent and advance (He represents and advances) my (his) family in the
community.

Wife's role-set - Hurvitz (1959)

I help (She helps) earn the living when my (her) husband needs my (her)
help or when the family needs more money.

I practice (She practices) the family religion or philosophy.

I care (She cares) for the children's everyday needs.

I am (She is) a companion to my (her) husband.

I represent and advance (She represents and advances) my (her) family socially and in the community.

I help (She helps) the children grow by being their friend, teacher, and guide.

Modified List of Roles (Random order)

Self

I practice the family religion or philosophy.

I represent and advance my family in the community.

(Rank only one of the following three, cross out the other two):

I earn the living and support the family.

I help earn the living when my spouse needs my help or when the family needs more money.

I take equal responsibility with my spouse for earning a living and supporting the family

I am a sexual partner to my spouse.

I am a companion to my spouse.

(Rank only one of the following three, cross out the other two):

I am the homemaker.

I do my spouse's work around the house if my help is needed.

I share equally with my spouse in doing housework.

I represent and advance my family socially.

Spouse

(Rank only one of the following three, cross out the other two):

She/He earns the living and supports the family.

She/He helps earn the living when her/his spouse needs her/his help or when the family needs more money.

She/He takes equal responsibility with her/his spouse for earning a living and supporting the family.

She/He represents and advances her/his family in the community.

(Rank only one of the following three, cross out the other two):

She/He is the homemaker.

She/He does her/his spouse's work around the house if her/his help is needed.

She/He shares equally with her/his spouse in doing housework.

She/He is a companion to her/his spouse.

She/He practices the family religion or philosophy.

She/He represents and advances her/his family socially.

She/He is a sexual partner to her/his spouse.

Socioemotional Valuation Index

Below are listed standards by which family success has been measured.

Look through the list and rank them (as in 16. and 17.) according to which items you consider most important in judging the success of families, putting a "1" by the item you consider most important, a "2" by the item you consider next most important, etc.

- _____ . A place in the community. The ability of a family to give its members a respected place in the community and to make them good citizens (not criminals or undesirable people).
- _____ . Companionship. The family members feeling comfortable with each other and being able to get along together.
- _____ . Personality development. Continued increase in family members' ability to understand and get along with people and to accept responsibility.
- _____ . Satisfaction in affection shown. Satisfaction of family members with amount of affection shown and of the husband and wife in their sex life.
- _____ . Economic security. Being sure that the family will be able to keep up or improve its standard of living.

- _____ . Emotional security. Feeling that the members of the family really need each other emotionally and trust each other fully.
- _____ . Moral and religious unity. Trying to live a family life according to religious and moral principles and teachings.
- _____ . Everyday interest. Interesting day-to-day activities having to do with house and family which keep family life from being boring.
- _____ . A home. Having a place where the family members feel they belong, where they feel at ease, and where other people do not interfere in their lives.