

Seccombe, Exploring Marriages and Families, 2e, Test Bank

## Chapter 1:

### Why Study Families and Other Close Relationships?

#### Part I: Multiple Choice Questions

All questions are identified by their type and level of difficulty.

#### Skill Type:

*Remember the Facts*

*Understand the Concepts*

*Apply What You Know*

*Analyze It*

#### Level of Difficulty:

*1=Easy*

*2=Moderate*

*3=Difficult*

#### Learning Objectives:

*LO 1 - 5*

#### *Learning Objective 1: Identify the different definitions of “family” and their implications*

1. Relationships by blood, marriage, or affection, in which members may cooperate economically, may care for children, and may consider their identity to be intimately connected to the larger group, define a/an:
  - a) domestic partner.
  - b) fictive kin.
  - c) empirical approach.
  - d) family. \*
  - e) human agency.

*Answer: D*

*TB\_01\_01\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

2. Angel’s parents keep asking her when she and her husband Tomas are “going to have a family.” What her parents probably mean is:
  - a) When are they going to have children? \*
  - b) When are they going to get registered as domestic partners?
  - c) When are they going to become fictive kin?
  - d) When will they become a family of orientation?
  - e) Are they ready for human agency?

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_02\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

3. You, your siblings, and your parents comprise your:
- family of orientation. \*
  - fictive kin.
  - family of procreation.
  - domestic partners.
  - human agency.

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_03\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

4. You have a special older friend that you are very close to and call “Auntie Marge,” even though she is not related to you. You invite her to many family functions and share traditions together. You feel that she would help you in a time of need. Marge is an example of a/an:
- domestic partner.
  - fictive kin. \*
  - family of orientation.
  - symbolic interaction.
  - social institution.

*Answer: B*

*TB\_01\_04\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

5. How we define “family” is important for many reasons. Which is NOT one of the reasons?
- Unmarried partners cannot file jointly on federal taxes.
  - Many employer health insurance plans do not cover unmarried partners.
  - Unmarried persons cannot collect Social Security benefits from their partner.
  - Unmarried persons cannot buy a house together. \*
  - A company may not offer bereavement leave to an unmarried partner.

*Answer: D*

*TB\_01\_05\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

***Learning Objective 2: Describe the functions of families***

6. Which of the following is NOT a universal function of families?
- to reproduce and socialize children

- b) to encourage economic cooperation
- c) to regulate sexual behavior
- d) to provide care, warmth, protection, and intimacy
- e) to offer human agency \*

*Answer: E*

*TB\_01\_06\_The Functions of Families, LO 2, The Functions of Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

***Learning Objective 3: Recognize the link between micro-level and macro-level perspectives on families***

7. Which is NOT one of the themes of the textbook?
- a) Families are different from one culture to another and therefore families have no real universal features or functions. \*
  - b) The best way to truly understand families is to link two perspectives on them: the micro- and macro-level perspectives.
  - c) Families are not monolithic or static, but instead are ever-changing.
  - d) Social science theory and research can help us understand families and close relationships.

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_07\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

8. A/an \_\_\_\_\_ perspective focuses on individuals' interactions in specific settings.
- a) focus group
  - b) experimental
  - c) micro-level \*
  - d) conflict
  - e) macro-level

*Answer: C*

*TB\_01\_08\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

9. Clay is writing a paper for his class about the ways in which marriage is interconnected with the rest of society and with other social institutions. He argues that relationships are not isolated entities, but are interconnected with social, cultural, economic, and political forces. Which perspective is he using?
- a) macro-level \*
  - b) secondary analysis
  - c) empirical
  - d) micro-level
  - e) symbolic interaction

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_09\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

10. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a major sphere of social life, with a set of beliefs and rules that are organized to meet basic human needs.
- a) matrilineal
  - b) universal program
  - c) selective program
  - d) life-course
  - e) social institution \*

*Answer: E*

*TB\_01\_10\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

11. Which of the following is the best example of a “master status”?
- a) eye color
  - b) race/ethnicity \*
  - c) mother’s maiden name
  - d) number of siblings
  - e) birthplace

*Answer: B*

*TB\_01\_11\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

***Learning Objective 4: Assess the ways that families are always changing***

12. The traditional pattern of wives taking their husband’s last name upon marriage is an example of:
- a) human agency.
  - b) matrilineal descent.
  - c) conflict theory.
  - d) patriarchy. \*
  - e) social exchange theory.

*Answer: D*

*TB\_01\_12\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

13. Which residence pattern is commonly practiced in the United States?

- a) matrilineal
- b) bilateral
- c) neolocal \*
- d) bilocal
- e) mapalateral

*Answer: C*

*TB\_01\_13\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

14. With respect to marriage and family, the Chinese government:

- a) is using propaganda to maintain traditional marriage and family structures.
- b) encourages men to hold on to traditional culture but discourages women from doing so.
- c) allows couples to marry freely to whom and when they want.
- d) actively promotes the social belief that boys are more valuable than girls.
- e) regulates the number of births a couple can have. \*

*Answer: E*

*TB\_01\_14\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

15. Which is NOT an example of a macro-level factor in U.S. history that shaped families?

- a) the elimination of patriarchy \*
- b) immigration
- c) industrialization
- d) slavery
- e) technological inventions, such as the automobile

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_15\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

16. Which is TRUE about Colonial America?

- a) Most people lived in extended families.
- b) The companionate family model developed.
- c) Families were large, with multiple children, often including children from multiple marriages.\*
- d) Parents tended to be very lenient with their children by today's standards.
- e) People married young, around age 16 for girls and 18 for boys.

*Answer: C*

*TB\_01\_16\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

17. Which of these social functions did European colonial families in America NOT take primary responsibility for?
- a) education
  - b) business and economic production
  - c) correctional institutions
  - d) lawmaking \*
  - e) health and social welfare

*Answer: D*

*TB\_01\_17\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing,, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

18. Which was a primary factor in the relative “weakness” of slave families in the U.S.?
- a) Slaves never married.
  - b) Over 1/3 of slave marriages were ended when either the husband or wife was sold off. \*
  - c) Even when married, bonds of love were rare between slave partners.
  - d) Slaves brought over from Africa, a culture that valued the matrilineal line through mother and child without regard for the father.
  - e) Slaves preferred illicit relationships with slave owners as a means for increasing their status.

*Answer: B*

*TB\_01\_18\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

19. When people move from rural areas and farms to cities in search of jobs, this is called:
- a) immigration.
  - b) urbanization. \*
  - c) companionate family.
  - d) industrialization.
  - e) nuclear.

*Answer: B*

*TB\_01\_19\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

20. You are writing a term paper about the consequences of the current recession. Which of the following would you want to include in your paper?
- a) The recession has caused social inequality to decline.
  - b) Our economy has been shifting away from service sector jobs toward lower paying manufacturing jobs.
  - c) Some states have increased the federal minimum wage because they believe it is too low. \*
  - d) More people are working non-standardized work schedules, which has a good outcome for families.
  - e) Unemployment hovers around 19 percent.

*Answer: C*

*TB\_01\_20\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 4, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 3*

**Learning Objective 5: Summarize the importance of social science theory and research**

21. A/an \_\_\_\_\_ answers questions through a systematic collection and analysis of data, including a description and a determination of cause and effect.
- a) theory
  - b) bilateral
  - c) family systems theory
  - d) qualitative
  - e) empirical approach \*

*Answer: E*

*TB\_01\_21\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

22. Adrian is a researcher studying attitudes and opinions people have about being childfree. She wants detailed and elaborate information from her research participants. Which method would be best to use?
- a) in-depth interview \*
  - b) experiment
  - c) observation
  - d) secondary analysis
  - e) survey

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_22\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

23. What are the advantages and disadvantages of an experiment?
- a) Advantage: Good for gathering information about issues that are not directly observed; Disadvantage: The data were collected for another purpose and therefore the researcher cannot control what variables were included.
  - b) Advantage: Good for exploratory and descriptive study in a natural setting; Disadvantage: Potential for a low response rate.
  - c) Advantage: Group interaction may produce more valuable insights than individual surveys; Disadvantage: Research must balance roles of participant and observer.
  - d) Advantage: Saves the expense and time of original data collection; Disadvantage: There are none.
  - e) Advantage: Provides greatest opportunity to assess cause and effect; Disadvantage: The setting may have an artificial quality about it. \*

*Answer: E*

*TB\_01\_23\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 3*

24. Jason is analyzing some data collected by the Census Bureau for his senior project. What type of research is he doing?
- a) experiment
  - b) secondary analysis \*
  - c) survey
  - d) in-depth interview
  - e) focus group

*Answer: B*

*TB\_01\_24\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

25. Macro theories represent a general framework that focuses on:
- a) personal dynamics and face-to-face interaction.
  - b) the social interaction between family and members of other groups, and is concerned with the meanings and interpretations that people have.
  - c) the family into which you were born.
  - d) societal patterns. \*
  - e) cross-cultural patterns only.

*Answer: D*

*TB\_01\_25\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

26. Which theoretical perspective emphasizes issues surrounding social inequality, power, and social change?
- a) developmental theory
  - b) structural functionalist theory
  - c) conflict theory \*
  - d) micro theory
  - e) family systems theory

*Answer: C*

*TB\_01\_26\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

27. Which theory is an example of a micro theory?
- a) structural functionalism
  - b) conflict
  - c) feminist



- d) systems \*
- e) focus group

*Answer: D*

*TB\_01\_27\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

28. Structural functionalist theory focuses on:

- a) social interaction between family members and other groups and is concerned with the meanings and interpretations that people have.
- b) gender as the central concept for explaining family structures and family dynamics.
- c) collecting data that can be measured numerically.
- d) the distinct stages of families and family members with their set of tasks, roles, and responsibilities.
- e) a belief that all social institutions, including the family, exist to fill a need in society. \*

*Answer: E*

*TB\_01\_28\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

29. A number of changes in families have taken place over the past several decades, including:

- a) both men and women are postponing the age of marriage. \*
- b) the percentage of persons who have never married has declined significantly.
- c) the divorce rate has increased.
- d) blacks are the largest minority group in the United States.
- e) the teenage birthrate has been increasing for the last two decades.

*Answer: A*

*TB\_01\_29\_Bringing It Full Circle, LO 5, Bringing It Full Circle, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

30. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows that fewer people are married today than in 1970. What might explain this trend?

- a) Women are increasingly rejecting marriage, although men are not.
- b) Men and women are delaying the age at which they marry. \*
- c) Men are living longer.
- d) Human agency is increasing.
- e) Hispanics are less likely than other groups to marry.

*Answer: B*

*TB\_01\_30\_Bringing It Full Circle, LO 5, Bringing It Full Circle, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

## **Part II: True – False Questions**

**Level of Difficulty: A ranking of “1” relies upon recall of definitions; a ranking of “2” or “3” requires application or recall of more complex information.**

1. A “family of orientation” is the family you make through marriage, partnering, and/or parenthood.

*Answer: F*

*TB\_01\_31\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

2. “Domestic partners” are an unmarried couple, either heterosexual or homosexual, in a long-term committed relationship.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_32\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

[Topic and page number unclear, as this comes from an insert at the end of the chapter]

3. One of the universal functions of marriage is to regulate sexual behavior.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_33\_The Functions of Families, LO 1. 3, The Functions of Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

4. One theme of this text is that micro-level factors are more important than macro-level factors in understanding families.

*Answer: F*

*TB\_01\_34\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

5. “Human agency” is the ability of human beings to create viable lives even when they are constrained or limited by social forces.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_35\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

6. No known cases of true matriarchies have ever been recorded.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_36\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

7. The Chinese government requires people who plan to marry to apply for permission and to register officially on a waiting list with the local government in order to keep traditional Chinese marital patterns intact.

*Answer: F*

*TB\_01\_37\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

8. After the U.S. prohibited the importation of new slaves, some slaves were forced into relationships in order to breed new slaves.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_38\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

9. Industrialization transformed the economy from a system based on small family farms to one of large urban industries.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_39\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

10. The best way to understand why difficult family dynamics, such as domestic violence or child abuse, occur is to talk to a counselor or other individual who has seen the situation first-hand.

*Answer: F*

*TB\_01\_40\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

11. Min is researching the health care needs of poor families in her community. She is collecting data using a series of focus groups, which will offer detailed narrative descriptions. In other words, she is using quantitative methods.

*Answer: F*

*TB\_01\_41\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Skill: Apply What You Know, Difficulty: 2*

12. An experiment is a controlled method for determining cause and effect.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_42\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

13. A theory is a general framework, explanation, or tool used to understand and describe the real world.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_43\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

14. Social exchange theory suggests that individuals are rational and their behavior reflects an evaluation of costs and benefits.

*Answer: T*

*TB\_01\_44\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 1*

15. Teenagers' attitudes toward marriage and family life have become significantly more negative over the past few decades.

*Answer: F*

*TB\_01\_45\_Bringing It Full Circle, LO 5, Bringing It Full Circle, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2, Page 25*

### **Part III: Short Answer/Fill in the Blank Questions:**

**Level of Difficulty: A ranking of "1" relies upon recall of definitions; a ranking of "2" or "3" requires application or recall of more detailed or complex information.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are relationships by blood, marriage, or affection, in which members may cooperate economically, may care for any child, and may consider their identity to be intimately connected to the larger group.

*Answer: Families*

*TB\_01\_46\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1.1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

2. Two people need to be \_\_\_\_\_ in order to have access to one another's Social Security benefits or pension.

*Answer: married*

*TB\_01\_47\_How Do We Define Family?, LO 1, How Do We Define Family?, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

3. List the six functions of marriage.

*Answer: (1) Regulation of sexual behavior; (2) Reproducing and socializing children; (3) Property and inheritance; (4) Economic cooperation; (5) Social placement, status, and roles; (6) Care, warmth, protection, and intimacy.*

*TB\_01\_48\_The Functions of Families, LO 2, The Functions of Families, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 3*

4. A micro-level perspective on families tends to focus on \_\_\_\_\_, whereas a macro-level perspective focuses on \_\_\_\_\_.

*Answer: (a) the individual and his or her interactions in specific settings; (b) the interconnectedness of marriage, families, and intimate relationships with the rest of society.*

*TB\_01\_49\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 3*

5. List the various types of marriage patterns found in the world today.

*Answer: monogamy, polygamy, polygyny, polyandry*

*TB\_01\_50\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

6. Which pattern of authority is common throughout the world?

*Answer: patriarchy*

*TB\_01\_51\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

7. The United States practices a \_\_\_\_\_ descent pattern.

*Answer: bilateral*

*TB\_01\_52\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

8. Why is China's sex ratio exceedingly imbalanced with 120 young boys for every 100 young girls?

*Answer: The combination of patriarchal social preferences for boys and a government policy of one child per family has led many families to abort female fetuses or kill or give up girl babies for adoption.*

*TB\_01\_53\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*

9. Family historians have shown that families were the cornerstone of colonial society. They were the primary social institution, taking over the functions of what other social institutions?

*Answer: business, schools, churches, correctional institutions, hospitals, social welfare institutions*  
*TB\_01\_54\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

10. The companionate family model that emerged in the 20<sup>th</sup> century is based on which four patterns?

*Answer: mutual affection, sexual attraction, compatibility, and personal happiness*  
*TB\_01\_55\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

11. Using an \_\_\_\_\_, or the systematic collection and analysis of data, researchers can describe aspects of family life, examine the factors that predict or are associated with these features, explain what might cause them or what they might affect, and examine the meanings and interpretations individuals or social groups have of these facets of family life.

*Answer: empirical approach*  
*TB\_01\_56\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 1*

12. List the six research methods discussed in your text.

*Answer: (1) survey; (2) in-depth interview; (3) experiment; (4) focus group; (5) observational studies; (6) secondary analysis.*  
*TB\_01\_57\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Skill Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 2*

13. \_\_\_\_\_ focuses on data that can be measured numerically, as found in surveys or experiments, whereas \_\_\_\_\_ refers to a narrative description with words rather than numbers to analyze patterns and their underlying meanings.

*Answer: Quantitative research; qualitative research*  
*TB\_01\_58\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Understand the Concepts, Difficulty: 2*

14. List the 7 main theories discussed in this chapter that are used in the study of families.

*Answer: (1) Structural functionalist theory; (2) Conflict theory; (3) Feminist theory; (4) Social exchange theory; (5) Symbolic interaction theory; (6) Developmental theory; (7) Systems theory.*  
*TB\_01\_59\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Remember the Facts, Difficulty: 3*

15. Is the family in a state of decline? Briefly, what are the main arguments of each side?

Seccombe, Exploring Marriages and Families, 2e, Test Bank

*Answer: (1) People who feel that families are being threatened worry that Americans are rejecting traditional marriage and family life, that family members are not adhering to roles within families, and that many social and moral problems result from the changes in families. (2) Others remind us that the golden years of the past never really existed. They argue that families have always faced challenges, including desertion, poverty, children born out of wedlock, alcoholism, unemployment, violence, and child abuse. Yet, despite these recurring problems, attempts to strengthen families through improved social services and financial assistance have been met with resistance.*

*TB\_01\_60\_Bringing It Full Circle, LO 5, Bringing It Full Circle, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*

**Part IV: Essay Questions:**

1. Compare and contrast a macro-level and micro-level perspective on families. Be sure to provide examples to illustrate your points.

*TB\_01\_61\_Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on, LO 3, Theme 1: Linking the Micro-level and Macro-level Perspectives on Families, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*

2. How has patriarchy changed in America over time? Use specific examples to support your argument.

*TB\_01\_62\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 4, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*

3. Compare and contrast macro-level forces impacting African American families at two different periods in American history.

*TB\_01\_63\_Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, LO 1.8, Theme 2: Families Are Always Changing, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*

4. If you were to research a question about families, what would it be? Describe what research method(s) you would use to explore your question and why.

*TB\_01\_64\_Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, LO 5, Theme 3: The Importance of Social Science Theory and Research, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*

5. Are Americans rejecting marriage and family relationships? Write an essay using the data summarizing Americans' attitudes and behaviors.

*TB\_01\_65\_Bringing It Full Circle, LO 1, Bringing It Full Circle, Skill: Analyze It, Difficulty: 3*