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A L U M N I   A N D   T H E I R   S P O U S E S

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MARGARET ELIZABETH FISHER, B. S., M. A.

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## CHAPTER I

### I N T R O D U C T I O N

What is happening to the American family has been the subject of many inquiries and studies. With the twentieth century has come the exodus of the family from rural agrarian life to urban industrialized life. With this movement from the traditional stronghold of the rural life, has come many adjustments within the family and in the role of the family. Mowrer (57) pointed out that city life has a disorganizing effect upon the family. At times, the family appears on the verge of disintegration with the city cited as the breeding place of discontent of the traditional family and other traditional patterns. Mead (56) emphasized this change citing the pioneer family as very enterprising, and like "Noah's Ark," was organized around couples; whereas, the present American family, as a result of technology, seems a fragile institution coming under a great deal of criticism.

Students concerned with the field of marriage indicate that a deterioration exists. Zimmerman (95) is of the opinion that perhaps even the continued greatness of the United States seems in jeopardy. Paralleling the United States with Greece and Rome, where the family disintegration evolved to the

atomistic family, Zimmerman stated that the best hope for renewed greatness, or even survival, is to swing back toward the domestic family and the social strengths associated with the family.

Zimmerman (95) described the transition in the family pattern as first, the large extended trustee type, with the individual rights subordinated to the welfare of the family group; then the domestic family, in which although the family remains essentially a strong unit, the control is weakened; and predictably, a transition to the atomistic family, in which familiasm is replaced by individualism. This author further stated that the atomistic family is both the cause and the effect of changes in social life. In latter stages of this evolution, the family seems to experience little real meaning in the marriage ceremony, and the acceptance of widespread adultery, sexual permissiveness, easy divorce, childlessness, and delinquency are more prevalent. The question is frequently raised concerning evidence of the atomistic system increasing since World War II. Winch (91) postulated that familial disorganization is not a recent spawned evil of the atomic age.

Sorokin (72), another critic of the modern family, speculated:

The family as a sacred union of husband and wife, of parents and children will continue to

disintegrate. Divorce and separation will increase until any profound differences between socially sanctioned marriage and illicit sex relationships disappear. The main socioculture functions of the family will decrease until the home will become a mere overnight parking place mainly for sex relationships.

Several writers have discussed the disintegration of the family in each decade beginning with the period after World War I, but as Cavan (20) emphasized, not only has the family survived the war adjustment and prosperity of the 1920's, but has survived the depression of the 1930's, World War II and the greatly increased prosperity of the 1940's and 1950's. Duvall (27) commented:

American families and the National Council of Family Relations have gone through a great deal in the past 35 years. They survived the Great Depression and the several recessions that required rigorous economy and belt-tightening both in the individual families and in the National Council of Family Relations. They have done their bit in World War II, the Korean conflict and the Cold War that has persisted ever since.

Duvall (27) further commented that families have not given up as predicted, but today are valued, by scholars and family members, as being at the core of the culture. With very little help from outside, families have not only continued, but have emerged from the crises with greater strength than previously. The crises have been not only within the family but have been within the family economic structure as pointed out by Nimkoff (62). The transfer of economic functions from

the family to industry means that the grandeur that was once the family's is now the grandeur of business enterprise. The loss of as powerful a function as economic production naturally entails the loss of influence and prestige.

Discord within the family and between the family and other social organizations is of great concern to the public and especially to people working with families. Stroup (77) stated that many families have problems which are disturbing and that family problems and maladjustments occur frequently; thus any treatment of marriage and family living is of vital concern.

Contemporary writers are less concerned than some of the earlier mentioned writers with the disintegration of the family, but recognize and accept the changes that are occurring. According to Cavan (20), some of the changes seem to have reached a state of at least temporary stabilization but others are still in the process of adjustment. Some of the changes involve values and others involve policies concerned with meeting the needs of the family. Mead (56) stated the necessity of setting a new style of parenthood, with emphasis upon doing the job well. If parenthood is undertaken, fathers must frequently be home and conditions must be created in which choices can be made.

Bowman (13) stated that in marriage, the concept of adjustment is fundamental. Two personalities must adjust to each other, to the marital situation in both the narrow and broad sense, and to social conditions in general. These elements are in a continual state of flux. According to this author, marriage is a process, not a constant; marital adjustment is dynamic, not static. Landis (44) emphasized that adjustment is not a fictitious norm in the marriage-family system which has emerged in today's society--it is the key to married life, almost to adult life itself.

Bowman (13) speculated that adjustment does not imply that one person must do all the adjusting or that there should always be compromise. However, every problem of marriage adjustment or human relationships, with a few possible exceptions, is two-sided. Adjustment may be achieved by one person changing his behavior, by the other individual changing his attitude, or by a change in the elements that compose the situation.

Bowman (13) further stated that although much has been written about the high divorce rate in the United States, and in spite of all the publicity about marital failures, the fact remains that a large proportion of American marriages are at least acceptably satisfactory to the couples concerned. Bowman further commented on the fact that in this country

each year approximately 150,000 couples celebrate their golden wedding anniversaries. On the whole the marital situation may not be as good as some optimists would like for the public to believe nor is it as bad as some pessimistic critics insist.

The amount of adjustment that takes place in marriage is determined, in considerable part, by the amount of adjustment that takes place previous to marriage, according to Landis (44). Some couples work out techniques of adjusting during the days preceding marriage and are able to carry over the same pattern into the marriage. Some couples are more fortunate and never have relationship problems either preceding marriage or afterward. Others have many problems and should never have married in the first place.

Landis (44) stated that problems in marital adjustment may arise over such factors as sex, social life, religion, economic problems, in-laws, friends, or recreation. In addition, temperament, children, and adaptability of habits may create problems. However, such issues may be resolved if the two persons approach the problems with a determination to succeed.

Today, the marriage ideal is happiness for each of the marriage partners. No longer is it necessary for people to spend their entire lives earning a marginal existence.

Happiness is a more realistic goal than ever before. The important question is how happiness is achieved.

Klemer (42) stated that 100 years ago the most important values in marriage were staying married, producing children, and continuing to exist in spite of merciless natural forces that made existence difficult. This author suggested that the primary reason for the continuing increase in the fragility of marriage is that happiness has replaced stability as the major goal of marriage partners. Since happiness is more elusive and less easily measured than stability, it is presently easier to convince oneself that a marriage has failed than it was in the past.

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Efforts to understand the problems related to marital adjustment must be made if marriages are to attain the desired degree of stability. An awareness of the problems and an interest in the field of marriage must be encouraged in order to aid counselors, teachers, and other people working with families.

#### PURPOSES OF THE STUDY

The overall purpose of the present study was to initiate and conduct an investigation concerned with the marital adjustment and prediction of marital adjustment of college

alumni and their spouses. The alumni were graduates of a selected college located in the Northwest part of the United States. More specifically, the purposes include the following:

- 1) To determine attitudes concerning marital adjustment and prediction of adjustment of mature adults.
- 2) To explore selected personal background factors of married couples to determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment according to: education, age at time of marriage, geographic area of orientation, religion, religious activities, hobbies, recreation, and the use of alcohol and tobacco.
- 3) To determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment according to the personality type of the marriage partners: introvert, extrovert, and ambivert.
- 4) To determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment of subjects having completed and those not having completed at least one marriage course while in college.
- 5) To compare marital adjustment scores of the selected sample of college alumni and their spouses with scores reported by Locke-Wallace.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The family is a deeply rooted institution in the United States, and is the most favored group with which adults associate themselves. According to Cavan (20) all but about 10 per cent of the people marry at some time during their lives. This author further stated that youth eagerly seek the status of the married individual; half of the young women are married by the time they are 21 years of age and half of the young men by the time they are 23. The present eagerness for marriage does not always result in happiness. Winch (91) pointed out various types of evidence that show Americans need to become "adjusted" to marriage. The author continued by stating that, in the American society, marital adjustment is thought to be a "problem", but if a relationship poses a problem of adjustment, there is considerable likelihood that roles are involved for which the partners are unprepared either by being untaught or mistaught, or to differences in ✓ ethnic or religious backgrounds. The lack of knowledge <sup>things</sup> diff ✓ creates difficulty in making the necessary changes in the functions and adjustments in marriage.

A review of literature reveals that attention has been focused upon 1) functions of the family as related to

adjustment, 2) marital adjustment and related terms, 3) history and development of the various marital adjustment and prediction tests, and 4) criticisms of the tests. This chapter is a review of literature relevant to marital adjustments and related factors.

### CONCEPTS OF FAMILY FUNCTIONS IN THE MODERN FAMILY

Sporakowski (73) stated that since marriage is a vital and dynamic need fulfilling force in today's society, its functions have been and need to be delineated. Many family oriented investigators have elaborated upon family functions and extensive listings are available. An assessment of some of the values as applied to, or indicative of, the relationships between family functions and marital adjustment will be considered.

Waller (87) described the family as once being the center of the economy and closely interrelated with other economic activities conducted outside the home. These activities included community, religious, and political endeavors. Additional strength was derived by the family through working together in the various activities of the home. Waller further stated that the family of today discharges only a few limited functions; is a center of consumption but not of production; is supposedly an outlet for the affection of the

members; and has partial authority over the rearing of the children.

According to Klermer (42), of the many social changes concerning and affecting the determination to remain married, none is more important than the loss of the traditional family functions. Family sociologists have indicated the loss or greatly diminished functions relative to production, education, protection, recreation, government and child care.

Ogburn and Nimkoff (64) made the following observation:

When the family was larger and performed more economic and correlated functions, the family was a powerful institution; and the cooperation of all members of the group was required if the family was to function effectively. But now that the business of the world is largely carried on apart from the home and by individuals rather than family groups, the accent has shifted to the individual, so that the family is relatively less influential, the individual more so. The control of the family over its members is less, the children choose their own jobs, their own mates, and a separate place to live.

Truxal and Merrill (83) listed some of the changing family functions. Production has made a profound change in the economic functions performed by the family. Each decade has witnessed a decreased proportion of the population residing on the land and carrying on the traditional economic functions of the farm family. The members of most families work outside the home for wages or salaries and make economic contributions in ways other than directly through the family.

Consumption entails buying most of the commodities that formerly were grown, processed and manufactured by the family. Klemmer (42) mentioned that although it is no longer necessary for the family to produce goods and articles in a direct way, it is now necessary to plan the consumption and make a large number of quality and quantity decisions. Winch (91) commented upon the economic functions which have undergone a marked transformation. The resulting shift has been from a family in which the members were economically independent to one in which one or more persons are economically independent while other individuals are classified as dependent.

Religious training, as another function of the home, is almost a thing of the past in the opinion of Truxal and Merrill (83). Others have made similar statements concerning religion. Burgess (14) agreed that the day when the Protestant family operated as a formal religious unit has clearly passed. A study of the Catholic family, conducted by Thomas (82), indicated that religious instruction provided by the family does not equal traditional expectations, either in terms of knowledge of prayers or the understanding of religious dogma.

Another family function listed by Truxal and Merrill (83) was that of education. The basic social changes have affected the educational functions of the family, taking over

certain educative services formerly performed by the family. The trend is evidenced by the increased number of children attending school; the median number of years for the completion of schooling; the increase in the number of days per year children are in school and the changing concept of the task of the school.

According to Truxal and Merrill (83), the family functions of recreational interest and activities of the different family members are widely separated. In addition to changes in recreational functions, protective functions have been changed. These latter functions have been taken over by three types of security agencies: the private insurance companies, the private social agencies, and the welfare and insurance programs operated by the local, state and federal governments.

Winch (91) commented upon the political function having taken over the maintenance of internal and external order and the provision for protection. Barber (6) elaborated upon the essence of the political functions as the acquisition and the exercise of power.

Klemer (42) stated that the same series of technological changes that have diminished the need for some of the traditional activities of the family have also increased the need for other functions. The executive performance of the

family has been enormously increased in recent years. A mediating performance in which the family is a buffer between the individual and the larger society was suggested by Goode (30). Adaptation has been overlooked as a vital function of the family in the industrial society, according to Vincent (86). Nimkoff (62) noted that functions of the family are flexible and these activities may involve few or many things.

Stone and Stone (76) maintained that the chief functions of marriage and the family in the modern society are to provide a center for affection and emotional security, for sex satisfaction and procreation, and for the transfer of the cultural heritage from one generation to another.

Woods (94) noted that many traditional family functions have been transferred to other institutions, not necessarily because the family failed in the performance of its duties but because social systems are better able to realize the values involved. Woods further stated that the contemporary American family is far from self-sufficient, but even if it were, the major family functions of childbearing and child-rearing are of vital concern to continuity of the society.

Klemer (42) made the following deduction:

It seems reasonable to speculate that the greatest proportional increase in family function in recent years has been in the affectional function. In our modern, tension-filled society with

fewer primary group contacts, that is, contacts with family, friends, neighbors, and relatives, the family has in some cases become a greater source of solace, comfort, and vital personal attention. Today American men have their wives as friends to a degree that is unusual throughout the rest of the world. In other times and other places, men more often sought companionship not at home but in the local pub or in the boudoirs of their mistresses. The affectional relationship, both romantic and companionate, is now a major function and cohesive force that provides determination to hold most American families together.

Chesser (21) stated that no traditional pattern for conducting family functions exists at the present time. Families face the challenge of choosing among vague alternatives.

Nye and Berardo (63) commented that few terms are more common in the family literature than structure and function. The word function has many different connotations. One usage makes the term virtually equivalent to the term occupation, another use refers to activities. When used in its mathematical sense, the term functions indicates a particular kind of relationship between two variables; namely, that the value of one depends upon the value of the other. Nye and Berardo stated that:

. . . in the structure-functional approach to the study of the family, the three major areas of functions have been particularly emphasized: the functions of the family for society, the functions of the sub-systems within the family for the family or for each other, and the functions of the family for the individual members, including the development of personality.

Rollins and Feldman (70) used the family life cycle as a descriptive device to compare the structures and functions of marital interaction in different stages of development. Classification of the couples into eight stages of the family life cycle in terms of the age of the oldest child was similar to that of Duvall (28). Occasionally a transfer of function has had the unwanted effect of weakening the family for the performance of some remaining tasks according to Foote and Cottrell (29). Homes for the aged in which the emotional value or grandparent-grandchild relations could not be conserved was an example cited.

#### CONCEPTS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND RELATED FACTORS

According to Burgess and Cottrell (15), any attempt at predicting adjustments in marriage necessitates a definition of adjustment, and some method of indicating varying degrees of adjustment. Burgess and Cottrell further suggested that a highly generalized definition of a well adjusted marriage might be one in which attitudes and actions of the partners produce an environment highly favorable to the proper functioning of personality structures of each of the marriage partners in the sphere of primary relationships.

Locke and Williamson (52) defined marital adjustment as characterized by the presence of factors in marriage which

minimize or resolve conflicts and promote satisfaction and the sharing of common interests and activities, as well as the fulfilling of marital expectations for both the husband and wife. Locke and Williamson stated that operationally it is generally defined as that which is measured by a marital-adjustment test.

Cavan (20) perceived adjustment as the process whereby people established satisfactory physical, psychological, and social needs. Cavan further stated that:

. . . in no other human relationship is so much expected from two young, relatively inexperienced people. Marital adjustment calls for a coordination of personal qualities at the time of marriage and for a dynamic process of interaction to strengthen and maintain the relationship. Un-coordination is very likely to move into disintegration of the marriage unless deliberate effort is made to restore coordination when the husband and wife begin to lose a sense of identification.

Truxal and Merrill (83) agreed with Williamson (89) that adjustments in marriage mean distinct experiences for different individuals. Much of the ability for two individuals to meet the challenge of marital living depends upon the capacity for adjustment. The adaptation is a product of lifetime behavior, experience and acquired reaction tendencies.

Among the authors who have attempted to define marital adjustment is Kephart (39) who contended that terms like ". . . marital adjustment or marital happiness have no

precise meaning. Marital adjustment did not have the same connotation a hundred years ago as it does today and it might be added that additional changes will probably take place in the years to come." Landis (44) also placed great emphasis upon the importance of adjustment and gave the following definition: "It is not a fictitious norm in the marriage-family system which has emerged in our society. It is the key to married life, almost to life itself."

According to Burgess and Locke (16), the four criteria most generally used to evaluate marital success and adjustment are: permanence, happiness, satisfaction, and adjustment. Kephart (39) gave a somewhat different listing for traditional criteria. This author's list included permanence, children, respect of the community, and economic well-being. Another schedule, by Kephart, termed a more contemporary concept of marital adjustment, included companionship, the chance to have children, understanding, love and affection, and the standard of living.

Bowman (13) expressed the idea that in marriage the concept of adjustment is fundamental. Two personalities must adjust to each other, to the marital situation in both the broad and narrow sense, and to social conditions in general. Bowman elaborated further by stating that marriage is a process, not a constant. Marital adjustment is, therefore,

dynamic rather than static. In marriage, adjustment becomes particularized through knowledge, love, discovery, effort, and ingenuity.

Landis (43) speculated that the main areas upon which couples must reach agreement are money, in-law relationships, sex relationships, social activities, recreation, association with friends, religious life and eventually the training and disciplining of children. The happiest couple have met the problems that have arisen in these areas. Marriages are happy when the task of adjusting to the partner's viewpoint has been accepted, and a workable arrangement has been made. By calling agreement to a type of adjustment, implications are that people seldom agree satisfactorily on everything. Satisfactory agreement exists because both partners have adjusted in attitudes, and in all probability the most common adjustment in marriage is a compromise.

Contrary to the interpretation of many lay people, <sup>Good</sup> there is not a necessity for one person to do all the adjusting nor should there always be compromise. Bowman (13) indicated that primarily every problem of marriage in adjustment or human relationships is two-sided. The adjustment may be achieved by either person's changing his behavior, or by an alteration of the elements that compose the situation, such as income, <sup>education</sup> housing, or proximity to relatives.

Stroup (77) emphasized that adjustment in <sup>5</sup> three areas (love, demonstration of affection and emotional interdependence) seems to be crucial in the development of emotional attachments in marriage. Adjustments in these areas are begun in the premarriage period and continue throughout the marriage. In considering the fact that, in general, approximately 20 years are required for partial adjustment to life prior to marriage, the suggestion by Bowman (13) that a couple allow a few years to adjust to each other in a new relationship does not seem excessive. Bowman stated further that marriage is not a part of life; it is a way of life. Hence, marital adjustment is a widely permeating and basically essential process.

Almost every American of marriageable age has heard that adjustments are necessary in order to make a marriage work. Marital adjustments are frequent subjects for soap operas, television, magazine articles, and advice columns in the newspaper. According to Klemmer (42) most young people enter marriage convinced that, being well adjusted, no difficulties will arise. This author indicated that most partners do adjust sufficiently to stay married and to be counted as happily married. A research study by Landis (45) was cited in which almost 71 per cent of the respondents were evaluated by themselves, by their friends, or by children of the couple as being happily married. Landis studied the length of time

required for 409 couples to achieve satisfactory adjustments in the areas of sex relations, spending family income, social activities, and mutual friends. The fact that the couples had been married for an average of 20 years meant that the sample was heavily weighted with marriages that were successful in the sense that they were unbroken. Results of the Landis study indicated that those couples happily married tended to achieve satisfactory relationships early in marriage, and if pleasing adjustments were not achieved in two or more areas, the couples tended to classify the marriage as unhappy. Woods (94) noted that after the first two years of marriage there may be a decline in marital happiness which may be attributed to the disappearance of the romantic image. However, a rather even plateau of marital adjustment may have been reached.

According to Groves (32), the inability of the family to adjust to a rapidly changing environment dulls or limits the power of the environment to control human responses, and this ultimately proves favorable to the quality of adjustment that human welfare needs. The failure of the family to make necessary alterations may bring disorganization and instability. Groves contended:

One cannot be content with merely pointing out an immediate confusion or instability. This also represents a line of adjustment. The difficulties of the family re-echo in emotional protests that motivate interference with the

environmental influences. Since quickness of change or thoroughness of change does not guarantee progress, there is security for both the race and the individual in these experiences of confusion that come to the family when change is great or rapid.

Bahr (5) stated that family stability and size have been linked to alcoholism and other antisocial behavior, including the social withdrawal typified by skid-row men. A study, conducted by Bahr, led to the following conclusions:

Comparisons of size and stability of parental families in two skid-row samples and a control sample have not revealed any evidence of a positive relation between size of family and presence on skid-row or extent of drinking. Furthermore, men from broken homes are not more common on skid-row than in the control sample, nor are they more likely to be heavy drinkers than men whose parents lived together until the respondent was at least 16 years of age. The evidence suggests that neither the broken home nor the large family are, in themselves, significant factors in the etiology of homelessness and excessive drinking.

Peterson (65) observed that early marital adjustment is a time of great joy. It is a period of learning and experimenting with adjustment processes. Adjustments are inevitable, and modifications of personality values and role expectations are involved.

Bayer (7) conducted a study involving 73,000 twelfth grade students throughout the United States, with one year and five year follow-up periods. One of the most consistently demonstrated findings in the research has been that of a

strong relationship between early marriage and poor adjustment in marriage. Guiding youth toward maturity and readiness to accept the marital role is a major responsibility. Chesser (21) commented upon the inconsistency that exists in the expectations of attainment of youth at different levels of maturity. Baber (4) expressed the belief that the difficulties of early adjustment in marriage are partially due to the way each partner has feinted himself in an effort to impress the other individual during courtship. As a result, a certain amount of reevaluation must take place during the first year of marriage.

Winch (91) elaborated upon the evidence that early marriages tend to be more unstable because of emotional immaturity. This author was of the opinion that adolescence in this country seems to be a period during which personality is in a state of flux. A study by Moss and Gingles (58) involving female subjects indicated that the girls who married early appeared less stable and emotionally more immature as revealed by personality tests and had less satisfactory relationships with parents than did the girls who did not marry early. Another factor associated with earlier marriages was the early and steady dating practices.

Good.

Woods (94) commented that adjustments were necessary at every phase of the family life cycle. Attention was given

to the greater number of divorces granted to couples failing to adjust themselves to new situations and failing to make adjustments during the first few years of marriage. More marriages are dissolved during the first year than at any other time, according to Blood (11). In response to the question that is asked frequently, "How could divorce be prevented?", Blood expressed the opinion that a significant number of divorces could be prevented by more careful mate-selection. Better compatibility testing, courses in preparation for marriage, premarital instruction and counseling, and waiting periods prior to marriage were suggested to reduce the number of divorce-prone marriages. Blood explained that some marriages are destined to fail. No effort by the couples or by experts could salvage them. On the borderline between unworkable marriages and compatible ones are the marginal cases where divorce is not inevitable.

Most couples present themselves with as much glamour and appeal as possible during courtship. During the engagement period, society sanctions more intimate contacts in order that each individual may see the other as Waller (87) terms "without makeup." To adjust to reality involves decision. In discussing problems, communication begins on a level of reality as practice takes place. Bernard (9) indicated that conversation, "just plain talk" between husbands and wives almost never happens. Blood (11) commented that most couples

after being married for a long period, do too little activity together. Pineo (67) found that most couples spent less leisure time together in the middle years of marriage than was evident in the years of early marriage. Often the use of leisure time was the factor that brought the couple together in the first place.

Bell (8) maintained that the concept of adjustment is applied to many aspects of social behavior. Reference was made to the need for the individual to become adjusted to external social expectations or to the internal relationship between personal desires and socially expected behavior. Adjustment is of importance in both the social and psychological sense. Bell continued that, in general, marital adjustment implies that the individual or pair has a good working arrangement with reality, adulthood, and expectations of others.

Winch (91) hypothesized that mate-selection proceeds on the basis of complementary needs only under the following societal-cultural conditions:

- 1) The marital relationship must be culturally defined as a rich potential source of gratification.
- 2) The choice of mates must be voluntary, not arranged, and bilateral, both man and woman must possess at least the power of veto.

- 3) There must be provision for, and preferably encouragement of, premarital interaction between men and women in order to provide the opportunity for testing out personalities of a variety of potential mates.

Winch (91) discussed the distinction between the term *Good* marital adjustment and the terms marital success and marital happiness, two other terms that are often used interchangeably. Definitions given for the terms were:

Marital success should refer to the achievement of one or more goals of marriage, such as happiness, permanence, or fulfilling community expectations. Whereas marital success refers to the achievement of joint goals, marital adjustment is defined as the presence of characteristics in marriage which minimize conflicts and promote feelings of satisfaction and the sharing of common activities and interests.

Marital happiness is defined as the tone of the subjective response of the individual mate to his or her marriage. Marital success can be assessed in the light of an onlooker's criteria: Marital happiness can be determined only by the emotional response of a spouse. It is conceivable for one marital partner to be happy while another one could be the opposite.

Truxal and Merrill (83) noted that a marriage is frequently considered successful if it is not interrupted by divorce or desertion. This conventional definition of success reflects the factor of permanence as the most important characteristic of a successful marriage. Marital success may mean permanence to some persons, companionship to other individuals, and to still others it may mean happiness and

personality growth. Thus, according to Stinnett (75), when there is no consensus on the goals of marriage, no single discussion of marital success can satisfy everyone. Stott (80) stated that there are no specific patterns of pair or group living and interaction that can be said to characterize the successful marriage or the successful family. Satisfactory or unsatisfactory modes of living and patterns of interaction may be as diverse as the human personalities involved in them are unique. Corsini (25) studied 20 married couples at the University of Chicago and concluded that happiness in marriage is a function of similarity of personality. Burgess and Cottrell (15) agreed that a successful marriage is ". . . a marriage in which the attitudes and acts of each of the partners produce an environment which is favorable to the functioning of the personality of each, particularly in the sphere of primary relationships."

Good

Sociologists have for some time sought to understand the basis for both mate selection and marital satisfaction. Kemper (38) conducted an investigation concerning the relative satisfaction of husbands, based on the sibling position of the husband. Two perspectives relating to power in marriage appeared to emerge in the findings. The first was that husbands with more power are more satisfied. The second was that husbands are more satisfied when the exercise of power is not ambiguous either on the part of the husband or wife.

Blood (11) described dominant and submissive individuals and explained when such people enter complementary marriages, the balance of power is determined by the combined personality characteristics. The balance of power in a given marriage cannot be predicted from the personality characteristics of one partner alone but only in combination.

*Good*  
Munstein and Glaudin (61), after studying personality dimensions associated with personality adjustment, made the statement that ". . . there are persons disturbed to the extent as to ensure disaster to any marriage regardless of the partner." However, in a large number of maladjusted marriages, the fact that the partners are able to function well in non-marital roles with other persons raises the question as to whether many unhappy marriages are simply the result of an unfortunate pairing of individuals. The results of this study support the belief that many persons seeking marriage counseling displayed psychiatric symptoms and had personalities poorly suited to successful intimate relationships. In a later study, Munstein and Glaudin (60) concluded that ". . . some people could not get along with a saint because of unstable, selfish, hostile personalities."

Winch (92) postulated that where personality and role are mutually consistent, the state of affairs should not generate intrapsychic conflicts, rather the relationship

should give normative support. Conversely, when personality is in conflict with role, each actor is put in a situation in which he suffers intrapsychic conflict, and the marital relationship is open to criticism on normative grounds.

Kelly (37) raised the question as to whether or not certain personality combinations are more likely than others to result in happy marriages. Kelly stated that:

. . . this study and others of the same type promise to provide dependable techniques for the prediction of marital success, and perhaps sometime we shall know just what predictive weights should be assigned any specific combination of personality traits or personal data as functional determiners of future marital adjustment.

The author stated that the actual relative amount of intelligence or the actual relative positions of the husband and wife on a personality trait continuum are not as important in determining compatibility as the belief of the husband and wife regarding relative positions on the scales. Data compiled by Udry (84) at the University of Kentucky from a study of 47 married and 50 engaged couples were contradictory to results from the study by Kelly (37). Instead of a close, nonreality oriented comparison of personality differences, mate and fiance perceptions of each other tended to exaggerate the differences. Marriage reduced the exaggeration of the differences, but differences still persisted.

A study concerning similar or related personality traits, as factors in marital happiness, was conducted by Pickford, Signori and Kempel (66). Conclusions were that marital happiness or adjustment was related to similar personality traits in husband and wife, and dissimilarity was related to marital unhappiness or maladjustment. Another — *Good* study on marital satisfaction and personality correlates of spouses was reported by Luckey (53). The study sought to discover the personality dimensions by which individuals in satisfactory marriages viewed their spouses as different from the way that individuals in unsatisfactory marriages viewed their spouses. Conclusions were that individuals indicating unsatisfactory marriages saw their spouses differently from individuals indicating happy marriages. Unsatisfied persons described their mates as having more extreme or intense qualities and as being decidedly more skeptical and distrustful, blunt and aggressive than were satisfied individuals. Satisfied persons attributed moderate qualities to their spouses, and saw them as responsible, generous, cooperative, and conventional individuals.

Stinnet (75) attempted to distinguish marital competence *Good* from other terms that were sometimes used interchangeably--

success, happiness and adjustment. The following comparisons and definitions were given:

Marital success refers to the achievement of one or more goals of marriage such as happiness of the couple, permanence or fulfilling community expectations. Whereas marital success refers to the achievement of joint goals, marital competence is an individual ability to perform marital roles in such a way as to make the achievement of those goals possible.

Marital happiness is defined as the tone of the subjective response of the individual mate to his or her marriage. Thus while marital happiness refers to the individual's emotional response to the marriage, marital competence is the ability to perform marital roles so as to fulfill important marital needs which influence the emotional response to the marriage.

Marital adjustment is defined as the presence of characteristics in marriage which minimize conflicts and promote feelings of satisfaction and the sharing of common activities and interests. While marital adjustment refers to consensus and lack of conflict (which may not indicate marital happiness or marital success), marital competence refers to the ability of an individual to promote the welfare and development of his or her mate, of which adjustment may only be a minor part.

In summary, the concepts of marital success, marital happiness and marital adjustment imply states of being (consequences and responses within marriage). The concept of marital competence is of dynamic quality and refers to the individual's ability to perform marital roles so as to promote the welfare and continuing development of the mate, which influences the consequences and emotional responses within marriage.

According to Mudd (59), the purpose of marriage counseling is to promote and sustain a high degree of competence

in marital and family relations. The accomplishment of such a goal should be based upon the knowledge of what constitutes marriage and family life competence.

Sprey (74) defined family stability as being changeless, not broken by death, divorce or separation. Stability is used interchangeable with such concepts as harmony and marital adjustment. Goode (30) defined marital instability as the failure of one or more individuals to perform role obligations. Goode further stated that divorce is a publicly recognized form of marital instability.

The goal of a study conducted by Burr (18) was to explain variance in marital satisfaction. This author was of the opinion that the concept of satisfaction had to be clearly identified, since it had been used in earlier research as a synonym for terms such as marital success, happiness and adjustment. In Burr's study, the term satisfaction was defined as a subjective condition in which an individual experiences a certain degree of attainment toward a goal and desire. Six different aspects of the marital relationship were selected in an attempt to distinguish conceptionally between satisfaction and different variables. The areas selected were: 1) the way finances are handled, 2) the couple's social activities, 3) the way the spouse performs his or her household tasks, 4) the companionship in the marriage, 5) the

sexual interaction, and 6) the relationship with the children. The results of the study did not show any discernible decrease in any of the six areas of satisfaction over most of the life cycle and several areas actually tended to rise. Burr stated that:

Additional research will need to be undertaken to further test these findings, but conclusions that satisfaction with various aspects of marriage gradually decreases over the life cycle, and that the pre-launching stage is the most difficult, should be viewed with less certainty.

In order to determine the effect of children on marital satisfaction, Luckey and Bain (54) conducted a study with a group of couples previously identified as either satisfied or unsatisfied in marriage. A greater number of respondents in the unsatisfied group listed children as the only satisfaction in marriage. Companionship was listed significantly more often by satisfied couples than by unsatisfied couples as an important factor in marriage. Size of family, the order of birth, sex and spacing patterns were not found associated with marital satisfaction.

A study by Renne (69) concerned the correlates of dissatisfaction in marriages. The following conclusions were made:

. . . people with inadequate income or education are especially susceptible to marital unhappiness as are people suffering from physical disability,

chronic conditions, impairments, or physical symptoms. Unhappily married people are socially and psychologically isolated, depressed, and prone to heavy drinking, not only because they are more likely to be ill or economically deprived, but also because the disability imposed by an unsatisfactory marriage is analogous to the disability imposed by minority race, chronic illness, or a missing limb. Also, for couples lacking economic or social resources, divorce is less feasible a solution, especially when children are involved. Parents were generally less likely to be satisfied with marriage than couples who never had children or the children have left home.

Hurvitz (35) concluded from a study involving the control role, marital strain role deviation, and marital adjustment, that there are no distinct associations between kinds of control roles, marital strain role deviation, and marital adjustment. The absence of such findings may mean that control role attitudes are associated with individuals having a particular personality structure functioning within the marital relationship.

#### CONCEPTS OF MARITAL PREDICTION TESTS

Research into the area of marital adjustment and prediction has been a major focus of the family life investigations primarily during the years of 1925 to the present. The earliest studies of Davis (26), Hamilton (33), and Bernard (10) represent pioneering efforts in the scientific study of marital adjustment and prediction. These studies were helpful in providing a few guides for the instruments that have been developed since that time.

In 1929 Hamilton (33) conducted a study with 200 subjects. By means of lengthy interviews, data were obtained concerning dissatisfaction, desire to continue the relationship, regret of having married, and rating of adjustment and desired changes in the spouse. Numerical values were assigned to various answers and a 14-point scale was derived with score intervals corresponding to five categories of success in marriage.

In 1933 Bernard (10) devised the first scientifically oriented measure of marital adjustment, presenting subjects with terms representing virtues and defects of marital adjustment. Adjustment was scored in terms of attributing favorable rather than unfavorable traits to the mate. In 1929 Davis (26) gathered data on the sexual behavior of married and unmarried women by using 10,000 mailed questionnaires. During the following decade contributions by Terman (81) and Burgess and Cottrell (15) were published. Research by Burgess and Cottrell involved a sample of 400 married couples and 126 divorced couples. The procedure involved ratings of the couple's chances of marital success by the couple themselves, by an independent outsider, and by a judge who had read the couple's case history. Items associated with marital success included in the scale were: 1) agreement on various issues, 2) common interests and activities, 3) demonstration of affection, 4) lack of dissatisfaction with the marriage, and

5) absence of feelings of loneliness and unhappiness. Weights given to the responses were proportionate to the association of the responses with a favorable self-rating of marital happiness. By summing weights or points assigned to the responses, a score was derived which represented an individual's marital adjustment. A correlation of .51 for prediction and adjustment of the 526 couples was obtained. The findings led Burgess and Cottrell to conclude the prediction of marital adjustment is possible.

The use of a personality instrument in addition to background and cultural factors was first used by Terman (81). The term marital happiness was used instead of marital adjustment but items from the Burgess and Cottrell scale (15) were used. In this study the husband and wife completed the questionnaires independently. The data were collected in a group situation in which the husband and wife could not compare answers. Conclusion from the study indicated that personality could have or could not have been responsible for the degree of marital adjustment.

Locke (48) constructed a marital adjustment scale with the aid of 201 divorced couples and 200 couples rated by outsiders as being very happily married. Using an interview method, Locke secured information from both the husband and wife. In comparison with previous studies, Locke obtained

a more representative cross-section of the population and husbands had a more objective basis for selecting and weighting items in respect to discrimination between the happily married and divorced group than had heretofore been evident. Of Locke's 29 items, 19 were taken from the Burgess and Cottrell scale (15). Locke's marital adjustment scale correlated highly with the Burgess and Cottrell scale. Kirkpatrick (40) postulated that the happily married group may have scored higher on the Locke test not necessarily because of marriage, but because the subjects were unusually happy individuals in the first place.

In Sweden Karlsson (49) conducted a companion study to that of Locke in the United States. The items used in Karlsson's Index of Marital Satisfaction were almost identical to those of Locke. Weighting of items was determined in much the same manner. Significant differences were found between the means of separated men and women, unhappily married couples, and happily married couples. Locke and Wallace (51) selected items having the highest discrimination in previous studies and constructed a marital adjustment test containing only 15 items and a prediction test which included 35 items. These tests, under the name of Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test and Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Prediction Test, have been used extensively for different studies during the past decade.

Bernard (10) maintained that "it is interesting to note that marital happiness, as it is measured, does not imply an absence of adjustment problems." Lively (47) was of the opinion that if the state of relative happiness of different individuals at different periods of time could be established, it would be feasible to measure the distribution and frequency of happiness among a population. Childman and Meyer (22) conducted a study relative to the measured personality needs and self rated happiness of single and married undergraduates. Significant differences were found between married and single male and female undergraduate groups concerning measured personality needs. Observed differences were obtained on self-rated happiness, with a higher proportion of the married than of the singles, rating themselves as generally happy. Few differences in problem perception appeared between the married and single groups. Within the limitations of the study, it was concluded that undergraduate marriage is not associated, as frequently claimed, with low academic motivation and interests; higher rates of student drop-out; high levels of marital unhappiness; or special financial, academic, and associated difficulties.

Stinnett (75) inferred that perhaps the principal criticism of previous success scales was that the criteria used rewarded conventionality and conservatism. According to Waller and Hill (88), a Victorian view of family stability

has been encouraged by such scales. A greater use of a criteria reflecting personality growth and the minimum institutional requirements of marriage were suggested. Stinnett noted that marriage research that relies primarily on measuring adjustments or success from consensus and degree of conflict items contributes little to an understanding of the dynamic qualities of the interpersonal relationship and the fulfillment of basic needs within the relationship.

Nimkoff (62) asserted that psychological interdependence is of greater importance in modern marriages than ever before in the history of the study of the family. Foote and Cottrell (29) stated that competent personalities, in contrast to adjusted ones, possess the qualities, skills and orientation needed to cope with whatever confronts them.

Swain (79) investigated family success indices as determined by the responses of family life specialists and students. Data were secured from 61 family life specialists, 308 college students and 182 high school students residing in Florida at the time of the study. In examining success indices employed by the experts and by lay persons, the data in the study revealed that there was dissimilarity between student responses concerning present and future families and the responses of family life specialists relating success characteristics to an abstract family. However, students

rating families successful responded more similarly to the specialists than did students rating families unsuccessful.

A review of over 60 studies measuring marital success published since 1940 was reported by Bowerman (12). According to the review 23 studies utilized a measure based upon the Burgess and Cottrell (15), the Terman (81), or the Locke (48) indices or combinations of these. A single item rating was used in 10 of the studies, while 12 studies used records or demographic data and had divorce or separation as a criterion. Kirkpatrick (40) reported that a summary of marital studies through World War II indicated that of 152 factors reported to be related to marital adjustment or happiness, only one-fourth had been confirmed by a second study. Stinnett (75) in comments concerning marital adjustment studies related that most of the data obtained represented a middle-class, relatively well-educated population that was biased toward higher than normal adjustment. The small size of the samples has been cited as a limiting factor in a more thorough analysis of the data.

According to Winch (91) the purpose of a prediction study is to ". . . develop and to test a means with which to predict for some future time the general level of a subject's marital happiness or marital adjustment upon the basis of responses given in the present." The author explained that

items used to predict future marital happiness or adjustment are similar to those that have been used to measure adjustment at the present time.

Terman (81), a pioneer in predictive marital studies, stated that there can be no universally valid test of marital success or happiness, marital aptitude, or compatibility. The statement was based on the fact that the conditions that make good marriages vary from culture to culture. Chesser (21) elaborated upon the popular forecasting type of prejudiced prediction used by parents, relatives, or friends. The basis for most forecasting predictions concern physical characteristics, peculiarities in religion, politics, or economic behavior and other inaccurate assumptions. Chesser stated that regardless of how influential and accurate forecasting may be at times, predictive dependability cannot be established.

According to Sporakowski (73), over 90 per cent of all Americans marry by the age of 44 years, and many marriages terminate in separation or divorce. The need for an instrument to assess marital preparedness was the purpose of a study conducted by Sporakowski. An instrument evolved as a result of the study. Keeler (36) developed a Marriage Readiness Rating Scale to be used in establishing readiness for marriage of high school girls. The author stated that the

validity of the scale will be more definitely determined after an elapse of time has permitted a comparison of the Marriage Readiness Rating predictions with the degree of success for actual marriages of the subjects. Burgess and Cottrell (15) and Adams (1) believed that prediction of marital adjustment before marriage is feasible and should be further developed by the use of case study and statistical methods.

Sporakowski (73) perceived the importance and usefulness of reliable and valid prediction instruments for the counselor, educator, pastor, or other professional counselors assisting persons in premarital matters. The author stated that:

. . . such instruments will aid in predicting statistically and/or clinically the chance that an individual or couple would have in adjusting to marriage. To this date, unfortunately, marital prediction research has dealt exclusively with the married, and the about to be marrieds. Little attention has been given to the marriageable, but as yet unengaged persons.

Burgess and Wallin (17) presented evidence substantiating Sporakowski's conclusion in a report of premarital prediction scales. Burgess and Wallin stated that:

. . . in these tests, items refer directly to the mate, fiancé, and marriage. These items could be used should the respondent reply as though he were thinking about a possible marriage partner.

The authors further commented upon the scales being of minimal use for the single person attempting to assess individual personal preparedness or readiness for marriage since no definite plans for marriage have been made. Kephart (39) indicated that there is a need for prediction and adjustment scales since "the current marital prediction schedules are demonstrably superior to the advice given by friends or parents and the predictions of the engaged partners."

Criticisms of research in marital prediction and adjustment, both constructive and negative, have been numerous. Christensen (23) added a note of caution:

Though our power of prediction will undoubtedly improve as we perfect the tools, precise predictions will likely never be possible. There are several reasons: 1) it seems highly improbable that all the factors which account for personality development and mental behavior can ever be sufficiently qualified. 2) Every person is unique in some respects, and to the extent that he is, he is statistically unpredictable. 3) Both people and circumstances are in continual flux, what is true for one time or place may not be true for another.

Waller and Hill (88) indicated that the factors asserted to be most highly associated with success in marriage are unconfirmed for the most part by more than two or three studies and are questioned by others. The findings are limited in application to the white, urban, middle class from which they are drawn.

Hawkins (34) stated that marital happiness or marital satisfaction measures have been critized for many reasons. One criticism suggested that since failure or unhappiness in marriage is such a deplorable occurrence in today's society, respondents would be loathe to admit such an event.

Stroup (77) indicated that:

. . . a fairly recent development in family research has been the attempt to predict marital success or failure by utilizing premarital characteristics of the spouses. . . . Since most of the marriage prediction studies have been essentially exploratory in nature, validity of prediction scales based on the studies has not been firmly established.

According to Winch (91) responses to many questions designed to measure marital adjustment tend to be biased by the wishes of the respondents to appear respectable in terms of the dominant group values. The evaluation of a marriage on the basis of responses of only one mate has been questioned. Stinnett (75) suggested that sources of unreliability can be minimized if anonymity is assured and spouses cannot see each other's responses.

In the study conducted by Sporakowaski (73), a statement was formulated as follows:

Marital prediction tests are by no means an end in themselves. Tests are a tool to be used in the counseling and educational settings, in conjugation with skilled, experienced personnel.

Employed as such they are useful and can be made even more beneficial through continued use and research which will facilitate the overcoming of such obstacles as have been indicated.

An example of the use suggested by Sporakowski (73) is discussed by Apple (2) in the discussion of different techniques of premarital counseling used by the Tree of Life Congregation, located in Columbia, South Carolina. During the first of the five required sessions, the Ernest W. Burgess test, a Marriage Prediction Schedule, is administered.

Winch (91) stated that empirical literature on marriage suffers from some ambiguity concerning the terms of marital adjustment, marital happiness, or marital success and tends to blur all three into a vague concept. Winch gave the following summary:

There are numerous studies on the factors believed to enter into marital happiness-adjustment-success. From studies based typically on urban middle-class subjects with more than average education it is reported that marital happiness-adjustment-success is positively correlated with such factors as 1) generally nonneurotic personalities of the spouses, 2) cultural homogeneity of the spouses, 3) amicable relations between each spouse and his parents, 4) the marital happiness of the spouses' parents, and 5) adequate length of the acquaintance, courtship, and engagement.

## CHAPTER III

### P R O C E D U R E

The present study has evolved from the interest of the investigator in marital adjustment and marital prediction of college students both before and following graduation. Efforts to understand the problems that face young people during the early years of marriage led to the overall purpose of initiating and conducting an investigation concerned with marital adjustment and prediction of marital adjustment of college alumni and their spouses of a selected college in the Northwest part of the United States.

The specific purposes of the study were to determine attitudes concerning marital adjustment and prediction of adjustment of mature adults by means of data obtained from a battery of instruments entitled, "Survey of Marital Adjustment of College Students"; explore selected personal background factors of married couples, to determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment according to education, age at time of marriage, geographic area of orientation, religious activities, hobbies, recreation, use of alcohol and tobacco; determine if there is a difference in marital adjustment according to personality type--introvert,

extrovert, and ambivert; determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment of subjects having studied at least one marriage course while in college and students not having studied at least one marriage course while in college; and compare marital adjustment scores of the selected sample of college alumni and their spouses with scores reported by Locke and Wallace.

The college selected for the study, Linfield College, is a four-year accredited institution located in McMinnville, Oregon. The college is affiliated with the American Baptist Conference. All religions and races are represented in the student body. The largest numbers of the students are from Oregon, Washington, and California; however, a number of the students come from Hawaii and Alaska, and many are from foreign countries. Each year more students from Eastern states are enrolling in Linfield College.

Arrangements were made by the investigator for the distribution of the "Survey of Marital Adjustment of College Students" to be executed through the Alumni Office of Linfield College. A random sample was drawn for the present study from the list of college alumni who had graduated from Linfield College between 1958 and 1964. The names of the alumni that constituted the random sample were pulled by hand by the person in charge of the alumni files. Copies of the battery of instruments were mailed to 500 alumni.

The battery of instruments (Appendix A) and the cover letter (Appendix B) were prepared by the investigator and forwarded to Linfield College where they were xeroxed. The Alumni Office personnel assumed the responsibility of mailing the instrument and cover letter to the alumni. In February, 1970, the battery of tests; the cover letter; and a return, stamped, addressed envelope were mailed to 500 alumni. Two copies of the battery of instruments were enclosed, one for the alumni member and one for the spouse of the alumni member.

Data from a total of 147 males and 153 females was found usable for the study. The total of 300 respondents represented 30 per cent of the total number of instruments mailed to alumni and their spouses. Only the forms returned within a three week period were included in the study. A total of 336 forms were returned by this date, 36 of this number were incomplete and thus were discarded, leaving a sample of 300 as the basis of the study.

A battery of instruments consisting of four parts was assembled for collecting the data necessary to accomplish the purposes of the study. Part I, General Information, was designed by the investigator. Personal information data were collected from the participating alumni and their spouses by means of this section of the battery. Other instruments

included in the present study were: Part II, Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test; Part III, Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Prediction Test; and Part IV, Crane's Introvert-Extrovert Test. The Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test and the Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Prediction Test were research instruments developed and used by Locke and Wallace (51) in some of the original studies concerned with marital adjustment and prediction. Permission was obtained from Wallace for use of the instruments included in Parts II and III. Also, permission was obtained from Crane for the use of the Introvert-Extrovert Test included in Part IV.

Part I of the questionnaire was designed to obtain general information concerning the respondents and their respective families. Information was obtained concerning age, sex, marital status, number of children and unrelated people residing in the home, race, health status and health problems, sibling placement, manner of obtaining money as a child, use of alcohol and tobacco, hobbies and recreational activities, membership in social and professional organizations, size of the house, formal preparation for marriage and whether or not a marriage counselor had been consulted were included in this section of the instrument.

Parts II, III, and IV included the published instruments which have been standardized and used in previously reported

investigations. Information regarding marital adjustment was obtained by using the Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test developed in 1959. According to the authors

. . . this short marital-adjustment test clearly differentiates between persons who are well adjusted and those who are maladjusted in marriage. It is evident, therefore, that the test has validity, since it seems to measure what it purports to measure--namely, marital adjustment.

The mean scores obtained by Locke and Wallace were: adjusted group 135.9, maladjusted group 71.7. Only 17 per cent of the maladjusted group achieved adjustment scores of 100 or higher, whereas, 96 per cent of the well-adjusted group achieved scores of 100 or more.

Locke and Wallace (51) commented

. . . the most exacting measure of the validity of a marital-prediction test would require a longitudinal study over a period of several years. Since that was not feasible, the prediction scores were correlated with the adjustment scores for all the subjects.

For the total sample the coefficient between the 35 item prediction test and the 15 item adjustment test was .47.

The highest possible score for men and women on the Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test is 158. The highest possible score for men on the Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Prediction Test is 532, while the highest possible score for women is 512.

According to Locke and Wallace (51), data from their study reported in 1959 confirmed the hypothesis that "marital adjustment and marital prediction tests, constructed with a relatively small number of basic and fundamental items, achieve results approximately comparable with longer and more complex adjustment and prediction tests."

The Crane Introvert-Extrovert Test (19) was devised to assist in classifying personality types. Crane stated that people tend to cluster closely around the mid-point; therefore, most people are neither introvert nor extrovert but may be termed ambivert, with a combination of introvert and extrovert characteristics.

Crane (19) stated that Dr. Carl Jung of Zurich, Switzerland was the first individual to classify people as introverts and extroverts. Crane related that extroverts express emotions in motor performances and contacts with other persons, and are often thought of as men of action. On the other hand, introverts are more self-centered and shy than extroverts, and tend toward day dreaming and are associated with being the thinkers and scholars.

The responses to the "Survey of Marital Adjustment of College Students" were tabulated and analyzed according to the purposes of the study. The t-test was used in analyzing the data. Comparisons between group means were used in

analyzing the scores of the marital adjustment and marital prediction tests. Mean scores of the upper and lower quartile were analyzed for adjustment test scores and for prediction test scores. The correlation coefficient was computed to determine the relationship between the marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores of the 300 individual alumni and their spouses.

## CHAPTER IV

### P R E S E N T A T I O N   O F   D A T A   W I T H A N A L Y S I S   A N D   D I S C U S S I O N

Data for the present study were obtained from a "Survey of Marital Adjustment of College Students" completed by 300 alumni and spouses, male and female, enrolled in Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon, during the period between 1958 and 1964. Part I of the "Survey of Marital Adjustment of College Students" obtained personal and family background information concerning the individual subjects. Part II consisted of a self-rating scale and the 15 item Locke-Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test; Part III was composed of a 35 item Locke-Wallace Short Form Marital Prediction Test, and Part IV included Crane's Introvert-Extrovert Personality Test.

On February 4, 1970, two instruments were mailed to each couple, one to be completed by the alumni member and one by the spouse. A total of 300 completed forms was

returned. In 88 per cent of the families, both the husband and wife returned completed forms. Data concerning the responses are shown below.

<u>Forms Returned</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Unmatched forms	15	10.2	21	13.7
Matched forms	132	89.8	132	86.3

A total of 153 females and 147 males completed the survey forms. Of this number, forms could be matched for 132 couples. The author has no way of knowing whether the 36 forms, completed by 15 males and 21 females, and mailed by individuals might have been completed by only one member of the marriage partnership or were completed by both members and returned in separate envelopes; therefore, in data analysis these 36 forms were considered as responses from individuals rather than from couples.

#### PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION CONCERNING PARTICIPANTS

##### Age

The participants were requested to list their ages in years. Ages ranged from 26 to 67 years for males and 21 to 60 years for the females. However, only four males and three

females were over 40 years of age. A total of 96.6 per cent of the participants were under age 40.

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<u>Age in Years</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
20 - 29 years	47	32.0	92	60.1
30 - 39 years	91	61.9	56	36.6
40 years or over	4	2.8	3	2.0
No response	5	3.4	2	1.3

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Of the male respondents, 32 per cent were between the ages of 20 to 29 years, 61.9 per cent were between 30 to 39 years, 2.8 per cent were 40 years or over. Five males did not respond to the item concerning age. Of the female respondents, 60.1 per cent were between the ages of 20 to 29 years, 36.6 were between 30 to 39 years, 2.0 per cent were over 40 years, and 1.3 per cent did not give their age. Of the total number of respondents, 46.4 per cent were between the ages of 20 to 29 years, 49.0 per cent were between 30 to 39 years, 2.3 per cent were 40 years or more in age.

### Present Marital Status

Participants were requested to indicate present marital status and if having been divorced, how many times. The marital status of the respondents is illustrated as follows:

<u>Present Marital Status</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Married only once	138	94.6	145	94.8
Have been divorced	8	5.4	8	5.2

Of the male respondents, 94.6 per cent had been married only one time and 5.4 per cent had been divorced. Of the female respondents, 94.8 per cent had been married only once and 5.2 per cent had been divorced. Of the total group, 94.7 per cent had been married only once, 5.3 per cent had been divorced. Only one of 300 participants, a male, had been divorced twice. None of the respondents had been divorced more than two times.

### Individuals Residing in the Home

Participants were requested to list the number of children and unrelated individuals living in the home. Of the male respondents, 42.2 per cent had one girl, 19.0 per cent had two girls, 2.0 per cent had three girls, and 0.7 per cent had four girls. (See Table I.) Of the female respondents,

TABLE I  
INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN THE HOMES OF  
THE PARTICIPANTS

Individuals	Male		Female		Total	
	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent
Children						
Girls						
One	62	42.2	64	41.8	126	42.0
Two	28	19.0	29	19.0	57	19.0
Three	3	2.0	5	3.3	8	2.7
Four	1	0.7	1	0.7	2	0.7
Boys						
One	56	38.1	61	39.9	117	39.0
Two	22	15.0	25	16.3	47	15.7
Three	3	2.0	2	1.3	5	1.7
Unrelated individuals						
One	6	4.1	4	2.6	10	3.3
Four	1	0.7	1	0.7	2	0.7
Five	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3

41.8 per cent had one girl, 19.0 per cent had two girls, 3.3 per cent had three girls, and 0.7 per cent had four girls. Of the total number of respondents, 42.0 per cent were reported to have one daughter, 19.0 per cent two daughters, 2.7 per cent three daughters, and 0.7 per cent had four daughters.

Of the male respondents, 38.1 per cent had one boy, 15.0 per cent had two boys, and 2.0 per cent had three boys. A total of 39.9 per cent of the female respondents reported one boy, 16.3 per cent two boys, and 1.3 per cent three boys. Of the total group, 39.0 per cent had one son, 15.7 per cent had two sons, and 1.7 per cent had three sons.

Four of the couples indicated having one unrelated individual residing in the home. Each of the four males indicated one unrelated individual residing in the home. One of the forms was a matched form, with the individual being related to the wife. One couple reported four unrelated individuals residing in the home. One female reported five unrelated individuals residing in the home. The male partner did not indicate an unrelated individual living in the home; therefore the individuals must have been related only to the husband.

### Race

The participants were requested to check an item concerning ethnic group. Caucasians constituted 97.7 per cent

of the sample. Only one couple was Negro and four individuals were in the category of "other". One person failed to check this item.

### Health of Participants

The respondents were requested to check their opinions as to their present health status and to indicate any current health problems.

<u>State of Health</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Excellent	127	86.4	109	71.2
Good	20	13.4	43	28.1
Poor	0	0.0	1	0.7

Of the male respondents, 86.4 per cent indicated excellent health and 13.4 per cent reported good health. Of the female respondents, 71.2 per cent reported excellent health, 28.1 per cent reported good health, and only one female indicated poor health.

Individuals with health problems represented a very small percentage of the total group. Two males and one female reported having diabetes. Only one individual, a female, reported a handicap. One female reported a rare blood disease and one female reported being anemic.

### Use of Alcohol

The use of alcohol and the objection to the use of alcohol by the spouse were investigated (Table II). A total of 59 or 19.7 per cent reported never using alcohol, 38 females and 21 males. Twelve or 4.0 per cent indicated using alcohol daily, nine males and three females. A total of 49 individuals or 16.3 per cent used alcohol weekly, 33 males and 16 females. Over half of the group, 59.7 per cent, used alcohol occasionally, 83 males and 96 females. One male failed to check a response to this item.

A total of 54 or 18 per cent answered "Yes" to the item concerning objection to the use of alcohol in their mates, 21 males and 33 females. A total of 245 or 81.7 per cent gave a negative response to this item. Interesting to note is the fact that more males, 126 individuals, than females, 119 individuals, did not object to the use of alcohol in their mates. One female did not indicate a positive or a negative response.

### Use of Tobacco

The use of tobacco and the objection to the use of tobacco in the mate were investigated (Table II). Of the total respondents, 64 or 21.3 per cent used tobacco, 44 or 29.9 per cent of the males and 20 or 13.1 per cent of the females used tobacco. Of the total respondents, 229 did not use tobacco,

TABLE II  
USE OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO AND OBJECTIONS TO  
THEIR USE BY THE SPOUSE

Use and Objection	Male		Female		Total	
	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent
Alcohol						
Use: None	21	14.3	38	24.8	59	19.7
Daily	9	6.1	3	2.0	12	4.0
Weekly	33	22.4	16	10.5	49	16.3
Occasionally	83	56.5	96	62.7	179	59.7
No response	1	0.7	0	0.0	1	0.3
Objection: Yes	21	14.3	33	21.6	54	18.0
No	126	85.7	119	77.8	245	81.7
No response	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3
Tobacco						
Use: Yes	44	29.9	20	13.1	64	21.3
No	99	67.3	130	85.0	229	76.3
No response	4	2.7	3	2.0	7	2.3
Objection: Yes	90	61.2	84	54.9	174	58.0
No	51	34.7	61	39.9	112	37.3
No response	6	4.1	8	5.2	14	4.7

99 or 67.3 per cent of the males and 130 or 85.0 per cent of the females. Seven individuals did not make a response to this item, four males and three females.

Of the total respondents, 174 or 58 per cent objected to the use of tobacco in their mates. Of this group, 90 or 61.2 per cent were males and 84 or 54.9 per cent were females. Of the total respondents, 112 or 37.3 per cent did not object to the use of tobacco in the spouse, 51 or 34.7 per cent were males and 61 or 39.9 per cent were females. A total of 14 individuals did not respond to this item. Of interest to note is the fact that more than 50 per cent of the participants objected to the use of tobacco in their mates. A greater percentage of males than of females objected to the use of tobacco by their spouses.

#### Types of Hobbies and Preferred Types of Recreation

Participants were requested to list two hobbies and two preferred types of recreation. The list in each case was lengthy and through necessity had to be categorized. Five different classifications appeared to adequately meet the need, thus collecting; home economics; art, crafts or music; sports and outdoor activities; and "others" constituted the hobby categories. Likewise, preferred types of recreational

activities were classified into five groups: collecting, sports and outdoor, indoor, cultural, and "others".

The number of either first or second choices of hobbies classified in each of the above five categories are shown in Table III. Of the male respondents, 17 or 11.6 per cent listed collecting as a hobby; 74 or 50.3 per cent listed a form of art, crafts, or music; 106 or 72.1 per cent listed sports or outdoor activities; 55 or 37.4 per cent listed a hobby categorized as "others"; and one male listed home economics. Of the female respondents, 11 or 7.2 per cent listed collecting as a form of hobby; 122 or 79.8 per cent listed home economics; 99 or 64.7 per cent listed a form of art, crafts, or music; 38 or 24.8 per cent listed sports or outdoor activities; and 17 or 11.1 per cent listed a hobby categorized as "others".

A total of 10 males did not list a first choice and 31 did not list a second choice of a preferred hobby. For the females, the numbers not listing a first or second choice were four and 15, respectively.

For preferred recreational activities, a total of 141 males or 95.0 per cent named at least one activity listed as sports or outdoor; 122 females or 79.7 per cent indicated as a first or second choice an activity in this category. In the category, indoor activity, 25 males or 17 per cent and

TABLE III  
TYPES OF HOBBIES AND PREFERRED RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF PARTICIPANTS

Activities	Male		Female	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent
Hobbies				
Collecting	17	11.6	11	7.2
Home economics	1	0.7	122	79.8
Art, crafts or music	74	50.3	99	64.7
Sports or outdoor	106	72.1	38	24.8
Others	55	37.4	17	11.1
Recreation				
Sports or outdoor	141	95.9	122	79.7
Indoor	25	17.0	26	17.0
Cultural	27	18.4	38	24.8
Others	14	9.5	19	17.4

26 females or 17 per cent listed an activity under this classification. Under the category of cultural, 27 males or 18.4 per cent and 38 females or 24.8 per cent listed an activity in this category. In the classification "others", 14 males or 9.5 per cent and 38 females or 16.1 per cent indicated some activity classified in this category.

#### Membership in Social and Professional Organizations

Participants were requested to list their memberships in social and professional organizations. Due to the length of the lists it was necessary to categorize organizations. Social organizations were classified under the general heading of non-professional with the following five categories: civic-community, social, church, sports, and others. Professional organizations were classified under three classifications, as follows: educational, fraternal, and business. The number of first and second choices in each category are found in Table IV.

Of the male respondents, 21 or 14.3 per cent listed organizations categorized as civic or community, 44 or 29.9 per cent listed social organizations, 33 or 22.4 per cent listed a church organization, six or 4.1 per cent listed sports, nine or 6.1 per cent listed an organization classified as "others". Of the female respondents, 45 or 29.4

TABLE IV  
PARTICIPANTS' MEMBERSHIP IN SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	Male		Female	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent
Non professional				
Civic or community	21	14.3	45	29.4
Social	44	29.9	50	32.7
Church	33	22.4	43	28.1
Sports	6	4.1	5	3.3
Others	9	6.1	17	11.1
Professional				
Educational	64	43.5	47	30.7
Fraternal	15	10.2	10	6.5
Business	67	45.6	17	11.1

per cent listed a form of civic or community organization, 50 or 32.7 per cent listed social, 43 or 28.1 per cent listed church, five or 3.3 per cent listed an organization classified as "others".

For professional organizations 64 or 43.5 per cent of the male respondents listed educational, 15 or 10.2 per cent listed fraternal, 67 or 45.6 per cent listed business. Of the female respondents, 47 or 30.7 per cent listed educational, 10 or 6.5 per cent listed fraternal, and 17 or 11.1 per cent listed business.

#### Sibling Position of Respondents

Participants were requested to indicate their sibling position in the family of orientation. The sibling positions of the participants of the present study were as follows:

<u>Sibling Position</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Only child	18	12.2	18	11.8
Oldest child	63	42.9	66	43.1
Middle child	41	27.9	36	23.5
Youngest child	24	16.3	32	20.9
Twins	1	0.7	1	0.7

Of the male respondents, 18 or 12.2 per cent were an only child, 63 or 42.9 per cent were the oldest child, 41 or 27.9 per cent were classified as a middle child, 24 or 16.3

per cent were the youngest child. One male was a twin and could not be classified since no additional information was given. Of the female respondents, 18 or 11.8 per cent were an only child, 66 or 43.1 per cent were the oldest child, 36 or 23.5 per cent were classified as a middle child, 32 or 20.9 per cent were the youngest child. One female was a twin but gave no additional information. Of the total sample, 36 or 12.0 per cent were only children, 129 or 43.0 per cent were the oldest child, 77 or 25.7 per cent were classified as a middle child, 56 or 18.7 per cent were the youngest child and each of the two individuals were twins.

#### Allowance Versus Working for Money in Childhood

Participants were requested to check whether an allowance was received in childhood or whether money was earned. Responses to the means of securing money during childhood were as follows:

<u>Method</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Received allowance				
Yes	89	60.5	90	58.8
No	58	39.5	59	38.6
No response			4	2.6
Worked for money				
Yes	138	93.9	129	84.3
No	8	5.4	20	13.1
No response	1	0.7	4	2.6

Of the male respondents, 89 or 60.5 per cent received an allowance, 58 or 39.5 per cent did not receive an allowance. Of the female respondents, 90 or 58.8 per cent received allowances in childhood, and 59 or 38.6 per cent did not receive an allowance. Of the total number of respondents, 179 or 59.7 per cent received an allowance while 117 or 39.0 per cent did not receive an allowance. Four female respondents failed to answer this item.

Regarding working for money, 138 males or 93.9 per cent indicated working for money, eight or 5.4 per cent indicated not working for money, and one did not make a response to the item. Of the female respondents, 129 or 84.3 per cent indicated working for money while 20 or 13.1 per cent indicated not working for money. Four females did not respond to this item. Of the total number of responses, 267 or 89.0 per cent worked for their spending money in childhood and 28 or 9.1 per cent did not work for money while growing up.

### Tendency Toward Pouting or Sulking

The respondents were requested to check an item concerning pouting or sulking. The frequency of pouting or sulking as reported by the participants is shown below:

<u>Pouting or Sulking</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Frequently	1	0.7	2	1.3
Occasionally	85	57.8	114	74.5
Never	56	38.1	32	20.9
No response	5	3.4	5	3.3

One male and two females checked frequent pouting or sulking; 85 males and 114 females indicated occasionally pouting or sulking; 56 males and 32 females reported never sulking or pouting. Five males and five females did not give a response to this item. Of the total sample, three individuals indicated pouting or sulking frequently, 199 or 66.3 per cent indicated occasional pouting or sulking and 88 or 29.3 per cent checked never pouting or sulking.

### Size of the Present Residence

The participants were requested to list the size of the present residence, number of bedrooms and number of baths. The item concerning size of the house was evidently not clear to many of the participants. Many individuals gave the size

in square feet, while others gave the total number of rooms. Therefore, this item concerning total size of the house could not be analyzed.

Responses as to the item concerning the number of bedrooms are shown in Table V. Three or 2.0 per cent of the male respondents indicated one bedroom; 37 or 25.2 per cent, two bedrooms; 70 or 47.6 per cent, three bedrooms; 32 or 21.8 per cent, four bedrooms; three or 2.0 per cent, five bedrooms; and two or 1.4 per cent, six bedrooms. Of the female participants, two or 1.3 per cent indicated one bedroom; 34 or 22.2 per cent, two bedrooms; 80 or 52.3 per cent, three bedrooms; 29 or 19.0 per cent, four bedrooms; three or 2.0 per cent, five bedrooms; and three or 2.0 per cent, six bedrooms. Two females did not check this item.

In response to the number of bathrooms, 62 males and one female indicated one bathroom; 73 males and 66 females indicated two bathrooms; 11 males and 76 females indicated three bathrooms; and one male and 10 females indicated four bathrooms. A total of 92.8 per cent of the participants reported either two or three bathrooms.

TABLE V  
 SIZE OF PARTICIPANTS' RESIDENCE ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF  
 BEDROOMS AND BATHROOMS

Units	Bedrooms				Bathrooms			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent	Num- ber	Per- cent
One	3	2.0	2	1.3	62	42.2	1	0.7
Two	37	25.2	34	22.2	73	49.7	66	43.1
Three	70	47.6	80	52.3	11	7.5	76	49.7
Four	32	21.8	29	19.0	1	0.7	10	6.5
Five	3	2.0	3	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Six	2	1.4	3	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
No response	0	0.0	2	1.3	0	0.0	0	0.0

### Completion of Marriage Course at Linfield

The participants were requested to check whether or not they took the marriage course at Linfield. The findings are shown below:

<u>Completed Marriage Course</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	40	27.2	45	29.4
No	106	72.1	108	70.6
No response	1	0.7	0	0.0

Of the total respondents, 40 males and 45 females reported having taken the marriage course at Linfield. Approximately seven in 10 or 71.3 per cent did not take the marriage course. One individual, a male, did not respond to this item.

### Consultation With a Marriage Counselor

Respondents were requested to indicate if a marriage counselor had ever been consulted, and, if so, for what reason. Only one or two participants responded to the second

part of this item. The findings as to the responses concerning the consulting of a marriage counselor are shown below:

<u>Have Consulted a Marriage Counselor</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	9	6.1	8	5.2
No	138	93.9	145	94.8

Of the total sample, only 17 individuals, nine men and eight women, had consulted a marriage counselor.

## PART II: MARITAL ADJUSTMENT TEST

### Self Rating of Happiness

According to Bowman (13) adjustment in marriage is a continuous, never-ending process; persons are conscious of adjustment only at intervals when changes are made, adjustments are involved, or problems are faced. Klemer (42) stated that many young married persons are unable or unwilling to make even the initial adjustments to married life. Frequently the couples who accept the idea that it is necessary to make adjustments at the beginning of their marriage are often unaware that many of the most important and most difficult adjustments come many years after the honeymoon.

In the present study, participants were requested to complete Part II, the Marital Adjustment Test. The first

item on the list was a self-appraisal of the happiness of the present marriage. The scale ranged from zero, very unhappy, to a score of 35, perfectly happy. The scale listed a total of seven scores with intervals between these scores. The assumption was that individuals would check any place along the scale that indicated their opinion as to the degree of happiness of their marriage. However, this assumption was not valid, since the participants checked only the scores actually listed.

The findings relative to the degree of happiness as checked by the participants are shown in Figure 1. Of the male respondents, three or 2.0 per cent checked "2"; two or 1.4 per cent checked "7"; 22 or 15.0 per cent checked "15" (happy); 47 or 32.0 per cent checked "20"; 49 or 33.3 per cent checked "25"; and 24 or 16.3 per cent checked "35" (perfectly happy) on the scale for degree of happiness of the present marriage. Of the female respondents, three or 2.0 per cent checked "2"; six or 3.9 per cent checked "7"; 19 or 12.4 per cent checked "15" (happy); 36 or 23.5 per cent checked "20"; 64 or 41.9 per cent checked "25"; 25 or 16.3 per cent checked "35" (perfectly happy) on the scale for the degree of happiness in the present marriage. An interesting observation is that a higher percentage of women than of men checked the "7" (unhappy) and "25" (happy), the percentage being much larger for women than for men for the latter

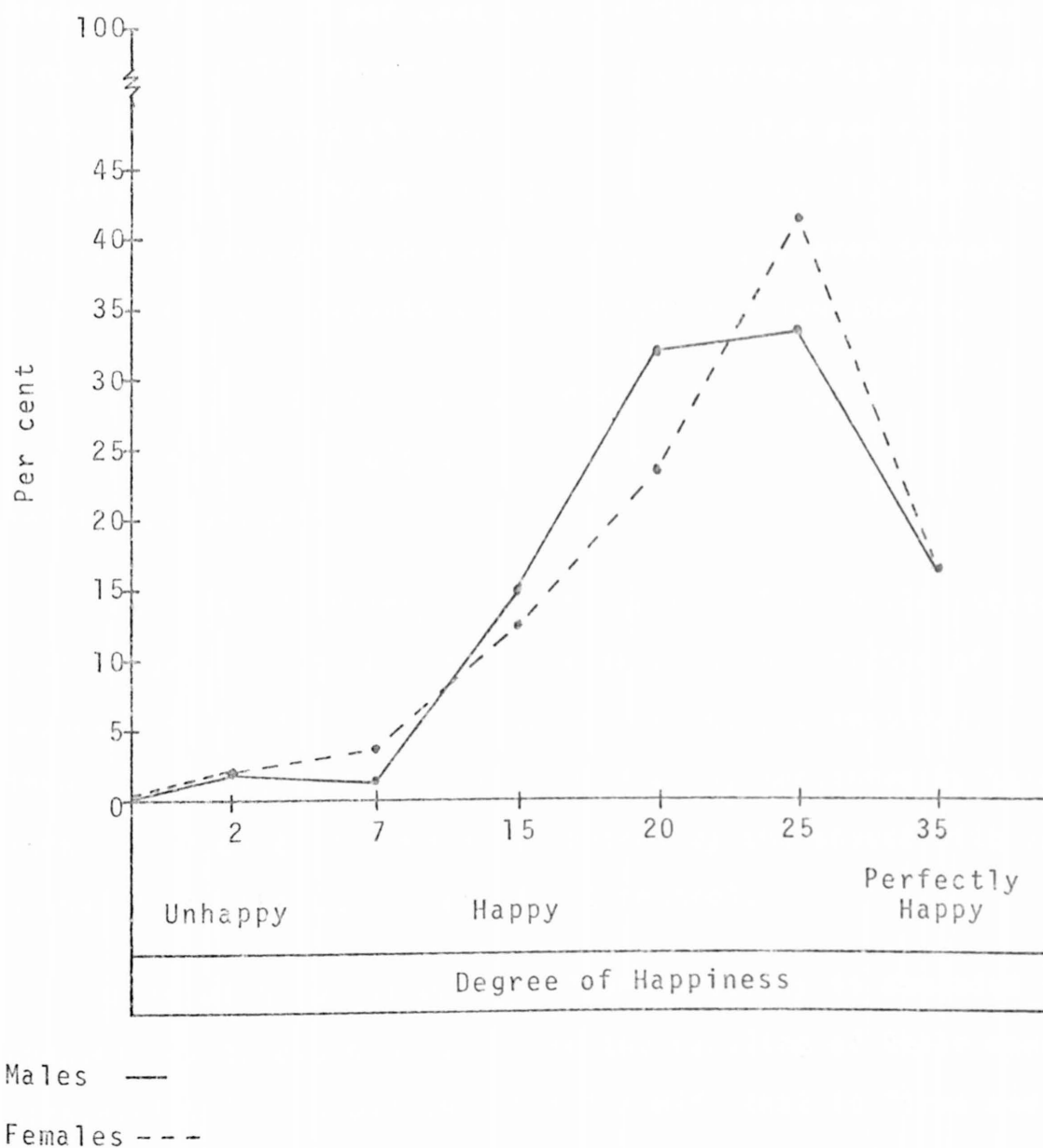


Figure 1

Degrees of Happiness as Checked by Participants on  
the Marital Adjustment Scale

category. Of the total group, the following responses were given: six or 2.0 per cent checked "2"; eight or 2.7 per cent checked "7"; 41 or 13.7 per cent checked "15" (happy); 83 or 27.7 per cent checked "20"; 113 or 37.6 per cent checked "25"; and 49 or 16.3 per cent checked "35" (perfectly happy). No one checked zero or very unhappy even though some of the participants checked extremely low scores.

Participants' Responses as to Agreement Between  
Husband and Wife on Eight Items of the  
Marital Adjustment Test

Part 1: Handling Family Finances.--Stroup (78) stated that regardless of the amount of income, some method of managing it must be agreed upon by the couple involved. Three major methods for handling of money mentioned by Stroup were: control by the spouse, control by one spouse with an allowance to the other, and joint control.

According to Stroup (78) "some maturity is demanded if couples are to avoid problems in the handling of their money." Kirkpatrick (40) indicated that the wife that is "free and easy" with the joint bank account might be reacting to a childhood in which the parents were overrestrictive. The participants of this study checked an item concerning the agreement between husband and wife in the handling of family finances and the responses are shown in Table VI.

TABLE VI  
PARTICIPANTS' RESPONSES AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
HUSBAND AND WIFE ON EIGHT ITEMS OF THE  
LOCKE-WALLACE MARITAL ADJUSTMENT TEST

Degree of Agreement	Male (N=147)		Female (N=153)		Total	
	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	per cent	Num- ber	Per cent
Part I: Handling Family Finances						
Always agree	19	12.9	31	20.3	50	16.7
Almost always agree	78	53.1	85	55.6	163	54.3
Occasionally disagree	42	28.6	26	17.0	68	22.7
Frequently disagree	6	4.1	9	5.9	15	5.0
Almost always disagree	2	1.4	2	1.3	4	1.3
Always disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Part II: Matters of Recreation						
Always agree	14	9.5	15	9.8	29	9.7
Almost always agree	83	56.5	103	67.3	186	62.0
Occasionally disagree	42	28.6	28	18.3	70	23.3
Frequently disagree	8	5.4	7	4.6	15	5.0
Part III: Demonstration of Affection						
Always agree	15	10.2	20	13.1	35	11.7
Almost always agree	82	55.8	92	60.1	174	58.0
Occasionally disagree	35	23.8	32	20.9	67	22.3
Frequently disagree	12	8.2	6	3.9	18	6.0
Almost always disagree	1	0.7	1	0.7	2	0.7
No response	2	1.4	2	1.3	4	1.3
Part IV: Choice of Friends						
Always agree	25	17.0	30	19.6	55	18.3
Almost always agree	87	59.2	95	62.1	182	60.7
Occasionally disagree	30	20.4	25	16.3	55	18.3
Frequently disagree	4	2.7	2	1.3	6	2.0
Almost always disagree	1	0.7	1	0.7	2	0.7

TABLE VI (Continued)

PARTICIPANTS' RESPONSES AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
HUSBAND AND WIFE ON EIGHT ITEMS OF THE  
LOCKE-WALLACE MARITAL ADJUSTMENT TEST

Degree of Agreement	Male (N=147)		Female (N=153)		Total	
	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent
Part V: Sex Relations						
Always agree	22	15.0	22	14.4	44	14.7
Almost always agree	79	53.7	80	52.3	159	53.0
Occasionally disagree	34	23.1	40	26.1	74	24.7
Frequently disagree	7	4.8	9	5.9	16	5.3
Almost always disagree	2	1.4	1	0.7	3	1.0
Always disagree	2	1.4	0	0.0	2	0.7
No response	1	0.7	1	0.7	2	0.7
Part VI: Matters of Conventionality						
Always agree	33	22.4	31	20.3	64	21.3
Almost always agree	75	51.0	94	61.4	169	56.3
Occasionally disagree	36	24.5	22	14.4	58	19.3
Frequently disagree	3	2.0	5	3.3	8	2.7
Almost always disagree	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3
Always disagree	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Part VII: Philosophy of Life						
Always agree	25	17.0	24	15.7	49	16.3
Almost always agree	91	61.9	92	60.1	183	61.0
Occasionally disagree	23	15.6	27	17.6	50	16.7
Frequently disagree	8	5.4	7	4.6	15	5.0
Almost always disagree	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3
Always disagree	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3
No response	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3
Part VIII: Matters of In-law Relationships						
Always agree	36	24.5	46	30.1	82	27.3
Almost always agree	70	47.6	73	47.7	143	47.7
Occasionally disagree	37	25.2	28	18.3	65	21.7
Frequently disagree	3	2.0	5	3.3	8	2.7
Almost always disagree	1	0.7	0	0.0	1	0.3
Always disagree	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3

Of the male respondents, 19 or 12.9 per cent checked "always agree" as to the handling of family finances; 78 or 53.1 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 42 or 28.6 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; six or 4.1 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and two or 1.4 per cent checked "almost always disagree," as to the handling of family finances. For the female respondents, the following numbers and percentages were found: 31 or 20.3 per cent for "always agree"; 85 or 55.6 per cent for "almost always agree"; 26 or 17.0 per cent for "occasionally disagree"; nine or 5.9 per cent for "frequently disagree"; and two or 1.3 per cent for "almost always disagree." None of the participants checked "always disagree." Of the total number of respondents, the numbers that checked each category were as follows: "always agree", 50 or 16.7 per cent; "almost always agree", 163 or 54.3 per cent; "occasionally disagree", 68 or 22.7 per cent; "frequently disagree", 15 or 5.0 per cent; and, "almost always disagree", four or 1.3 per cent. As a group, approximately two-thirds of the men and three-fourths of the women indicated either always or almost always agreeing on the handling of family finances. Conversely, only 5.5 per cent of the men and 7.2 per cent of the women indicated either frequently or almost always disagreeing as to the handling of family finances. In general the wives had a more favorable opinion as to the degree of agreement between the marriage partners in the handling of family finances than did the husbands.

Part II: Matters of Recreation.--Locke's study (48) indicated that mutual enjoyment of certain activities is an aide to marital adjustment. Five activities; namely, church, reading, radio, sports, and music were enjoyed by a significantly larger proportion of happily-married than of the unhappily married men and women. Dancing and drinking were considered mutually enjoyable activities by a significantly higher proportion of divorced men and women than by married couples.

The participants of the present study were requested to check the degree of agreement between husband and wife on matters of recreation. The findings are shown in Table VI. For the male participants, responses indicate that 14 or 9.5 per cent of the couples "always agree on the matter of recreation, 83 or 56.5 per cent "almost always agree," 42 or 28.6 per cent "occasionally disagree" and eight or 5.4 per cent "frequently disagree" on the matters of recreation. Of the female respondents, 15 or 9.8 per cent checked "always agree," 103 or 67.3 per cent checked "almost always agree," 28 or 18.3 per cent checked "occasionally disagree," and seven or 4.6 per cent checked "frequently disagree" concerning matters of recreation. Of the total respondents, over 70 per cent indicated the husband and wife either always or almost always agreed on matters of recreation. On the other hand, less than 30 per cent either checked occasionally or

frequently disagreeing on matters of family recreation. A higher percentage of women than of men indicated they almost always agreed with their spouse in the matter of family recreation. A higher percentage of men indicated that they occasionally disagreed with their spouses in the matter of family recreation.

Part III: Demonstration of Affection.--Stroup (78) stated that serious disagreement can take place regarding the demonstration of affection. Stroup further commented that individuals carry patterns concerning the demonstration of affection learned from their childhood home into the marriage. A person from a home where affection and love were freely demonstrated quite naturally will tend to expect this in the new home.

Participants of the present study checked an item concerning the degree of agreement as to the demonstration of affection between the marriage partners. The findings are shown in Table VI. Of the male respondents, 15 or 10.2 per cent checked "always agree"; 82 or 55.8 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 35 or 23.8 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; 12 or 8.2 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and only one checked "always disagree" as to the demonstration of affection. Two failed to respond to this item. Of the female respondents, 20 or 13.1 per cent checked

"always agree"; 92 or 60.1 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 32 or 20.9 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; six individuals or 3.9 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and one individual checked "almost always disagree" as to the demonstration of affection between the marriage partners. Two women failed to check this item. Of the total respondents, approximately 70 per cent checked either always agreeing or almost always agreeing as to the demonstration of affection between the husband and wife. Less than 7.0 per cent of the total group checked either frequently or always disagreeing in the matters of demonstration of affection.

Part IV: Choice of Friends.--Landis (44) made a study of 409 couples in an attempt to determine the length of time it took to achieve adjustment to six aspects of marriage: in-law relationships, mutual friends, religious activities, sex relationships, social activities, and expenditures of family income. Three-fourths of the couples had no trouble agreeing on mutual friends from the beginning of the marriage. However, about 10 per cent never were able to make satisfactory adjustments. Stroup (78) stated that the task of making mutual friendships may not be an easy one. If the couples are from the same community, a problem will probably not arise.

In the present study, participants were requested to check an item concerning agreement as to the choice of

friends. The findings are shown in Table VI. Of the male respondents, 25 or 17.0 per cent checked "always agree"; 87 or 59.2 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 30 or 20.4 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; four checked "frequently disagree"; and only one individual checked "almost always disagree" as to the choice of friends. Of the female respondents, 30 or 19.6 per cent checked "always agree"; 95 or 62.1 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 25 or 16.3 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; two checked "frequently disagree"; and one checked "almost always disagree" in the choice of friends. Of the total group over 75 per cent either always or almost always agreed on the choice of friends. Less than 3.0 per cent of the 300 respondents either frequently or almost always disagreed in the choice of friends.

Part V: Sex Relations.--According to Landis (44), in a study of 409 couples, sex presented the greatest difficulty in marital adjustment. Almost one-half of the couples reported initial difficulty or disagreed as to whether they had worked out satisfactory adjustment at the beginning of the marriage. Stroup (78) stated that sexual compatibility is an important expectation in modern marriages, and that where incompatibility exists, marital satisfaction will tend to be lowered.

Participants of the present study were requested to check an item concerning sex relations. The findings are shown in Table VI. Of the male respondents, 22 or 15.0 per cent checked "always agree"; 79 or 53.7 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 34 or 23.1 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; seven or 4.8 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; two checked "almost always disagree"; and two checked "always disagree" in response to the item concerning sex relations. Of the female respondents, 22 or 14.4 per cent checked "always agree"; 80 or 52.3 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 40 or 26.1 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; nine or 5.9 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and one checked "almost always disagree" in response to the item concerning agreement between the marriage partners in matters of sex relations. Two individuals, one male and one female, failed to respond to this item. Of the total respondents, over two-thirds indicated either always or almost always agreeing in the matter of sex relations. Less than 7.0 per cent frequently or almost always disagreed in matters concerning sex relations.

Part VI: Matters of Conventionality.--Truxal and Merrill (83) discussed

. . . the customary ways of behaving in society, arising from the interaction of individuals seeking to answer life's basic needs. These customary modes of behavior assume added significance when

the notion of group welfare is attached to them.  
 . . . Mores are those accepted forms of behavior  
 whose violation must be prevented in order that  
 the group itself may not be endangered.

The participants of the present study were requested to check the agreement on matters of conventionality (right, good, or proper conduct). The responses are shown in Table VI. Of the male respondents, 33 or 22.4 per cent checked "always agree"; 75 or 51.0 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 36 or 24.5 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; and three checked "frequently disagree" in response to this item. Of the female respondents, 31 or 20.3 per cent checked "always agree"; 94 or 61.4 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 22 or 14.4 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; five or 3.3 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and one individual checked "almost always disagree" in response to this item. Of the total group, over three-fourths or 75 per cent indicated the marriage partners either always or almost always agreed on matters of right, good, or proper conduct. Only 3.0 per cent indicated either almost always or always disagreeing on right, good, or proper conduct.

Part VII: Philosophy of Life.--According to Winch (91), "one of the most important developmental tasks of the early period of marriage is that of establishing a mutually satisfying philosophy of life."

In the present study, participants were requested to check an item concerning agreement between the marriage partners as to a philosophy of life. A tabulation of the responses are found in Table VI. Of the male respondents, 25 or 17.0 per cent checked "always agree"; 91 or 61.9 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 23 or 15.6 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; and eight checked "frequently disagree". Of the female respondents, 24 or 15.7 per cent checked "always agree"; 92 or 60.1 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 27 or 17.6 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; seven checked "frequently disagree"; one checked "almost always disagree"; and one checked "always disagree". One individual failed to respond to this item. Of the total group, males and females, over 75 per cent indicated that the marriage partners either always agreed, or almost always agreed in the matter of philosophy of life. Only seven individuals indicated frequently, almost always, or always disagreeing on the philosophy of life.

Part VIII: Matters of In-law Relationships.--Stroup (78) stated that:

. . . one does not marry merely an individual of the opposite sex; one also marries a family, or rather into a family. This family from which the spouse comes and into which he marries has a set of values, mores, and folkways that may or may not be similar to those with which he is familiar. Even though the new couple may live some distance from either

family, the folkways of the respective in-laws are still to a certain extent embodied in each spouse.

Stroup further stated that if relations with in-laws are to be difficult for a particular couple, the chances are that problems will arise during the early years of marriage.

Participants in the present study were requested to check the item concerning agreement between the marriage partners as to ways of dealing with in-law relationships. The responses are shown in Table VI. Of the male respondents, 36 or 24.5 per cent checked "always agree"; 70 or 47.6 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 37 or 25.2 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; three or 2.0 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and one checked "always disagree". Of the female respondents, 46 or 30.1 per cent checked "always agree"; 73 or 47.7 per cent checked "almost always agree"; 28 or 18.3 per cent checked "occasionally disagree"; five or 3.3 per cent checked "frequently disagree"; and one checked "always disagree". Of the total group, 75 per cent indicated the marriage partners either always or almost always agreed upon ways of dealing with in-laws. On the other hand, nine individuals indicated the husband and wife either frequently, almost always, or always disagreed in matters of in-law relationships.

Handling Disagreements That Arise  
Between Spouses

According to Stroup (78)

. . . the old patriarchal power is gone. In its place has not always come either anarchy or feminine dominance. Instead, a wide variety of possibilities has emerged ranging from dominance by either spouse to more equalitarian forms of decision-making processes.

The participants of the present study were requested to check an item concerning the manner of handling disagreements that arise between spouses. The findings are shown in Table VII. Of the male respondents, 16 or 10.9 per cent indicated the "husband giving in"; 17 or 11.6 per cent indicated the "wife giving in"; and 111 or 75.5 per cent indicated agreement by "mutual give and take" in response to the item concerning the manner of handling disagreements that arise between spouses. Of the female respondents, three or 2.0 per cent indicated the "husband giving in"; 20 or 13.1 per cent indicated the "wife giving in"; and 129 or 84.3 per cent indicated agreement by "give and take" in response to the item concerning the handling of disagreements between husband and wife. Three men and one woman failed to check this item. Of the total group, less than 20 per cent indicated that either the husband or the wife gave in when disagreements arose between spouses. The agreement by "mutual

TABLE VII  
 RESPONSES OF PARTICIPANTS AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUSBAND AND  
 WIFE IN HANDLING DISAGREEMENTS THAT ARISE BETWEEN SPOUSES

Manner of Handling Disagreements	Male		Female		Total	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Husband giving in	16	10.9	3	2.0	19	6.3
Wife giving in	17	11.6	20	13.1	37	12.3
Agreement by mutual give and take	111	75.5	129	84.3	240	80.0
No response	3	2.0	1	0.7	4	1.3

give and take" was checked by 240 individuals, males and females, indicating 80 per cent used this manner of handling disagreements that arise between spouses.

#### Extent of Sharing in Social Activities

According to Locke's study (48), enduring marriages will tend to be characterized by mutual enjoyment of social activities. The type of activity may be of some importance; however, Locke further stated that "the common or shared enjoyment of activities is highly associated with marital adjustment, and individualistic behavior is highly associated with marital maladjustment".

The participants were requested to check an item concerning the extent of outside activities shared by the husband and wife. The findings are shown in Table VIII. Of the male respondents, 13 or 8.8 per cent checked "all of them"; 114 or 77.6 checked "some of them"; and 19 or 12.9 per cent checked "very few" as the number of outside interests mutually shared by the couple. Of the female respondents, 21 or 13.7 per cent checked "all of them"; 118 or 77.1 per cent checked "some of them"; and 13 or 8.5 per cent checked "very few", and one individual checked "none". A total of 88.6 per cent of the entire group checked either "all of them" or "some of them" as the extent to which activities were shared

TABLE VIII  
RESPONSES OF PARTICIPANTS AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUSBAND AND  
WIFE IN THE EXTENT OF SHARING IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Extent of Sharing Activities	Male		Female		Total	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent	Number	Per cent
All of them	13	8.8	21	13.7	34	11.3
Some of them	114	77.6	118	77.1	232	77.3
Very few	19	12.9	13	8.5	32	10.7
None	1	0.7	1	0.7	2	0.7

by the marriage partners. On the other hand, slightly over 10 per cent checked either "very few" or "none" as to the extent outside interests were shared.

### Preference for Leisure Time Activities

Truxal and Merrill (83) elaborated upon the differences in interests of members in the urban family in relation to employment. The authors stated that:

The individual-centered rather than family-centered need for recreation has combined with a rapid decrease in the hours of labor and the growth in labor-saving devices to produce a great proliferation of commercial agencies catering to such wants. In competition with commercial agencies, the family runs a poor second in the satisfaction of its members' need for recreation.

In the present study, participants were requested to indicate their personal preference and that of their mate as to ways of spending leisure time. The findings are shown in Table IX. Of the male respondents, 53 or 36.1 per cent indicated a personal preference to "be on the go" while 86 or 58.5 per cent indicated preferring to "stay at home". A total of 67 or 45.6 per cent of the males indicated that their spouses preferred to "be on the go" while 73 or 49.7 per cent indicated their wives preferred to "stay at home". Of the female respondents, 74 or 48.4 per cent personally preferred to "be on the go" while 71 or 46.4 per cent preferred to "stay at home". In the opinion of the females, the

TABLE IX  
RESPONSES OF PARTICIPANTS AS TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUSBAND AND  
WIFE IN PREFERENCE FOR LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES

Preference	Male		Female		Total	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Individual						
Be on the go	53	36.1	74	48.4	127	42.3
Stay at home	85	58.5	71	46.4	157	52.3
Both categories	8	5.4	8	5.2	16	5.3
Mate						
Be on the go	67	45.6	69	45.1	136	45.3
Stay at home	73	49.7	78	51.0	151	50.3
Both categories	8	4.8	6	3.9	14	4.3

preferences of the mate for spending leisure time was as follows: 69 or 45.1 per cent preferred to "be on the go", while 78 or 52.0 per cent preferred to "stay at home". The total for the entire group indicated the following: 127 or 42.3 per cent personally preferred being "on the go" during leisure time, while 136 or 45.3 per cent indicated that their spouses preferred to "be on the go". A total of 157 or 52.3 per cent personally preferred to stay home, while 151 or 50.3 per cent indicated that their spouses preferred to stay home. A total of 16 or 5.3 per cent of the individuals checked both categories for themselves, and 14 or 4.3 per cent checked both categories for their spouses. The agreement between males and females as to the preferred ways to spend leisure time is noteworthy.

#### Regret for Having Married

In the present study, the participants were requested to check an item concerning whether or not they ever wished they had not married (Table X). Of the male respondents, 17 or 11.6 per cent checked occasionally; 67 or 45.6 per cent checked rarely; 60 or 40.8 per cent checked never; and three checked frequently. Of the female respondents, 17 or 11.1 per cent checked occasionally; 52 or 34.0 per cent checked rarely; 79 or 51.6 per cent checked never; and four checked frequently. Of the total group, an interesting observation

TABLE X  
RESPONSES OF PARTICIPANTS AS TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUSBAND AND  
WIFE CONCERNING REGRET FOR HAVING MARRIED

Response	Male		Female		Total	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Frequently	3	2.0	4	2.6	7	2.3
Occasionally	17	11.6	17	11.1	34	11.3
Rarely	67	45.6	52	34.0	119	39.7
Never	60	40.8	79	51.6	139	46.3
No response	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.3

was that over 85 per cent of the participants indicated either rarely or never wishing that they had not married. Less than 14 per cent frequently or occasionally regretted having married.

#### Desire to Change Marital Status

Winch (91) stated that:

. . . American culture creates the stereotype of the young nubile girl as the "love goddess," of the wife as the fork-tongued, hatchet-faced battle-ax of the cartoonist's caricature. In the face of these cultural inconsistencies it is not astonishing to find marital disorganization.

Participants checked an item concerning a possible desire for a change in marriage status if the individual could start anew (Table XI). Of the male respondents, 137 or 93.2 per cent indicated that they would marry the same person, seven indicated they would marry a different person, and two indicated a desire to have stayed single. Of the female respondents, 136 or 88.9 per cent indicated that they would marry the same person, 10 or 6.5 per cent indicated marrying a different person, three indicated a desire to have not married at all. Of the total group, it is interesting to note that 91 per cent would marry the same person if they had their lives to live over again, 17 or 5.7 per cent would marry a different person, and only five would not marry at all.

TABLE XI  
RESPONSES OF PARTICIPANTS AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE  
CONCERNING DESIRE TO CHANGE MARITAL STATUS

Desire	Male		Female		Total	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Marry same person	137	93.2	136	88.9	273	91.0
Marry a different person	7	4.8	10	6.5	17	5.7
Not marry at all	2	1.4	3	2.0	5	1.7
No response	1	0.7	4	2.6	5	1.7

### Extent of Confiding in Mate

Blood (11) stated that "a couple's doubts are a sign of incompatibility. Doubts are relatively rare among men. Their fiancées, however, tend to be less confident."

In the present study the participants were requested to check the degree of confiding in their mates (Table XII). Of the male respondents, 107 or 72.8 per cent checked "in most things"; 34 or 23.1 per cent checked "in everything"; five checked "rarely"; and only one checked "almost never" confiding in their mates. Of the female respondents, 99 or 64.7 per cent checked "in most things"; 47 or 30.7 per cent checked "in everything"; two checked "rarely"; and five checked "almost never" confiding in their mate. The investigator noted that over 95 per cent of the total group either checked "in most things" or "in everything" in response to the item concerning confiding in their mates.

### PART III: MARITAL PREDICTION TEST

Winch (91) stated that the purpose of a prediction study is to develop and to test a means with which to predict for some future time the general level of a subject's marital happiness or marital adjustment on the basis of responses given in the present. Winch further stated that more or less the same kinds of items have been used to

TABLE XII  
 RESPONSES OF PARTICIPANTS AS TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUSBAND AND  
 WIFE CONCERNING CONFIDING IN THE MATE

Extent of Confiding	Male		Female		Total	
	Number (N=147)	Per cent	Number (N=153)	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Almost never	1	0.7	5	3.3	6	2.0
Rarely	5	3.4	2	1.3	7	2.3
In most things	107	72.8	99	64.7	206	68.7
In everything	34	23.1	47	30.7	81	27.0

predict future happiness or adjustment as have been used to measure present happiness or adjustment. Stroup (79) stated that recent developments in family research have attempted to predict marital success or failure by utilizing premarital characteristics of the spouses. Stroup made the statement that the usefulness of predictive systems, based on premarital characteristics, cannot be denied. Blood (11) made the following comment:

Social scientists have devised a number of tests which predict the likelihood of success in marriage. Most of the items used are not concerned with compatibility but with the skill component of success in marriage. For example, items deal with happiness of family background, personal intelligence, education, income, religiosity, and sociability. These contribute to an individual's marital success, to be sure, but they affect his chances of success in marrying anyone. They fail to measure the compatibility of the particular couple.

#### Highest Grade of Schooling at Time of Marriage

In the present study, participants were requested to complete Part III, the Marital Prediction Test. The first item on the list concerned the highest grade of schooling which the individual had completed at the time of marriage. The scale was grouped into four categories, grade school, high school, college, and post graduate. Each category listed the years that constitute that particular phase of schooling; therefore, a participant could check any year of

schooling ranging from grade one in grade school to fourth year of post graduate schooling. The findings follow:

<u>Schooling at Time of Marriage</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
High school	6	4.1	13	8.5
College	96	65.3	118	77.1
Post graduate	45	30.6	22	14.4

Of the male respondents, 4.1 per cent indicated high school education at the time of marriage, 65.3 per cent indicated some college at the time of marriage, and 30.6 per cent indicated post graduate schooling at the time of marriage. Of the female respondents, 8.5 per cent indicated high school training at the time of marriage, 77.1 per cent indicated some college, and 14.4 per cent indicated post graduate education at the time of marriage. Of the total group, over 90 per cent indicated some college education prior to marriage. On the other hand, less than 7.0 per cent of the 300 respondents reported high school training and none reported less than a high school education at the time of marriage.

#### Age at Time of Marriage

Stroup (78) stated that the age at which marriage is typically entered is important in a number of ways. Age indicated the degree of popularity of marriage. Age also

reflects general economics and social conditions as well as birth rate, since the chances of having children are greater for those who marry young. Blood (11) stated that "although younger-than-average marriages do not automatically fail, they face extra hazards which make extra maturity imperative." Bowman (13) commented that the decline in age at first marriage not only creates problems of marital adjustment often eventuating in failure, but creates unprecedented pressure toward early marriage.

In the present study, participants were requested to check age at time of marriage. The findings are shown in Figure 2. Of the male respondents, 4.1 per cent were 19 years or under at the time of marriage, 55.1 per cent were 20 to 24 years of age, 35.4 per cent were 25 to 30 years old, and 5.4 per cent were 31 years or over. Of the female respondents, 15.0 per cent were 19 years of age or under at the time of marriage, 71.2 per cent were 20 to 24 years of age, 13.1 per cent were 25 to 30 years of age, and only one female was over 31 years of age at the time of marriage. Of the total group, over 85 per cent married between 20 and 30 years of age, less than 10 per cent married at 19 years or younger, and only nine individuals were over 30 years of age at the time of marriage.

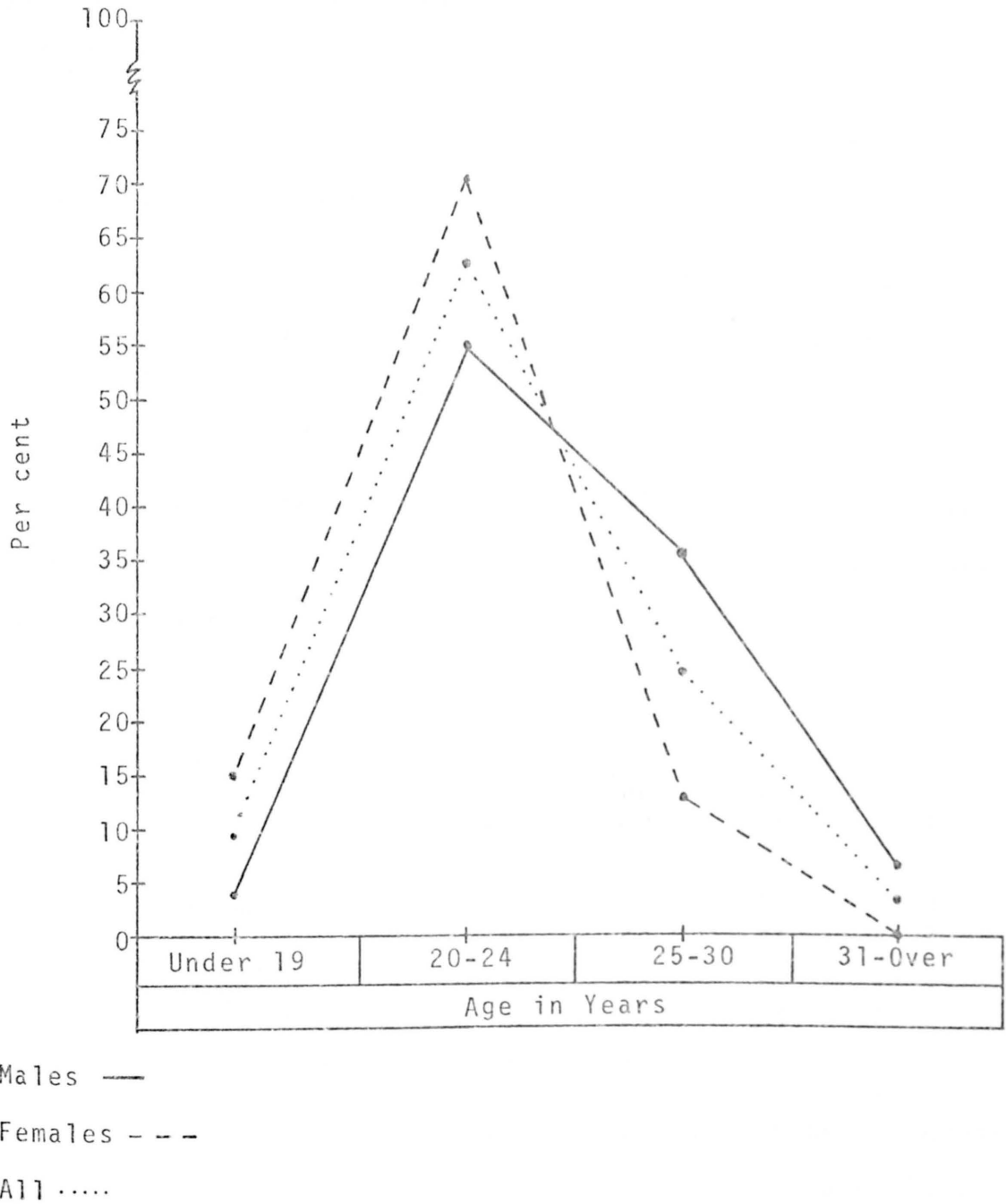


Figure 2

Ages of 153 Females and 147 Males at  
Time of Marriage

Length of "Keeping Company" With  
Mate Before Marriage

Bowman (13) stated that many marriage failures are in reality dating failures. According to Bowman

. . . these failures include the failure to allow sufficient time to become acquainted, failure to make intelligent decisions, failure to correlate values with behavior, failure to make wise choices--they occur before the wedding but become apparent only afterward.

The participants of the present study were requested to check the length of time spent in "keeping company" before marriage.

<u>Length of Time</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
1 to 3 months	5	3.4	5	3.3
3 to 6 months	18	12.2	19	12.4
6 months to 1 year	42	28.6	37	24.2
1 to 2 years	37	25.2	39	25.5
2 to 3 years	15	10.2	19	12.4
3 years and longer	30	20.4	34	22.2

Of the male respondents, 3.4 per cent checked "keeping company" for one to three months preceding marriage, 12.2 per cent indicated three to six months, 28.6 per cent indicated six months to one year, 25.2 per cent indicated one to two years, 10.2 per cent indicated two to three years, and 20.4

per cent indicated "keeping company" three years or longer before marriage. Of the female respondents, 3.3 per cent indicated "keeping company" one to three months preceding marriage, 12.4 per cent indicated "keeping company" three to six months, 25.2 per cent indicated "keeping company" six months to one year, 25.5 per cent checked one to two years of "keeping company," 12.4 per cent checked two to three years, and 22.2 per cent checked three years or longer of "keeping company" before marriage. Of the total group, approximately 15 per cent had kept company less than six months preceding marriage. Over 50 per cent had kept company from six months to two years before marriage and over 30 per cent had kept company two years or longer preceding marriage.

#### Length of Acquaintance Preceding Marriage

Blood (11) stated that love seldom develops suddenly; acquaintance comes gradually, relationships develop slowly, and love grows apace. Blood further stated that "it takes effort and interaction to build a solid relationship. Except in cases of idealization, love takes time to develop."

Participants in the present study were requested to check the length of acquaintance preceding marriage.

<u>Length of Time</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
1 to 3 months	2	1.4	4	2.6
3 to 6 months	13	8.8	13	8.5
6 months to 1 year	29	19.7	31	20.3
1 to 2 years	34	23.1	30	19.6
2 to 3 years	17	11.6	19	12.4
3 to 5 years	24	16.3	28	18.3
5 years or longer	19	12.9	21	13.7
Since childhood	9	6.1	7	4.6

Of the male respondents, 8.8 per cent checked three to six months acquaintance preceding marriage, 19.7 per cent checked six months to one year, 23.1 per cent checked one to two years, 11.6 per cent checked two to three years, 16.3 per cent checked three to five years, 12.9 per cent checked five years, nine individuals checked since childhood, and only two individuals checked one to three months acquaintance preceding marriage. Of the female respondents, 8.5 per cent checked three to six months acquaintance preceding marriage, 20.3 per cent checked six months to one year, 19.6 per cent checked one to two years, 12.4 per cent checked two to three years, 18.3 per cent checked three to five years, 13.7 per cent checked five years or longer, four individuals checked one to three months and seven individuals checked since

childhood as to the length of acquaintance preceding marriage. Of the total group, approximately 30 per cent had known their mate less than one year preceding marriage. One third of the group was acquainted from one to three years preceding marriage, and 5.3 per cent had been acquainted since childhood with their mate.

#### Approval of Marriage by Parents

Locke (48) found that parents' approval and successful marriage adjustment tended to go hand in hand. In cases where there was parental disapproval there tended to be a higher percentage of maladjustment.

Participants of the present study were requested to check an item as to whether their parents approved of their marriage. The responses to parental approval are shown as follows:

<u>Parental Approval</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Both parents approved	134	91.2	137	89.5
Both parents dis- approved	5	3.4	3	2.0
Father disapproved	0	0.0	1	0.7
Mother disapproved	4	2.7	9	5.9
Not applicable	4	2.7	3	2.0

Of the male respondents, 91.2 per cent checked that both parents approved of their marriage, five checked that both parents disapproved, and four checked that their mother disapproved of their marriage. Of the female respondents, 89.5 per cent indicated that both parents approved of their marriage, three indicated both parents disapproved, one indicated that the father disapproved, and nine indicated that the mother disapproved of their marriage. Seven individuals, four males and three females, indicated that the item was not applicable to their marriage. Some of these latter individuals stated that one or both parents were deceased at the time of their marriage. The investigator noted that over 90 per cent of the marriages of the total group were approved by both parents.

#### Size of Community Where Childhood Was Spent

Winch (91) stated that

. . . there is a widespread wish on the part of Americans to discharge their parental roles well and that they see the city as making difficult the fulfillment of the parental functions of nurturance and especially of control and, of course, the function of socialization-education.

Participants checked the item concerning the size of the community where they spent their childhood and adolescence.

<u>Size of Community</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Open country	34	23.1	27	17.6
Town, 2,500 or less	17	11.6	21	13.7
City of 2,500 to 10,000	41	27.9	32	20.9
City of 10,000 to 50,000	20	13.6	35	22.9
City of 50,000 and over	35	23.8	35	22.9
No response	0	0.0	3	2.0

Of the male respondents, 23.1 per cent indicated spending their childhood or adolescence in open country, 11.6 per cent indicated a town of 2,500 or less, 27.9 per cent in a city of 2,500 to 10,000 population, 13.6 per cent in a city of 10,000 to 50,000 population, and 23.8 per cent in a city of 50,000 or over population. Twenty-seven females or 17.6 per cent indicated spending their childhood or adolescence in open country, 13.7 per cent indicated a town of 2,500 or less, 20.9 checked a city of 2,500 to 10,000 population, 22.9 per cent checked a city of 10,000 to 50,000 population, and 35 or 22.9 per cent checked a city of 50,000 and over population. Three individuals failed to respond to the item concerning the size of the community where their childhood

had been spent. Of the total group approximately one-third of the individuals had spent their childhood and adolescence in open country or a town of 2,500 or less population. On the other hand, over 40 per cent had spent childhood or adolescence in a city of 10,000 or more population.

### Religious Participation

According to Bowman (13) religion is more important in marriage than many young persons in love are inclined to believe. Bowman stated that "it may be a uniting force or a disrupting influence. It may be the prop that supports a couple during a crisis, or it may precipitate a crisis. It may make for peace and happiness, or for dissension and ill will."

The following data were obtained from the responses from participants concerning attendance at Sunday School or religious school:

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Discontinued				
Before age 10	11	7.5	5	3.3
11-18 years	59	40.1	44	28.8
19 years or over	34	23.1	50	32.7
Still attending	32	21.8	53	34.6
Never attended	11	7.5	1	0.7

Eleven or 7.5 per cent of the males indicated attending Sunday School or religious school but stopped before 10 years of age, 40.1 per cent indicated attending but stopped between 11 and 18 years of age, 23.1 per cent indicated stopping after 19 years of age, 21.8 per cent indicated still attending Sunday School or religious school, and 11 indicated never attending. Five of the females indicated attending Sunday School or religious school but stopped before 10 years of age, 28.8 per cent indicated attending but stopped between the ages of 11 to 18 years, 32.7 per cent indicated attending but stopped at 19 years or over, 34.6 per cent indicated still attending, and one individual indicated never attending Sunday School or religious school. Of the total group, the investigator noted that all the participants, except for 12 individuals, had attended Sunday School or religious school but only 28.3 per cent were still attending.

#### Religious Activity at Time of Marriage

Bowman (13) commented on the tendency of college students to abandon religion and the church temporarily, only to return later in life, when the sober responsibilities of marriage and parenthood awaken them to a new sense of religious values.

Participants of the present study indicated the frequency of religious activity at the time of marriage. The findings are shown in Figure 3. Twenty-four males or 16.3 per cent checked never attending church, 36.7 per cent checked attending less than once per month, eight or 5.4 per cent checked attending once per month, 12.9 per cent checked attending twice per month, 8.8 per cent checked attending three times per month, 10.2 per cent checked attending four times per month, and 9.5 per cent checked attending more than four times per month. Thirteen females or 18.5 per cent indicated never attending church at the time of marriage, 19.0 per cent indicated attending less than once per month, 8.5 per cent indicated attending once per month, 8.5 per cent indicated attending twice per month, 10.5 per cent indicated attending three times per month, 24.8 per cent indicated attending four times per month, and 20.3 per cent indicated attending more than four times per month. According to the data, 40 per cent of the participants attended church less than once per month at the time of marriage. On the other hand, over 40 per cent of the participants attended church three times per month or more at the time of marriage.

#### Number of Friends of Same Sex Before Marriage

Blood (11) stated that people who make the best marriage partners also make friends most easily. According to

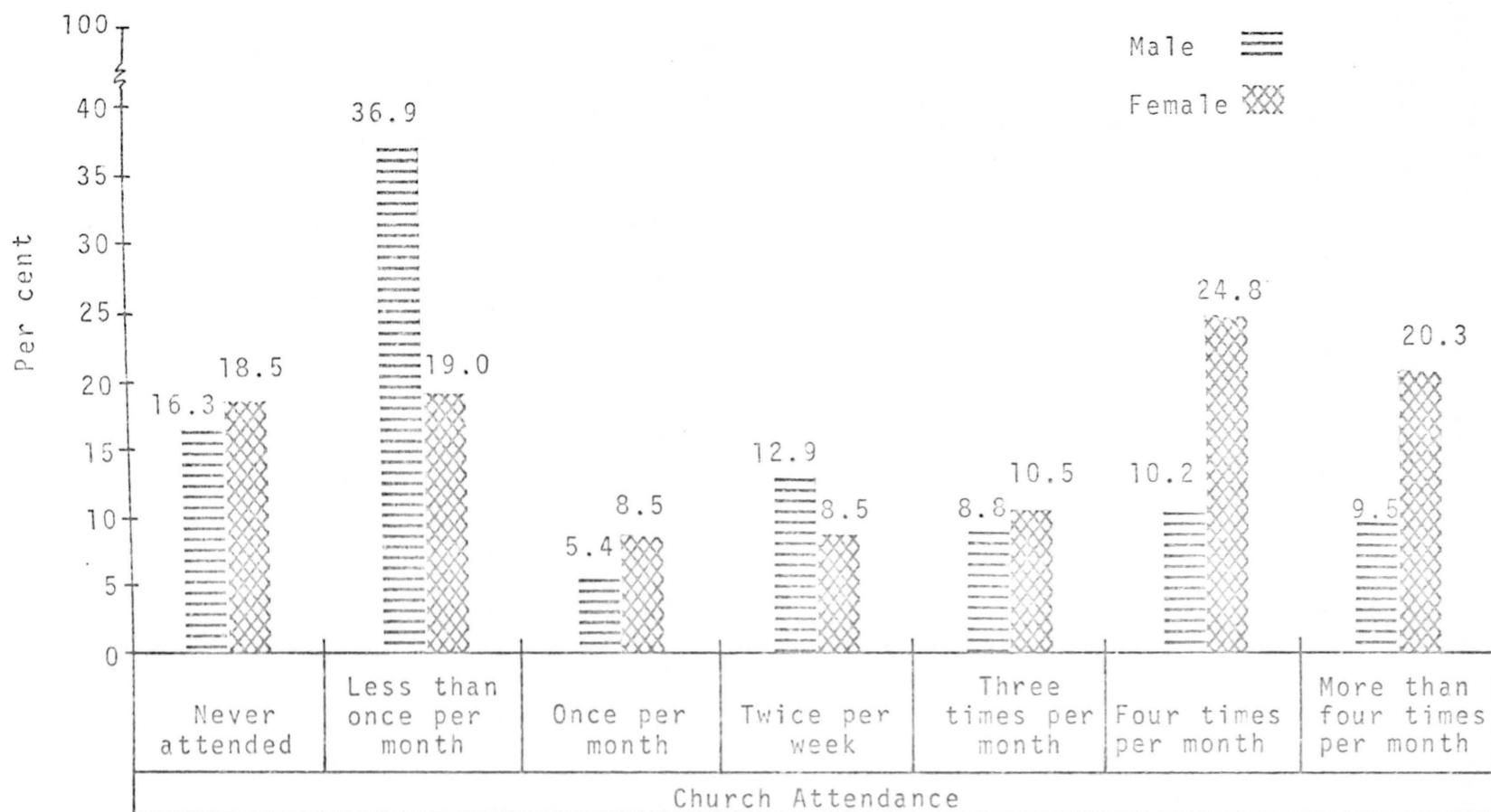


Figure 3

Degree of Religious Activity of 300 Participants at Time of Marriage

Locke (48) happily married couples had more friends in common than those who later got divorced.

Participants of this study were requested to indicate the number of friends of the same sex before marriage.

<u>Number of Friends</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Almost none	1	0.7	2	1.3
A few	22	15.0	20	13.1
Several	47	32.0	54	35.3
Many	76	51.7	77	50.3
No response	1	0.7	0	0.0

Of the male respondents, 15.0 per cent indicated a few friends of the same sex prior to marriage, 32.0 per cent indicated several, 51.7 per cent indicated many and one individual indicated practically no friends. Of the female respondents, two individuals indicated practically no friends, 13.1 per cent indicated a few, 35.3 per cent indicated several, and 50.3 per cent indicated many friends of the same sex before marriage. Almost 85 per cent of the total group indicated several or many friends of the same sex before marriage.

Amount of Conflict With Father Preceding Marriage

Peterson (65) stated that the greater degree of adjustment of teenagers living in democratic families shows that teenagers from democratic homes have fewer family problems than those from authoritarian homes.

<u>Amount of Conflict</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
None	59	40.1	56	36.6
Very little	57	38.8	59	38.6
Moderate	20	13.6	16	10.5
A good deal	6	4.1	12	7.8
Almost continuous	3	2.0	5	3.3
No response	2	1.4	5	3.3

Fifty-nine males or 40.1 per cent indicated having no conflict with their fathers before marriage, 38.8 per cent indicated very little conflict, 13.6 per cent indicated a moderate amount, six indicated a good deal, and three males indicated almost continuous conflict with their fathers prior to marriage. A total of 36.6 per cent of the females indicated no conflict with their fathers preceding marriage, 38.6 per cent indicated very little conflict, 10.5 per cent indicated a moderate amount of conflict, 7.8 per cent indicated a good deal of conflict, and five females indicated almost continuous conflict with their fathers prior to marriage. Of the total group, approximately 80 per cent indicated

none or very little conflict with their fathers before marriage. Less than 9.0 per cent indicated a good deal or almost continuous conflict with their fathers before marriage.

### Degree of Attachment With Father

Winch (91) commented that a relationship of emotional security between mother and father and between parents and children is a setting in terms of which the child grows up with emotional security. The author further stated that the evaluation of parents by young middle class persons' may be tinged with negative feelings if the parents have provided the young adult with a socioeconomic status below that to which he aspires.

The participants of the present study were requested to check the degree of attachment with their fathers before their marriage.

<u>Degree of Attachment</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
None	8	5.4	10	6.5
Very little	17	11.6	12	7.8
Moderate	58	39.5	57	37.3
A good deal	44	29.9	51	33.3
Very close	17	11.6	16	10.5
No response	3	2.0	7	4.6

Eight or 5.4 per cent of the males indicated no attachment with their fathers before marriage, 11.6 per cent indicated very little, 39.5 per cent indicated moderate amount, 29.9 per cent indicated a good deal, and 11.6 per cent indicated a very close attachment to their fathers before marriage. Of the female respondents, 6.5 per cent checked no attachment with their fathers prior to marriage, 7.8 checked very little, 37.3 per cent checked a moderate amount, 33.3 per cent checked a good deal, and 10.5 checked being very close to their fathers before marriage. Ten individuals, three males and seven females, failed to respond to this item concerning the amount of attachment with their fathers before marriage.

#### Amount of Conflict With Mother Preceding Marriage

Winch (91) noted that there are good reasons why in middle-class families the period of adolescence involves conflict with authority in general and with parental authority in particular. According to Winch,

. . . the adult generation is a prime instigator of frustration by virtue of the fact that it is adults who keep a hand on the leash and keep the prizes out of range.

According to Waller (87) conflict between parent and child seems to be the normal outcome of the American culture.

According to the responses furnished by the participants of the present study, concerning the amount of conflict with their mothers preceding marriage, the information is summarized below:

<u>Degree of Conflict</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
None	47	32.0	35	22.9
Very little	69	46.9	65	42.5
Moderate	20	13.6	26	17.0
A good deal	9	6.1	22	14.4
Almost continuous	1	0.7	3	2.0
No response	1	0.7	2	1.3

Of the male respondents, 32.0 per cent checked no conflict with their mother before marriage, 46.9 per cent checked very little conflict, 13.6 per cent indicated a moderate amount of conflict, nine indicated a good deal of conflict, and one indicated almost continuous conflict with his mother before marriage. Of the female respondents, 22.9 per cent indicated no conflict with their mothers preceding marriage, 42.5 per cent indicated very little conflict, 17.0 per cent indicated a moderate amount of conflict, 14.4 per cent indicated a good deal of conflict, and three or 2.0 per cent indicated almost continuous conflict. Three individuals, one male and two females did not respond to this item concerning the amount of conflict with their mothers preceding

marriage. Of the total group, over 70 per cent indicated none or very little conflict with their mothers before marriage.

### Degree of Attachment With Mother

Participants of the present study were requested to check the degree of attachment with their mother before marriage.

<u>Amount of Attachment</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
None	2	1.4	4	2.6
Very little	13	8.8	11	7.2
Moderate	46	31.3	45	29.4
A good deal	63	42.9	54	35.3
Very close	21	14.3	37	24.2
No response	2	1.4	2	1.3

Two male participants indicated no attachment with their mothers before marriage, 8.8 per cent indicated very little, 31.3 per cent indicated a moderate amount, 42.9 per cent indicated a good deal and 14.3 per cent indicated a very close attachment with their mothers. Of the female respondents, four indicated very little, 29.4 per cent indicated a moderate amount, 35.3 per cent indicated a good deal, and 24.2 per cent indicated a very close attachment with their mothers preceding marriage. The investigator noted

that 90 per cent of the total participants had a moderate to very close attachment with their mothers before marriage.

### Happiness of Parents' Marriage

The happiness of the parents' marriages was rated by the participants. The ratings of the marriages are illustrated as follows:

<u>Amount of Happiness</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Very happy	38	25.9	29	19.0
Happy	41	27.9	39	25.5
About averagely happy	39	26.4	48	31.4
Unhappy	23	15.6	28	18.3
Very unhappy	6	4.1	8	5.2
No response	0	0.0	1	0.3

Thirty eight or 25.9 per cent of the males rated their parents' marriage as "very happy"; 27.9 per cent as "happy"; 26.5 per cent as "averagely happy"; 15.6 per cent as "unhappy"; and 4.1 per cent indicated the marriage of their parents was "very unhappy". Twenty nine of the female respondents rated their parents' marriage as "very happy"; 25.5 per cent as "happy"; 31.4 per cent as "about averagely happy"; 18.3 per cent as "unhappy"; and 5.2 per cent as "very unhappy". Of the total group, the investigator noted

that over three-fourths of the participants were of the opinion that their parents' marriage rated "about averagely happy" to "very happy".

### Happiness of Childhood

According to Winch (91) the nature of the parent-child relationship is such as to produce in the infant (also in the parent) frustration and anxiety as well as gratification. Peterson (65) stated that

. . . there is reason to believe that love continues to be an essential, if not the most essential, ingredient in healthy living. The early relationship of a mother and child is of paramount importance in influencing the health and response patterns of her child.

Participants of the present study were requested to check an item concerning happiness in childhood. The responses to the item are tabulated as follows:

<u>Degree of Happiness</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Very happy	35	23.8	34	22.2
Happy	60	40.8	48	31.4
About averagely happy	44	29.9	60	39.2
Unhappy	5	3.4	10	6.5
Very unhappy	2	1.4	1	0.7
No response	1	0.7	0	0.0

Thirty-five or 23.8 per cent of the male respondents indicated degree of happiness in childhood as "very happy"; 40.8 per cent as "happy"; 29.9 per cent as "about averagely happy"; five as "unhappy"; two indicated as "very unhappy". Of the female respondents, 22.2 per cent checked "very happy"; 31.4 per cent checked "happy"; 39.2 per cent checked "about averagely happy"; 6.5 checked "very unhappy"; and one individual checked "very unhappy" to the item concerning degree of happiness during childhood. The investigator noted that almost 95 per cent of the total number of participants indicated "about averagely happy" to "very happy" as to the degree of happiness of their childhood.

#### Degree of Punishment in Childhood

According to Bowman (13) children need discipline. Bowman stated that "it is one method of learning. It can give a child a sense of security when it defines his limitations, that is, the framework within which he can operate."

Participants rated the degree of punishment received during their childhood.

<u>Degree of Punishment</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Punished severely (for every little thing)	3	2.0	1	0.7
Punished frequently	16	10.9	25	16.3
Occasionally punished	96	65.3	90	58.8
Rarely punished	30	20.4	37	24.2
Never punished	1	0.7	0	0.0
No response	1	0.7	0	0.0

Three of the male participants checked being punished severely for every little thing as a child, 10.9 per cent checked punished frequently, 65.3 per cent checked being occasionally punished and 20.4 per cent checked rarely being punished. One male indicated never being punished during childhood. One female indicated being punished severely in childhood, 16.3 per cent indicated frequent punishment, 58.8 per cent indicated occasional punishment, and 24.2 per cent indicated rarely being punished in childhood. Approximately 85 per cent of the total group indicated punishment ranging from occasionally to never. On the other hand, 15 per cent indicated frequent or severe punishment during childhood.

### Type of Home Training

The participants were requested to rate the type of home training received during childhood.

<u>Types of Training</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Exceedingly strict	11	7.5	13	8.5
Firm but not harsh	88	59.9	99	64.7
Usually allowed to have my own way	39	26.5	25	16.3
Had my own way about everything	1	0.7	0	0.0
Irregular (sometimes strict--sometimes lax)	7	4.8	15	9.8
No response	1	0.7	1	0.7

Eleven male respondents indicated that their home training was exceedingly strict, 59.9 per cent checked firm but not harsh home training, and 26.4 per cent indicated usually having their own way during childhood. Seven males indicated irregular punishment, during childhood, sometimes strict and sometimes lax. Thirteen females indicated receiving exceedingly strict training in their home during childhood, 64.7 per cent indicated a firm but not harsh type of training, and 16.7 per cent indicated usually having their own way as a child. Fifteen females indicated irregular training during childhood, sometimes strict, sometimes lax. The investigator noted that over 60 per cent of the total group indicated firm but not harsh training in their childhood.

Parental Attitudes Toward Curiosity  
Concerning Birth and Sex

Blood (11) stated that when parents are faced with embarrassing questions, most parents find excuses for not answering. Blood further stated that closely related to the unwillingness of parents to answer embarrassing questions was their tendency to avoid sexual terms. Parents' attitudes toward early curiosity concerning birth and sex were checked by the participants.

<u>Parents' Attitudes</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Frank and encouraging	17	11.6	29	19.0
Answered briefly	48	32.7	49	32.0
Evaded or lied	11	7.5	16	10.5
Rebuffed or punished	1	0.7	2	1.3
Did not disclose curiosity to parents	69	46.9	55	35.9
No response	1	0.7	2	1.3

Seventeen or 11.6 per cent of the male respondents indicated a frank and encouraging attitude toward their early curiosity about birth and sex. Approximately one-third, 32.7 per cent, indicated that their parents answered questions briefly, and 7.5 per cent checked being evaded or lied to concerning birth or sex. Only one male indicated being rebuffed or punished for exhibiting curiosity. Approximately

one-half of the men, 46.9 per cent, indicated that their curiosity was not disclosed to their parents. Twenty-nine or 19 per cent of the female respondents checked a frank and encouraging attitude of their parents toward their early curiosity about birth and sex. A total of 32 per cent of the parents of females answered briefly, 10.5 per cent evaded the questions or lied to their daughters concerning these questions. Only two females reported being rebuffed or punished, while 35.9 per cent indicated not disclosing their curiosity to their parents. Less than one half of the total group of participants reported questions on matters concerning sex and birth answered briefly or frankly, and encouragingly by their parents.

#### Opinion of Mental Ability of Mate

Participants were requested to give an opinion of their own mental ability as compared to that of their mate.

<u>Mental Ability as Compared to Mate</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Very superior	4	2.7	0	0.0
Somewhat greater	36	24.5	6	3.9
About equal	98	66.7	93	60.8
Somewhat less	8	5.4	49	32.0
Considerably less	0	0.0	5	3.3

Four male and no female participants rated their mental ability as very superior to that of their mates. For the males, 24.5 per cent, and for the females, 3.9 per cent indicated somewhat greater mental ability than that of their mates. Two-thirds of the men, 66.7 per cent, and 60.8 per cent of the women were of the opinion that the mental ability of their mate was about equal to their own. Only 5.4 per cent of the males as opposed to 32.0 per cent of the females indicated somewhat less mental ability than that of their mate. Five females and no males indicated considerably less mental ability as compared to their mate.

#### General Attitude Toward Sex Preceding Marriage

Stroup (78) stated:

. . . many persons at times reflect an inner attitude of severity on sex matters in general. Sex is something that is not a subject of polite conversation. We have our laws and social mores, that should be adhered to--straight down the line.

General attitudes of sex before marriage were assessed by the participants and the responses are shown below:

<u>Attitude Toward Sex Before Marriage</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
One of disgust and aversion	1	0.7	2	1.3
Indifference	2	1.4	15	9.8
Interest, and pleasant anticipation	97	66.0	118	77.1
Eager and passionate longing	44	29.9	17	11.1

Only one male and two female participants indicated disgust and aversion toward sex preceding marriage. Two males and 15 females indicated indifference to sex prior to marriage. A high proportion, 66.0 per cent, of the males and 77.1 per cent of the females indicated interest, and pleasing anticipation of sex prior to marriage. The response, eager and passionate longing concerning sex before marriage, was checked by 29.9 per cent of the males and 11.1 per cent of the females.

Feeling of Being Lonesome, Even  
When With Other People

Participants were requested to check an item concerning their feeling of being lonesome, even when with other people.

Often Feel Lonesome, Even When With Other People	Male		Female	
	Num- ber	Per cent	Num- ber	Per cent
Yes	21	14.3	22	14.4
No	125	85.7	131	85.6

Of the male respondents, 14.3 per cent checked "Yes" while 85.7 per cent checked "No" in regard to often feeling lonesome, even when with other people. Of the female respondents, 14.4 per cent checked "Yes," while 85.6 per cent checked

"No" in response to this question. The percentage of males and females indicating "Yes" and "No" were similar.

Even Tempered and Happy in Outlook on Life

Participants were requested to check an item concerning being even tempered and happy in their outlook on life. The findings are shown below:

<u>Usually Even Tempered and Happy</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	138	93.9	132	86.3
No	8	5.4	20	13.1

Over 93.0 per cent of the male participants indicated usually being even tempered and happy in their outlook on life, while 86.3 per cent of the female participants indicated usually being even tempered and happy in their outlook on life. Of the total group, only 28 individuals, males and females, indicated not usually being even tempered and happy in their outlook on life.

Often Feeling Just Miserable

Participants were requested to check an item concerning frequency of feeling "just miserable".

<u>Often Feel Just Miserable</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	8	5.4	19	12.4
No	138	93.9	133	86.9

Eight of the male and 19 of the female respondents indicated often feeling "just miserable". Of the 300 participants 93.9 per cent of the males and 86.9 per cent of the females checked not often feeling "just miserable".

Annoyance of Some Particular Useless Thought

Participants were requested to indicate whether or not some particular useless thought kept coming into their mind.

<u>Annoying Thoughts</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	6	4.1	21	13.7
No	140	95.2	132	86.3

Six males and 21 females indicated that some particular useless thought kept coming into their mind to bother them.

In contrast 95.2 per cent males and 86.3 per cent of the females checked "No" to the item. The investigator noted a much higher percentage of women than men checked "Yes" to the item.

### Periods of Loneliness

The participants checked an item concerning often experiencing periods of loneliness. The responses are shown below:

<u>Often Experience Periods of Loneliness</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	8	5.4	31	20.3
No	139	94.6	122	79.7

Eight of the male and 31 of the female respondents indicated often experiencing periods of loneliness. "No" responses were given by 139 males or 94.6 per cent, and 122 females or 79.7 per cent. Of the total group 13 per cent indicated not often experiencing periods of loneliness.

### Self Confident About Abilities

Participants checked an item concerning their general feeling of self confidence concerning their abilities.

<u>Self-confident About Abilities</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	134	91.2	123	80.4
No	13	8.8	30	19.6

Of the male respondents, 91.4 per cent indicated generally feeling self-confident about their abilities. Fewer females, 80.4 per cent, generally felt self-confident about their abilities. Forty-three individuals, males and females, indicated not generally feeling self-confident about their abilities.

### Touchy on Various Subjects

Participants were requested to check the item concerning being touchy on various subjects.

<u>Touchy on Various Subjects</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	54	36.7	70	45.8
No	92	62.6	83	54.2

Of the male respondents, 36.7 per cent indicated "Yes", while 62.6 per cent indicated "No" to being touchy on various subjects. Of the female respondents, 45.8 per cent checked "Yes" and 54.2 per cent checked "No".

### Frequently Feel "Grouchy"

Participants checked an item concerning frequently feeling "grouchy".

Frequently Feel "Grouchy"	Male		Female	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	26	17.7	49	32.0
No	121	82.3	103	67.3

Twenty six or 17.7 per cent of the male respondents indicated frequently feeling "grouchy", while 82.3 per cent indicated not frequently feeling "grouchy". Forty nine or 32.0 per cent of the females checked "Yes" to frequently feeling "grouchy", while 67.3 per cent checked "No" to frequently feeling "grouchy". Almost twice as many women as men indicated frequently feeling "grouchy". However, almost three-fourths of the total group indicated not frequently feeling "grouchy".

Usually Avoid Asking Advice

The participants were requested to check an item concerning whether or not they usually avoided asking advice.

<u>Usually Avoid Asking Advice</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	45	30.6	30	19.6
No	100	68.0	123	80.4

A higher percentage of men than women reported usually avoiding seeking advice. Of the male respondents, 30.6 per cent indicated usually avoiding asking advice, and 68.0 per cent indicated not usually avoiding asking advice. Of the female respondents, 19.6 per cent indicated "Yes" and 80.4 per cent indicated "No" to the item concerning asking advice.

Prefer to be Alone at Times of Emotional Stress

Participants checked an item concerning whether or not they preferred being alone at times of emotional stress.

<u>Prefer to be Alone at Times of Emotional Stress</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	67	45.6	62	40.5
No	79	53.7	90	58.8

Of the male respondents, 45.6 per cent preferred to be alone during times of emotional stress, while 53.7 per cent preferred not to be alone. Of the female respondents, 40.5 per cent checked "Yes" and 58.8 per cent checked "No" in response to this item. Of the total group, over 55 per cent preferred not to be alone during times of emotional stress.

Alternating Feelings Between Happiness and Sadness Without Apparent Reason

Participants were requested to check an item concerning feelings alternating between happiness and sadness without apparent reason.

<u>Alternating Feelings</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	10	6.8	16	10.5
No	137	93.2	137	89.5

Of the male respondents, 6.8 per cent checked "Yes" as to feelings alternating between happiness and sadness without apparent reason, while 93.2 per cent checked "No" to this item. Of the female respondents, 10.5 per cent checked "Yes," while 89.5 per cent checked "No" as to feelings alternating between happiness and sadness without apparent reason. Of the total group, 91.3 per cent indicated that their feelings did not alternate between happiness and sadness without apparent reason.

Often in a State of Excitement

Participants checked an item concerning whether often being in a state of excitement.

<u>State of Excitement</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	24	16.3	37	24.2
No	123	83.7	116	75.8

Twenty-four of the male respondents indicated "Yes" as to often being in a state of excitement, while 83.7 per cent checked "No". Of the female respondents, 24.2 per cent indicated "Yes" and 75.8 per cent indicated "No" in response to this item.

Considered Critical of Other People

Participants were requested to check an item concerning whether the participant was considered critical of others.

<u>Considered Critical</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	43	29.3	48	31.4
No	102	69.4	104	78.0

Forty-three or 29.3 per cent of the male respondents checked "Yes" to the item concerning being considered critical of other people, while 31.4 per cent of the females indicated "Yes" to the item. The percentage of male respondents checked "No" 69.4 and for the females, 78.4 per cent.

### Discontentment Caused by Discipline

Participants checked an item concerning whether discipline caused a feeling of discontent.

<u>Discontentment Caused by Discipline</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	39	26.5	38	24.8
No	107	72.8	115	75.2

Thirty nine or 26.5 per cent of the male respondents checked "Yes" and 72.8 per cent checked "No" concerning whether discipline caused discontent in the participant. Of the female respondents, 24.8 per cent checked "Yes" while 75.2 per cent checked "No" to the item. The investigator noted that more females than males checked "No" as to discontentment resulting from discipline.

### Try to be Respectful of Others' Feelings

Participants checked an item concerning carefully trying to avoid saying anything that may hurt the feelings of another individual. Responses to the item are as follows:

<u>Respectful of Others' Feelings</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Yes	87	59.2	116	75.8
No	60	40.8	37	24.2

Of the male respondents, 59.2 per cent indicated trying to avoid saying anything that may hurt anyone's feelings, while 40.8 per cent indicated not trying. Of the female respondents, 75.8 per cent indicated always trying and 24.2 per cent not trying to avoid saying anything that may hurt anyone's feelings. A higher proportion of females than of males reported carefully trying to avoid saying anything that may hurt anyone's feelings.

#### PART IV: INTROVERT-EXTROVERT TEST

Bowman (13) made the following statement:

Personality may be thought of as the sum total of the individual--his habits, behavior, thought patterns, emotional responses, moods, attitudes, reactions to people and situations, hopes, fears, aspirations, and the myriad other things that make him an individual, a person. To say that an individual is a personality is more nearly accurate than to say that he has a personality. To say that an individual has "personality" is to refer to something relatively limited, that is, certain desirable traits, such as cheerfulness, enthusiasm, vivaciousness, forcefulness, and so on. These traits, however, are only part of his total personality. Personality includes character. Character is composed of those parts of personality that have to do with value judgments, that is, with judgments of right and wrong, and good and evil. Personality is not quantitative. No one has any more or less than anyone else. Personalities may vary as to type or quality but not as to amount.

An individual's body structure, the way he is "put together," the way he functions, his temperament, his aptitudes constitute the equipment with which the newborn child meets and begins to adjust to his environment. His personality becomes a product of the interaction between his equipment and his environment.

According to Winch (91)

. . . one may conceive of personality as the totality of one's dispositions to react and of the modes of reacting, and since such dispositions and modes may be seen, in part at least, as the internalization of culture, the nexus between culture and personality is clear.

Winch further commented that psychologically speaking, competitive achievement is a close relative of aggression, but is a converted, controlled form of aggression that is approved in selected cultural settings.

According to Munstein and Glaudin (61) among the questions that baffle marriage students is the relative importance of the individual personalities of the partners in contrast to their relationship as a social dyad. The authors further commented that the study of the cultural and psychological network of causes of marriage failure is one where the research effort has not been equal to the significance and impact of the problem.

In Pickford, Signori and Kemper's study (66) concerning similar or related personality traits, the authors hypothesized that similar or related personality traits in husband and wife are related significantly to marital happiness. The conclusions reached by the study to a large extent supported the hypothesis.

In 1955, Moss and Gingles (58) conducted a study to investigate the characteristics of females who marry early and compared these characteristics with those who marry later in life. The authors also hoped to obtain an insight into factors involved in early marriages. The conclusions drawn from the study indicate that girls who marry early are emotionally less stable than those who marry later, and that girls who marry early have less satisfactory relationships with their parental families.

According to Peterson (65), "the normal college student exhibits some hostility, some perfectionism, some anxiety and some introversion or extroversion, but most do not possess these in the degree that would threaten a marriage."

In the present study, participants were requested to check items in Crane's Introvert-Extrovert Test (19). The personality types, as determined by the responses of the participants, are shown in Figure 4. According to the responses, there was a higher percentage of females, 17.6 per cent, than males, 9.5 per cent, typed introverts. More males, 26.5 per cent, were extroverts than females, 15.0 per cent. Almost two-thirds of the men, 62.6 per cent, and slightly over two-thirds of the women, 67.4 per cent, were ambiverts. Complete analysis of the data, obtained in this section of the present study, will be presented in a later study.

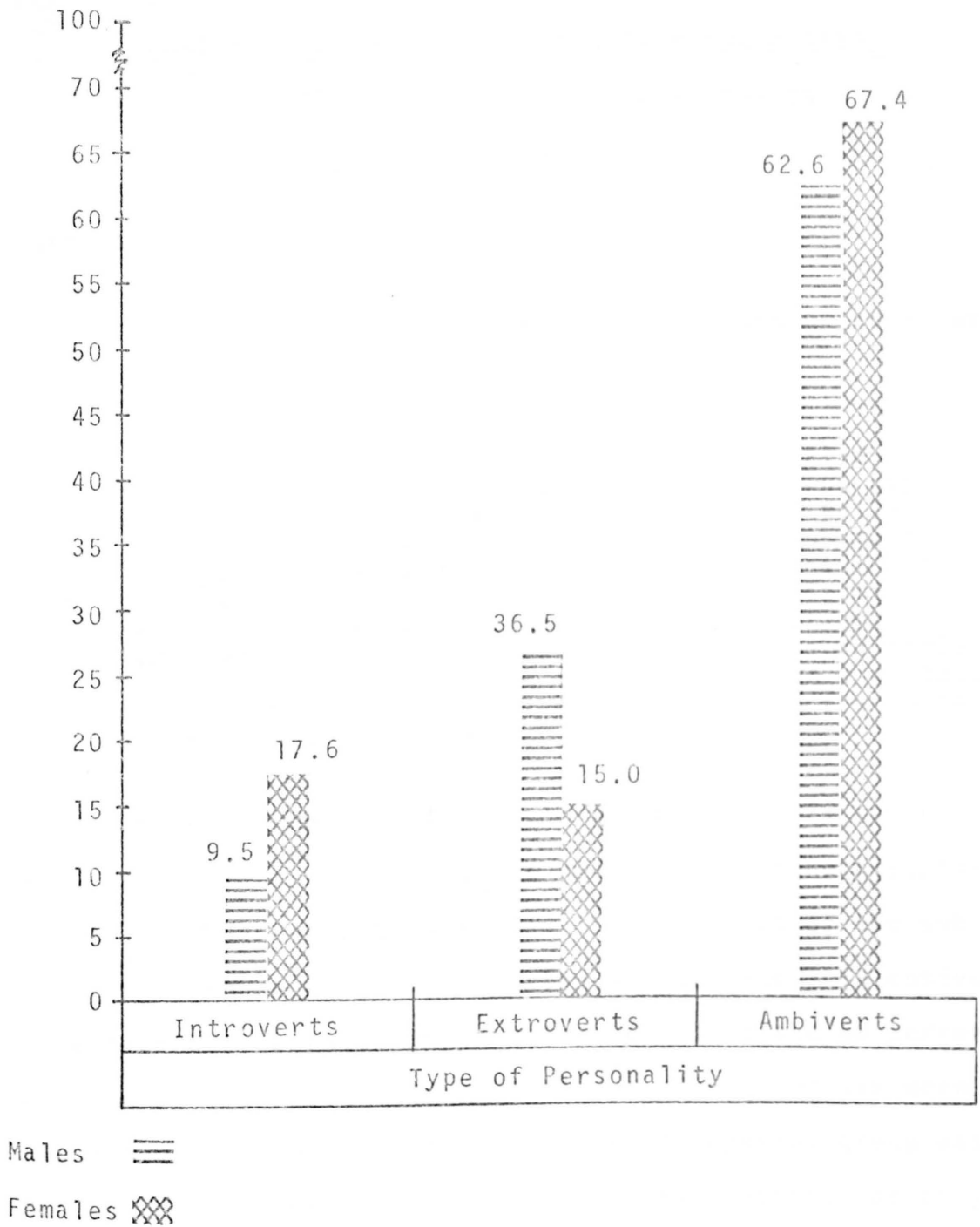


Figure 4

Personality Types of 300 Participants

PART V: ANALYSIS OF TEST SCORES FOR MARITAL  
ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION IN  
RELATION TO CERTAIN VARIABLES

Correlation Between Test Scores

The Locke and Wallace study (51) was conducted in order to accomplish the following:

Develop a short, but reliable, and valid, marital adjustment and prediction test. The hypothesis of the study was that reliable and valid adjustment and prediction tests can be constructed by using a limited number of the most significant items taken from studies made prior to this time. Fifteen items were selected for the adjustment test, and 34 for the prediction test. The possible scores for the adjustment test ranged from 2 to 158; for the prediction test the scores ranged from 0 to 532 for men, and from 0 to 502 for women.

Locke and Wallace (51) used a sample of 236 subjects. The husbands and wives were not related, consequently, the sample represented 236 marriages. Forty-eight of the subjects were known to be maladjusted in marriage. Extensive case data corroborated information for 31 of the 48 persons, 11 more of the cases were recently divorced, and six were separated. The mean score for the well adjusted group was 135.9, whereas the mean score for the maladjusted was only 71.7. The difference was highly significant. A mean score for the prediction test was not given. However, for the total sample, the coefficient of correlation between the adjustment and prediction scores was 0.47.

In the present study, the coefficient of correlation between adjustment and the prediction scores was determined. The data were analyzed as follows:

<u>Variables</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Standard Deviation</u>	<u>Correlation Coefficient</u>	<u>Proba- bility</u>
Marital ad- justment	117.0	22.00	0.296	P<0.01
Marital pre- diction	338.0	56.00		

The mean score for marital adjustment for the entire group was 117 or a much lower score than the mean derived by the Locke and Wallace study (51) for their well adjusted group. The mean score for the present study was much higher when compared with the maladjusted group of the Locke and Wallace study. Likewise the coefficient of correlation between the adjustment scores and prediction scores was 0.296 or much lower than that reported by Locke and Wallace. However, the correlation coefficient between the scores for marital adjustment and marital prediction in the present study was highly significant.

#### Comparison of Upper and Lower Quartiles

The scores on the marital adjustment test were used to divide the group into quartiles. The mean prediction scores for the group of individuals composing the upper and the

lower quartiles on the marital adjustment test were analyzed statistically. The t-value was highly significant ( $P < 0.001$ ) indicating marital prediction was higher for individuals classified in the upper than in the lower quartile on the marital adjustment test. Data analysis are shown as follows:

<u>Marital Adjustment</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Marital Standard Deviation</u>	<u>Prediction t value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Upper quartile	361.4	50.55	4.661	$P < 0.001$
Lower quartile	320.3	59.25		

In a similar manner the 300 participants were divided into four groups based on the marital prediction scores. The mean adjustment scores were determined for both the upper and lower quartile groups as determined by the prediction test scores. Data analysis revealed a highly significant difference ( $P < 0.001$ ) between mean marital adjustment scores for these two quartile groups. Individuals categorized in the upper quartile group on the marital prediction test had a higher mean (124.4) on the marital adjustment test than did those individuals classified in the lower quartile group

for the marital prediction test (mean=108.8). The data are shown below:

<u>Marital Prediction</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Marital Standard Deviation</u>	<u>Adjustment t value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Upper quartile	124.4	16.99	4.466	P<0.001
Lower quartile	108.8	24.62		

#### Comparison of Male and Female Responses

According to the Rollins and Feldman study (70), the data suggest that marriage has very different meanings for husbands than for wives. Very different events within or outside the marriage and/or family influence the developmental pattern of marital satisfaction in men and women.

In the present study a comparison between male and female scores for both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests was determined (Table XIII). The difference between the means of the males and females on the marital adjustment test was non-significant. However, on the marital prediction test, the t-value was 1.970 indicating a significant mean difference between the male and female respondents, the males having a higher prediction score.

TABLE XIII

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN BACKGROUND VARIABLES INVESTIGATED

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability
<u>Sex</u>								
Male	115.7	20.87	1.052	n.s.	346.1	56.34	2.423	P<0.02
Female	118.4	22.19			330.6	53.61		
<u>Responses</u>								
Matched	109.9	27.36	2.130	P<0.05	330.3	59.56	0.906	n.s.
Unmatched	118.1	20.49			339.3	54.84		
<u>Marital Status</u>								
Married once	116.5	21.62	2.069	P<0.05	339.2	55.75	1.290	n.s.
Divorced	127.9	17.90			320.7	47.60		
<u>Number of Children</u>								
None	125.9	23.24	3.386	P<.001	334.9	58.91	0.287	n.s.
One or two	114.8	20.48			337.4	55.38		
None	125.9	23.24	1.944	P<.10	334.9	58.91	0.906	n.s.
Three or more	117.0	21.73			334.0	51.41		
One or two	114.8	20.48	0.661	n.s.	337.4	55.38	0.870	n.s.
Three or more	117.0	21.73			334.0	51.41		

TABLE XIII (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
 ACCORDING TO CERTAIN BACKGROUND VARIABLES INVESTIGATED

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability
<u>Alcohol</u>								
Daily and weekly users	112.7	22.99	1.107	n.s.	324.3	56.31	1.482	n.s.
Occasional user	116.3	21.78			336.3	52.91		
Daily and weekly users	112.7	22.99	2.859	P<0.01	324.3	56.31	3.108	P<0.01
Non-users	123.7	17.89			357.2	57.30		
Occasional users	116.3	21.78	2.316	P<0.05	336.3	52.91	2.558	P<0.02
Non-users	123.7	17.89			357.2	57.30		
<u>Objection to Use of Alcohol by Spouse</u>								
Yes	121.6	16.80	1.752	P<0.10	356.4	60.02	2.689	P<0.01
No	116.0	22.36			334.0	57.70		
<u>Tobacco</u>								
Users	115.0	24.00	1.108	n.s.	332.1	50.69	1.024	n.s.
Non-users	118.3	19.74			340.0	55.17		

TABLE XIII (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN BACKGROUND VARIABLES INVESTIGATED

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability
<u>Objection to use of Tobacco by Mate</u>								
Yes	119.9	19.47	2.718	P<0.01	342.1	57.48	1.414	n.s.
No	112.9	23.56			332.4	53.73		
<u>Sibling Placement</u>								
Only child	117.6	23.66	0.447	n.s.	324.8	53.59	1.266	n.s.
Oldest child	115.7	21.33			339.1	59.33		
Only child	117.6	23.66	0.141	n.s.	324.8	53.59	1.595	n.s.
In between	118.2	22.67			341.6	49.07		
Only child	117.6	23.66	0.116	n.s.	324.8	53.59	1.377	n.s.
Youngest	118.1	19.20			341.2	54.44		
Oldest child	115.7	21.33	0.797	n.s.	339.1	59.33	0.307	n.s.
In between	118.2	22.67			341.6	49.07		
Oldest child	115.7	21.33	0.716	n.s.	339.1	59.33	0.233	n.s.
Youngest child	118.1	19.20			341.2	54.44		
In between	118.2	22.67	0.035	n.s.	341.6	49.07	0.034	n.s.
Youngest child	118.1	19.20			341.2	54.44		

TABLE XIII (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN BACKGROUND VARIABLES INVESTIGATED

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Probability
<u>Received an Allowance in Childhood</u>								
Yes	118.0	20.56	1.083	n.s.	339.4	50.56	0.256	n.s.
No	115.2	23.25			337.7	62.10		
<u>Worked for Money in Childhood</u>								
Yes	117.6	20.96	1.428	n.s.	342.8	52.82	3.652	P<0.001
No	116.5	25.03			303.3	64.68		
<u>Pouting or Sulking</u> Frequent and occasional	115.8	21.19	1.341	n.s.	333.4	57.13	2.393	P<0.02
Never	119.6	22.53			350.3	49.38		
<u>Have Consulted Marriage Counselor</u>								
Yes	94.1	34.97	4.630	P<0.001	320.1	63.99	1.375	n.s.
No	118.5	19.68			339.3	54.76		
<u>Have Taken Marriage Course</u>								
Yes	114.8	22.41	1.170	n.s.	348.3	50.50	1.970	P<0.05
No	118.1	21.21			334.3	56.90		

### Comparison of Matched and Unmatched Responses

Analysis of the battery of instruments returned in separate envelopes, or alone, and those returned in pairs indicated a significant difference between the group means on the marital adjustment test, as shown in Table XIII. The t-value was 2.130. The mean for the matched responses was higher than the mean for the unmatched responses. The differences between the means for the two groups for the marital prediction test was non-significant.

### Analysis According to Number of Times Married

According to Chesser (21) statistics on the number of divorces in the United States do not completely nor accurately reveal the number of unhappy marriages. Bowman (13) reported the current ratio of divorces to marriages is one to four.

Participants of the present study indicated whether having been married prior to the present marriage. A comparison of the marital adjustment and marital prediction tests between participants having been married one time and those having been married more than one time was made by means of the t-test.

The mean score, on the marital adjustment test, was 116.5 for those married only once, as compared to 127.9 for

those having been divorced. The  $t$ -value was 2.069 which indicated a significant difference between the adjustment scores of the two groups.

Only 16 of the entire group had been divorced, too small a sample group on which to base any definite conclusions. The individual scores of 11 of the participants who had been divorced ranged from 134 to 153 for marital adjustment of the present marriage.

The mean score on the marital prediction test was 339.2 for the participants married only once as compared to 320.7 for those having been divorced. The comparison of the scores yielded a mean difference of 18 between participants married only once and those having been divorced. A  $t$ -value of 1.290 indicated no significance difference between the means.

#### Analysis According to Presence or Absence of Children in the Family

In the Rollins and Feldman study (70) the data suggest that experiences of childbearing and childrearing have a rather profound and negative effect on marital satisfaction for wives, even in their basic feelings of self-worth in relation to their marriage. On the other hand, the companionship loss, instigated by the pressures of child rearing responsibilities, seems to occur for husbands without a decrease in marital satisfaction.

Locke (48) stated that a question to be considered was whether the mean adjustment scores of persons would vary with the number of children in the family. Four groups: married men, married women, divorced men, and divorced women were compared according to the number of children: one, two, three, four, or five or more. There were no significant differences between the number of children and the mean adjustment score for any of the four groups compared.

According to Locke's study (48) the desire for children was much stronger among childless happily-married than among the childless divorced couples. A desire for children by self and mate was expressed by almost nine out of 10 of the childless happily married as compared with about six out of 10 of the childless divorced individuals who reported on their own desires, and about four out of 10 of those who reported on the desire of their former spouse. In conclusion, Locke made the following statement concerning the presence of children, size of family, and desire for children:

- 1) When matched for duration of marriage, the happily married and divorced did not differ on either childlessness or on size of family.
- 2) Where children were present, marital adjustment was associated with the judgment that the mate desired children.
- 3) Where there were no children in the family, marital adjustment was associated with reports that both self and mate desired children.

In the present study, the participants indicated the number of children at home. A comparison of both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction scores was made between participants having no children, those having one or two children, and those having three or more children.

On the marital adjustment test, the mean score of the participants not having children was 125.9 as compared with 114.8 for participants having one or two children. The  $t$ -value was 3.386, which indicated a highly significant difference between the mean scores. Interesting to note was the fact that the individuals with no children had the higher mean score. A comparison between participants with no children and those with three or more children indicated a trend toward a difference in scores but the  $t$ -value was not high enough to be significant. The comparison between participants having one or two children and those participants having three or more children showed no significant difference in the mean scores. On the marital prediction test, there was no significant difference between the mean scores of any of groups: no children as compared with one or two children; no children compared with three or more children; and one or two children compared with three or more children.

Analysis According to Use and Objection  
to Use of Alcohol and Tobacco

Bahr(5) stated that family stability and size have been linked to alcoholism and other antisocial behavior, including the social withdrawal typified by skid-row men. According to Locke and Sutherland (50) socially disapproved behavior such as life on the bum probably is symptomatic of underlying maladjustment in a marriage, or it may be an expression of basic personal needs not being satisfied. Whatever the cause, such behavior is predictive of marital disruption.

In the present study, the participants indicated frequency of the use of tobacco and alcohol and the attitude of their spouse toward their use of tobacco and alcohol. When data concerning the frequency of the use of alcohol and objection to the use of alcohol by the spouse were analyzed, several significant differences were found. Non users of alcohol had a significantly higher mean score on both the marital adjustment and marital prediction tests than did either daily or weekly users or occasional users of alcohol. The group objecting to the use of alcohol by their mates had a higher mean score on both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests, but t-value was significant only for the latter test instrument. When data concerning use and

objection to the use of tobacco were analyzed only one t-value was significant. The group objecting to the use of tobacco by their spouse had a significantly higher mean score for marital adjustment than did the group not objecting to the use of tobacco by their mate.

#### Analysis According to Sibling Position

According to Locke (48) the failure to find significant differences between adjusted and maladjusted marriages is fully as important as is the discovery of differences. Among the items that Locke listed as not differing significantly was that of being an only, younger, or oldest child.

In the present study a comparison of the marital adjustment and marital prediction scores was made according to the sibling position of the participants: only child, oldest child, in between and youngest child. The data results or findings of this study agree with the findings of Locke's (48) in that there were not significant differences according to sibling position in either the marital adjustment or marital prediction test scores.

#### Analysis According to Various Means of Securing Money During Childhood

In the present study a comparison of the mean differences in marital adjustment and marital prediction test

scores was made according to the method of securing money during childhood. No significant difference was found when marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores were analyzed according to responses concerning receiving or not receiving an allowance during childhood. The mean difference on the prediction test was significantly higher ( $P < 0.001$ ) for those working for their money than for those not working for their money during childhood.

#### Analysis According to Reported Pouting and Sulking

The t-test was used to analyze the mean differences in the marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores between the participants who pouted or sulked and those not pouting or sulking. Only for the marital prediction test were mean differences significant. Those who never pouted or sulked had a significantly higher mean score than did those individuals composing the group who pouted or sulked.

#### Analysis According to Participants Having Taken or Not Taken Marriage Course

One of the implications stated by Chesser (21) was that a well-organized family living course based on student interests, geared to intellectual capabilities, and taught by a qualified instructor is of value to university women. In the present study the data analysis revealed non-significant

differences between participants having taken marriage courses and those who had not taken marriage courses on the marital adjustment test. However, on the marital prediction tests those having taken marriage courses had a significantly higher mean than those not having taken marriage courses.

#### Analysis According to Participants Having or Not Having Consulted a Marriage Counselor

Mudd (59) stated that the purpose of marriage counseling is to promote and sustain a high degree of competence in marriage and family relations. Ideally, the accomplishment of such a goal should be based on knowledge derived from valid hypothesis of what competence in marriage and family life consists, and with what it is positively correlated.

In the present study, the t-test was utilized to determine the differences between scores of participants having consulted a marriage counselor and those not having consulted a marriage counselor. On the marital adjustment test the mean was significantly higher for the group never having consulted a marriage counselor. However, for the marital prediction test the mean difference in test scores was non-significant.

### Analysis According to the Use of Leisure Time

According to Locke (48)

. . . mutual enjoyment of certain culturally approved activities is related to marital adjustment; mutual enjoyment of certain culturally disapproved activities is associated with marital maladjustment; and marital maladjustment is associated with individual enjoyment of, tolerance of, indifference to, and open conflict over activities.

Locke further commented that activities for which mutual enjoyment was associated with marital adjustment were essentially either those in the home or those subjected to considerable social control. Locke stated that "individualistic behavior, as indicated by only one spouse reporting the enjoyment of various activities, is definitely associated with marital maladjustment."

In the present study, the t-test was utilized to determine the differences in marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores according to the use of leisure time, Table XIV. For both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests, a highly significant difference between the mean score for those participants who preferred spending leisure time in the home was higher than for those who preferred to spend leisure time away from home.

TABLE XIV  
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST  
SCORES ACCORDING TO THE USE OF LEISURE TIME

Type of Leisure Activities Preferred	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Proba- bility	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value	Proba- bility
Away from home	112.4	21.60	3.029	P<0.01	330.3	57.65	2.160	P<0.05
At home	120.3	21.49			345.0	55.15		

Analysis According to Level of Education  
at Time of Marriage

Winch (91) stated that the relation between education and average age at marriage is curvilinear: the high median ages go with low education (less than high school) and high education (four years or more of college). Locke (48) found that the ratio of husbands with the wife absent or divorced to that of husbands living with wives was twice as high when the husbands had not finished elementary schools as when they were college graduates.

The t-test was utilized to determine the differences between different levels of education at the time of marriage on the marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores, Table XV. The t-value on differences between high school graduates and college graduates, was not sufficiently high to be significant on the marital adjustment test; however, on the marital prediction test, the mean difference was 31.9. The t-value was 2.406, indicating a significant difference. Between high school graduate and post graduate participants, the t-value was not sufficiently high to be significant; however, on the prediction test the mean difference was 54.7. The t-value was 3.817 indicating a highly significant difference ( $P < 0.001$ ). Between college graduates and post graduates, the mean difference on the marital adjustment test was 7.7.

TABLE XV

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
 ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Level of Education</u>								
High school graduate	115.2	26.22	0.029	n.s.	303.0	67.53	2.406	P<0.02
College graduate	115.4	22.06			335.1	54.04		
High school graduate	115.2	26.22	1.510	n.s.	303.0	67.53	3.817	P<0.001
Post graduate	123.1	17.11			357.7	49.46		
College graduate	115.4	22.06	2.605	P<0.01	335.1	54.04	3.021	P<0.01
Post graduate	123.1	17.11			357.7	49.46		
<u>Age at Time of Marriage</u>								
19 years and under	116.6	23.70	0.542	n.s.	321.3	61.17	1.616	n.s.
20 to 24 years	114.3	20.57			339.3	54.61		
19 years and under	116.6	23.70	1.112	n.s.	321.3	61.17	1.675	n.s.
25 to 30 years	122.2	22.18			342.6	54.61		
19 years and under	116.6	23.70	2.293	P<0.05	321.3	61.17	0.489	n.s.
31 years and over	136.2	11.19			332.9	51.63		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Age at Time of Marriage</u>								
20 to 24 years	114.3	20.57	2.708	P<0.01	339.3	54.61	0.426	n.s.
25 to 30 years	122.2	22.18			342.6	54.61		
20 to 24 years	114.3	20.57	3.149	P<0.01	339.3	54.61	0.344	n.s.
31 years and over	136.2	11.19			332.9	51.63		
25 to 30 years	122.2	22.18	1.823	P<0.10	342.6	54.61	0.493	n.s.
31 years and over	136.2	11.19			332.9	51.63		
<u>Length of Time Keeping Company</u>								
1 to 3 months	123.5	19.03	0.158	n.s.	321.2	61.16	0.686	n.s.
3 to 6 months	122.2	22.61			334.6	49.85		
1 to 3 months	123.5	19.03	0.872	n.s.	321.2	61.16	0.463	n.s.
6 months to 1 year	116.3	24.55			330.3	56.63		
1 to 3 months	123.5	19.03	1.447	n.s.	321.2	61.16	0.339	n.s.
1 to 2 years	114.0	19.09			327.5	52.74		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
 ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Length of Time</u> <u>Keeping Company</u>								
1 to 3 months	123.5	19.03	0.472	n.s.	321.2	61.16	1.162	n.s.
2 to 3 years	119.5	23.25			343.8	47.86		
1 to 3 months	123.5	19.03	1.105	n.s.	321.2	61.16	2.092	P<0.05
3 years or longer	116.4	18.24			362.3	55.34		
3 to 6 months	122.2	23.25	1.213	n.s.	334.6	49.85	0.393	n.s.
6 months to 1 year	116.3	24.55			330.3	56.63		
3 to 6 months	122.2	23.25	1.984	P<0.05	334.6	49.85	0.677	n.s.
1 to 2 years	114.0	19.03			327.5	52.74		
3 to 6 months	122.2	23.25	0.480	n.s.	334.6	49.85	0.763	n.s.
2 to 3 years	119.5	23.25			343.8	47.86		
3 to 6 months	122.2	23.25	1.381	n.s.	334.6	49.85	2.461	P<0.02
3 years or longer	116.4	18.24			362.3	55.34		
6 months to 1 year	116.3	24.55	0.653	n.s.	330.3	56.63	0.316	n.s.
1 to 2 years	114.0	19.03			327.5	52.74		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Length of Time Keeping Company</u>								
6 months to 1 year	116.3	24.55	0.634	n.s.	330.3	56.63	1.185	n.s.
2 to 3 years	119.5	23.25			343.8	47.86		
6 months to 1 year	116.3	24.55	0.021	n.s.	330.3	56.63	3.349	P<0.001
3 years or longer	116.4	18.24			362.3	55.34		
1 to 2 years	114.0	19.03	1.287	n.s.	327.5	52.74	1.502	n.s.
2 to 3 years	119.5	23.25			343.8	47.86		
1 to 2 years	114.0	19.03	0.751	n.s.	327.5	52.74	3.752	P<0.001
3 years or longer	116.4	18.24			362.3	55.34		
2 to 3 years	119.5	23.25	0.715	n.s.	343.8	47.86	1.597	n.s.
3 years or longer	116.4	18.24			362.3	55.34		
<u>Area of Orientation</u>								
Open country	116.7	24.28	0.090	n.s.	353.6	60.29	1.331	n.s.
Town of 2,500	116.5	22.22			337.7	50.85		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Area of Orientation</u>								
Open country	116.7	24.28	0.132	n.s.	353.6	60.29	1.046	n.s.
2,500 to 10,000	117.4	17.78			343.1	54.30		
Open country	116.7	24.28	0.140	n.s.	353.6	60.29	2.804	P<0.01
10,000 to 50,000	117.4	22.91			322.8	55.50		
Open country	116.7	24.28	0.319	n.s.	353.6	60.29	2.166	P<0.05
50,000 and over	118.0	19.81			332.1	51.42		
Town of 2,500	116.3	22.22	0.283	n.s.	337.7	50.85	0.502	n.s.
2,500 to 10,000	117.4	17.78			343.1	54.30		
Town of 2,500	116.3	22.22	0.220	n.s.	337.7	50.85	1.284	n.s.
10,000 to 50,000	117.4	22.91			322.8	55.50		
Town of 2,500	116.3	22.22	0.399	n.s.	337.7	50.85	0.531	n.s.
50,000 and over	118.0	19.81			332.1	51.42		
2,500 to 10,000	117.4	17.78	0.013	n.s.	343.1	54.30	2.040	P<0.05
10,000 to 50,000	117.4	22.91			322.8	55.50		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Area of Orientation</u> 2,500 to 10,000	117.4	17.78	0.180	n.s.	343.1	54.30	1.225	n.s.
50,000 and over	118.0	19.81			332.1	51.42		
10,000 to 50,000	117.4	22.91	0.160	n.s.	322.8	55.50	0.945	n.s.
50,000 and over	118.0	19.81			332.1	51.42		
<u>Age When Stopped</u> <u>Going to Sunday</u> <u>School</u>								
Stopped before 10 years	119.8	14.39	0.489	n.s.	329.8	46.36	0.238	n.s.
Stopped between 11 and 18 years	117.0	22.26			333.5	60.15		
Stopped before 10 years	119.8	14.39	0.826	n.s.	329.8	46.36	0.324	n.s.
Stopped after 19 years	114.5	24.71			334.5	53.52		
Stopped before 10 years	119.8	14.39	0.174	n.s.	329.8	46.36	1.590	n.s.
Still attending	119.0	18.35			351.7	50.35		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Age When Stopped</u> <u>Going to Sunday</u> <u>School</u>								
Stopped before 10 years	119.8	14.39	0.093	n.s.	329.8	46.36	0.474	n.s.
Never attended	119.2	19.61			319.9	55.24		
Stopped 11 to 18 years	117.0	22.26	0.736	n.s.	333.5	60.15	0.110	n.s.
Stopped after 19 years	114.5	24.71			334.5	53.52		
Stopped 11 to 18 years	117.0	22.26	0.637	n.s.	333.5	60.15	2.190	P<0.05
Still attending	119.0	18.35			351.7	50.35		
Stopped 11 to 18 years	117.0	22.26	0.316	n.s.	333.5	60.15	0.736	n.s.
Never attended	119.2	19.61			319.9	55.24		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviaion	t-value	Probability
<u>Age When Stopped Going to Sunday School</u>								
Stopped after 19 years	114.5	24.71	1.329	n.s.	334.5	53.52	2.129	P<0.05
Still attending	119.0	18.35			351.7	50.35		
Stopped after 19 years	114.5	24.71	0.621	n.s.	334.5	53.52	0.859	n.s.
Never attended	119.2	19.61			319.9	55.24		
Still attending	119.0	18.35	0.037	n.s.	351.7	50.35	1.979	P<0.05
Never attended	119.2	19.61			319.9	55.24		
<u>Frequency of Church Attendance</u>								
Never attended	115.1	22.67	0.308	n.s.	319.0	52.21	1.232	n.s.
Less than once per month	116.5	21.92			333.2	58.72		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Frequency of Church Attendance</u>								
Never attended	115.1	22.67	0.813	n.s.	319.0	52.21	0.232	n.s.
Once per month	120.1	20.46			322.5	56.32		
Never attended	115.1	22.67	0.724	n.s.	319.0	52.21	0.814	n.s.
2 times per month	111.2	20.84			330.1	56.88		
Never attended	115.1	22.67	0.455	n.s.	319.0	52.21	2.455	P<.02
3 times per month	117.7	21.81			352.6	54.27		
Never attended	115.1	22.67	0.666	n.s.	319.0	52.21	3.100	P<.01
4 times per month	118.4	21.86			353.1	47.94		
Never attended	115.1	22.67	1.126	n.s.	319.0	52.21	2.566	P<.02
More than 4 times per month	120.5	19.54			349.1	50.29		
Less than once per month	116.5	21.92	0.681	n.s.	333.2	58.72	0.753	n.s.
Once per month	120.1	20.46			322.5	56.32		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Frequency of Church Attendance</u>								
Less than once per month	116.5	21.92	1.166	n.s.	333.2	58.72	0.254	n.s.
2 times per month	111.2	20.84			330.1	56.88		
Less than once per month	116.5	21.92	0.256	n.s.	333.2	58.72	1.285	n.s.
3 times per month	117.7	21.81			352.6	54.25		
Less than once per month	116.5	21.92	0.482	n.s.	333.2	58.72	2.025	P<.05
4 times per month	118.4	21.86			353.1	47.94		
Less than once per month	116.5	21.92	1.018	n.s.	333.2	58.72	1.506	n.s.
More than 4 times per month	120.5	19.54			349.1	50.29		
Once per month	120.1	20.46	1.502	n.s.	322.5	56.32	0.466	n.s.
2 times per month	111.2	20.84			330.1	56.88		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Frequency of Church Attendance</u>								
Once per month	120.1	20.46	0.379	n.s.	322.5	56.32	1.853	n.s.
3 times per month	117.7	21.81			352.6	54.27		
Once per month	120.1	20.46	0.306	n.s.	322.5	56.32	2.318	P<.05
4 times per month	118.4	21.86			353.1	47.94		
Once per month	120.1	20.46	0.083	n.s.	322.5	56.32	1.893	P<.10
More than 4 times per month	120.5	19.54			349.1	50.29		
2 times per month	111.2	20.84	1.163	n.s.	330.1	56.88	1.525	n.s.
3 times per month	117.7	21.81			352.6	54.27		
2 times per month	111.2	20.84	1.466	n.s.	330.1	56.88	1.944	P<.10
4 times per month	118.4	21.86			353.1	47.94		
2 times per month	111.2	20.84	1.966	P<0.05	330.1	56.88	1.506	n.s.
More than 4 times per month	120.5	19.54			349.1	50.29		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Frequency of Church Attendance</u>								
3 times per month	117.7	21.81	0.126	n.s.	352.6	54.27	0.040	n.s.
4 times per month	118.4	21.86			353.1	47.94		
3 times per month	117.7	21.81	0.561	n.s.	352.6	54.27	0.275	n.s.
More than 4 times per month	120.5	19.54			349.1	50.29		
4 times per month	118.4	21.86	0.500	n.s.	353.1	47.94	0.391	n.s.
More than 4 times per month	120.5	19.54			349.1	50.29		
<u>Friends of Same Sex</u>								
None or few	117.0	19.82	0.580	n.s.	310.5	42.53	1.701	P<0.10
Several	114.6	24.05			327.0	56.93		
None or few	117.0	19.82	0.533	n.s.	310.5	42.53	4.915	P<0.001
Many	118.8	20.22			353.7	53.04		
Several	114.6	24.05	1.504	n.s.	327.0	56.93	3.783	P<0.001
Many	118.8	20.22			353.7	53.04		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Degree of Conflict With Father</u>								
No conflict	117.1	20.74	0.141	n.s.	353.0	55.84	1.186	n.s.
Little conflict	116.7	22.61			344.8	48.40		
No conflict	117.1	20.74	0.174	n.s.	353.0	55.84	3.251	P<0.01
Moderate conflict	117.9	24.81			318.6	48.06		
No conflict	117.1	20.74	0.401	n.s.	353.0	55.84	6.287	P<0.001
Good deal or continuous	115.4	16.26			279.5	39.26		
Little conflict	116.7	22.61	0.253	n.s.	344.8	48.40	2.773	P<0.01
Moderate conflict	117.9	24.81			318.6	48.06		
Little conflict	116.7	22.61	0.286	n.s.	344.8	48.40	6.338	P<0.001
Good deal or continuous	115.4	16.26			279.5	39.26		
Moderate conflict	117.9	24.81	0.433	n.s.	318.6	48.06	3.285	P<0.01
Good deal or continuous	115.4	16.26			279.5	39.26		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Degree of Attachment to Father</u>								
None or little	112.9	20.27	1.027	n.s.	295.2	41.84	4.598	P<0.001
Moderate	116.8	23.34			330.2	45.26		
None or little	112.9	20.27	1.506	n.s.	295.2	41.84	7.921	P<0.001
Good deal or very close	118.1	20.63			363.8	54.60		
Moderate	116.8	23.34	0.435	n.s.	330.2	45.26	5.076	P<0.001
Good deal or very close	118.1	20.63			363.8	54.60		
<u>Degree of Conflict With Mother</u>								
None	118.1	19.45	0.119	n.s.	372.0	49.32	4.899	P<0.001
Very little	118.4	19.03			338.9	46.52		
None	118.1	19.45	0.123	n.s.	372.0	49.32	5.137	P<0.001
Moderate	118.6	22.79			325.2	47.15		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
 ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Degree of Conflict With Mother</u>								
None	118.1	19.45	2.467	P<0.02	372.0	49.32	8.886	P<0.001
Good deal or continuous	106.4	29.89			279.5	53.33		
Very little	118.4	19.03	0.044	n.s.	338.9	46.52	1.691	P<0.10
Moderate	118.6	22.79			325.2	47.15		
Very little	118.4	19.03	2.877	P<0.01	338.9	46.52	6.434	P<0.001
Good deal or continuous	106.4	29.89			279.5	53.33		
Moderate	118.6	22.79	2.030	P<0.05	325.2	47.15	3.983	P<0.001
Good deal or continuous	106.4	29.89			279.5	53.33		
<u>Degree of Attachment to Mother</u>								
None or very little	121.2	15.00	0.871	n.s.	321.8	30.31	0.187	n.s.
Moderate	114.1	23.29			324.4	40.24		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Degree of Attachment to Mother</u>								
None or very little	121.2	15.00	0.671	n.s.	321.8	30.31	0.984	n.s.
Good deal	116.3	21.63			340.4	55.60		
None or very little	121.2	15.00	0.017	n.s.	321.8	30.31	1.233	n.s.
Very close	121.3	19.58			350.3	66.99		
Moderate	114.1	23.29	0.661	n.s.	324.4	40.24	2.185	P<0.05
Good deal	116.3	21.63			340.4	55.60		
Moderate	114.1	23.29	1.987	P<0.05	324.4	40.24	2.803	P<0.01
Very close	121.3	19.58			350.3	66.99		
Good deal	116.3	21.69	1.658	n.s.	340.4	55.60	1.132	n.s.
Very close	121.3	19.58			350.3	66.99		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Appraisal of Happiness of Parents</u>								
Very happy	121.3	18.77	0.421	n.s.	390.8	38.68	5.046	P<0.001
Happy	119.9	21.24			358.7	37.03		
Very happy	121.3	18.77	1.794	P<0.10	390.8	38.68	11.614	P<0.001
About averagely happy	115.3	21.43			315.7	39.39		
Very happy	121.3	18.77	2.600	P<0.01	390.8	38.68	12.788	P<0.001
Unhappy or very unhappy	111.5	23.57			289.4	50.04		
Happy	119.9	21.24	1.368	n.s.	358.7	37.03	7.156	P<0.001
About averagely happy	115.3	21.43			315.7	39.39		
Happy	119.9	21.24	2.210	P<0.05	358.7	37.03	9.434	P<0.001
Unhappy or very unhappy	111.5	23.57			289.4	50.04		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
 ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Appraisal of Happiness of Parents</u>								
About averagely happy	115.3	21.43	1.016	n.s.	315.7	39.39	3.578	P<0.001
Unhappy or very unhappy	111.5	23.57			289.4	50.04		
<u>Happiness During Childhood</u>								
Very happy	120.2	20.35	0.348	n.s.	395.8	37.71	8.043	P<0.001
Happy	119.1	19.58			344.3	41.86		
Very happy	120.2	20.35	1.541	n.s.	395.8	37.71	14.667	P<0.001
About averagely happy	115.0	21.93			308.9	36.87		
Very happy	120.2	20.35	2.555	P<0.02	395.8	37.71	13.225	P<0.001
Unhappy or very unhappy	104.6	29.37			250.7	48.38		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Happiness During Childhood</u>								
Happy	119.1	19.58	1.417	n.s.	344.3	41.86	6.442	P<0.001
About averagely happy	115.0	21.93			308.9	36.87		
Happy	119.1	19.58	2.638	P<0.01	344.3	41.86	8.438	P<0.001
Unhappy or very unhappy	105.0	29.37			250.7	48.38		
About averagely happy	115.0	21.93	1.737	P<0.10	308.9	36.87	5.769	P<0.001
Unhappy or very unhappy	104.6	29.37			250.7	48.38		
<u>Degree of Punishment</u>								
Severe	93.3	27.52	1.137	n.s.	241.0	55.48	1.997	P<0.05
Frequent	111.2	28.94			298.0	51.49		
Severe	93.3	27.52	2.603	P<0.01	241.0	55.48	4.022	P<0.001
Occasional	119.6	19.57			346.8	51.35		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Degree of Punishment</u>								
Severe	93.3	27.52	2.088	P<0.05	241.0	55.48	3.685	P<0.001
Rare	115.4	19.34			344.5	52.75		
Frequent	111.2	28.94	2.232	P<0.05	298.0	51.49	5.452	P<0.001
Occasional	119.6	19.57			346.8	51.35		
Frequent	111.2	28.94	0.889	n.s.	298.0	51.49	4.470	P<0.001
Rare	115.4	19.34			344.5	52.75		
Occasional	119.6	19.57	1.505	n.s.	346.8	51.35	0.318	n.s.
Rare	115.4	19.34			344.5	52.75		
Severe, Frequent	110.0	29.30	2.550	P<0.02	293.0	54.34	6.265	P<0.001
Occasional, Rare	119.0	19.86			346.2	51.74		
<u>Type of Training During Childhood</u>								
Exceedingly strict	117.9	21.19	0.231	n.s.	297.5	55.42	5.438	P<0.001
Firm but not harsh	119.0	21.07			355.7	48.01		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Type of Training During Childhood</u>								
Exceedingly strict	117.9	21.19	0.973	n.s.	297.5	55.42	2.076	P<0.05
Usually allowed to have my own way	113.1	19.86			323.3	48.92		
Exceedingly strict	117.9	21.19	0.595	n.s.	297.5	55.42	1.004	n.s.
Had my own way about everything or irregular	113.4	27.95			280.3	56.71		
Firm but not harsh	119.0	21.07	1.943	P<0.10	355.7	48.01	4.604	P<0.001
Usually allowed to have my own way	113.1	19.86			323.3	48.92		
Firm but not harsh	119.0	21.07	1.133	n.s.	355.7	48.01	6.888	P<0.001
Had my own way about everything or irregular	113.4	27.95			280.3	56.71		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Type of Training During Childhood</u>								
Usually allowed to have my own way	113.1	19.86	0.061	n.s.	323.3	48.92	3.378	P<0.001
Had my own way about everything or irregular	113.4	27.95			280.3	56.71		
<u>Answers Concerning Sex and Birth</u>								
Frank and encouraging	122.2	17.94	1.152	n.s.	348.1	52.76	0.028	n.s.
Answered briefly	117.8	22.38			347.9	51.43		
Frank and encouraging	122.2	17.94	2.065	P<0.05	348.1	52.76	2.749	P<0.01
Evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished	111.6	25.51			311.1	60.45		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
Answers Concerning Sex and Birth								
Frank and encouraging	122.2	17.94	1.734	P<0.10	348.1	52.76	1.537	n.s.
I did not disclose my curiosity	116.1	20.80			333.4	55.69		
Answered briefly	117.8	22.38	1.258	n.s.	347.9	51.43	3.226	P<0.01
Evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished	111.6	25.51			311.1	60.45		
Answered briefly	117.8	22.38	0.568	n.s.	347.9	51.43	1.965	P<0.05
I did not disclose my curiosity	116.1	20.80			333.4	55.69		
Evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished	111.6	25.51	1.004	n.s.	311.1	60.45	1.918	P<0.10
I did not disclose my curiosity	116.1	20.80			333.4	55.69		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>Opinion as to Mental Ability as Compared to Mate</u>								
Very superior or somewhat greater	111.3	26.37	2.064	P<0.05	338.8	55.52	0.608	n.s.
About equal	118.7	20.62			343.5	56.24		
Very superior or somewhat greater	111.3	26.37	1.220	n.s.	338.8	55.52	1.516	n.s.
Somewhat or considerably less	116.8	19.58			322.1	49.79		
About equal	118.7	20.62	0.660	n.s.	343.5	56.24	2.651	P<0.01
Somewhat or considerably less	116.8	19.58			322.1	49.79		

TABLE XV (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST SCORES  
ACCORDING TO CERTAIN MARITAL PREDICTION TEST ITEMS

Variables	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
<u>General Attitudes</u> <u>Toward Sex Before</u> <u>Marriage</u>								
Disgust, aversion, indifference	105.0	24.66	2.889	P<0.01	294.7	64.37	3.972	P<0.001
Interest and pleasant anticipation	119.1	20.35			344.4	51.84		
Disgust, aversion, indifference	105.0	24.66	1.597	n.s.	294.7	64.37	2.400	P<0.02
Eager and passionate longing	114.9	23.32			332.3	57.40		
Interest and pleasant anticipation	119.1	20.35	1.355	n.s.	344.4	51.84	1.564	n.s.
Eager and passionate longing	114.9	23.32			332.3	57.40		

The t-value was 2.605 which indicated a highly significant difference. The post graduates had a higher mean score than the college graduates. Likewise, on the marital prediction test, the mean difference was 22.6. The t-value was 3.021 which indicated a highly significant difference.

#### Analysis According to Age at Time of Marriage

According to Locke (48) the difference between mean age at marriage and percentage of individuals marrying at different age periods strongly supports the hypothesis that early marriages are risky as compared with later marriages. Locke further stated that for the happily married women who were married two or more times, the average age at the time of the first marriage was significantly younger than that of happily married women married only once.

The t-test was utilized to determine differences between different age groups at the time of marriage on the marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores. The findings are shown in Table XV.

Comparisons between the group 19 years or younger and either those 20 to 24 years or those 25 to 30 years were non-significant for both marital adjustment and marital prediction test scores. However, on the marital prediction test

there was a trend with the "25 to 30 year old" having a higher mean score. The difference between the means of the group "19 years and under" and the group "31 years and over" was significant at the 0.05 level. The "31 years and over" group had a higher mean score than the younger group on the marital adjustment test. However, on the marital prediction test there was no significant difference in the mean scores for the two groups. The difference between the means of the "20 to 24 year old" group and the "25 to 30 year old" group was significant at the 0.01 level on the marital adjustment test but was non-significant on the marital prediction test. The "25 to 30 year old" had the higher mean scores. The difference between means for the "20 to 24 year old" group and the "31 and over" group was highly significant at the 0.01 level on the marital adjustment test but non-significant on the marital prediction test. The "31 and over" group had a higher mean score. The difference between mean scores for the "25 to 30 year old" group and the "31 and over" group was not significant on either the marital adjustment or marital prediction test; however, there was a trend on the marital adjustment test. The scores of the "31 and over" were higher than those of the "25 to 30 year olds."

Analysis According to Length of Keeping  
Company Preceding Marriage

Previous studies have found a high correlation between length of acquaintance before marriage and marital adjustment. Burgess and Cottrell (15) showed a direct relation of length of acquaintance with marital compatibility. Locke (48) stated that there was no significant difference concerning the length of acquaintance between happily married and divorced men. However, for women, the married reported significantly longer premarital acquaintance than did the divorced.

In the present study, a comparison of marital adjustment and marital prediction scores was determined by means of the t-test. Six different categories were used for length of time that participants "kept company" preceding marriage. The t-values on the differences between group means are indicated in Table XV. On the marital adjustment test, the only comparison for which any significant differences was found was for the group reporting three months to six months time of keeping company compared to the group reporting one to two years. For the marital prediction test scores, data from four different categories concerning length of keeping company were found to differ significantly. Mean differences were significantly higher for those reporting

three years and longer as compared to those reporting one to three months; three years or longer as compared to three to six months; three years or longer as compared to six months to one year; and three years or longer as compared to one to two years.

#### Analysis According to Area of Orientation

In the Locke study (48), one of the items for which the percentage of happily married and divorced men and women did not differ significantly was for the item concerning rural or urban environment during childhood or adolescence. The data from the present study are in agreement with that of Locke's study. Analysis of the data concerning the size of the community in which the participants spent their childhood revealed non-significant differences between category means. However, on the marital prediction a significant difference in the means was found for three of the category comparisons. In comparing residence in the open country with that in the city of 10,000 to 50,000 or with the city of 50,000 or more, mean scores were significantly higher for those residing in the open country. Also, residence in towns of 2,500 to 10,000 as compared with residence in a city of 10,000 to 50,000 indicated a higher score for marital prediction for residents of the smaller community.

Analysis According to Attendance or  
Non-attendance at Sunday School

According to Bowman (13) when there is a difference in faith and church affiliation, there may be not only a negative effect on the marriage but a lack of a positive effect. Locke (48) stated that many happily married couples are highly religious as contrasted with the divorced group. Locke listed three factors that appear to be involved: 1) religion is an indication of conventional and conforming behavior. 2) It is significant that the friends of a religious couple are religious. Consequently, the pressure and support of a circle of religious friends with their expectations that families will stay together, help determine the unity of a family. 3) In many of the families in which religion is significant, the members engage in praying together and in reading the Bible together, and these serve as a common activity.

In the present study, a comparison of scores for marital adjustment according to attendance or non-attendance at Sunday school was made. The  $t$ -values on the differences between the group means were not sufficiently high to show any significant differences. However, on the marital prediction test differences between means of several groups were significant as shown in Table XV. In comparing the

group that stopped attending Sunday school between "11 and 18 years of age" and the group "still attending," the mean difference was 18. The t-value was 2.190 which indicated a difference significant at the 0.05 level. In comparing the group that stopped attending Sunday school at "19 and over" to the group "still attending," the mean difference was 18. The t-value was 2.129 indicating a difference significant at the 0.05 level. Likewise, in comparing the group "still attending" with the group that never attended Sunday school, the mean difference was 32. The t-value was 1.979 indicating a difference significant at the 0.05 level.

#### Analysis According to Attendance or Non-attendance at Church

The differences between the group means, when the data were analyzed according to the frequency of church attendance, were not sufficiently high to indicate any significant difference except for one group comparison, between the category of two times per month as compared to more than four times per month ( $P < .05$ ). However, in analyzing the marital prediction scores, significant differences were indicated for several of the groups. In comparing the group that attended church "three times per month" with the group that "never attended" church at the time of marriage, a significant difference was obtained ( $P < .02$ ). The group that

"never attended" church had a significantly lower mean than either the group that attended four times per month or the group that attended more than four times per month. The group attending church four times per month had a significantly higher mean than either the group attending once per month or the group attending less than once per month. A combination of the categories revealed that those attending church two times per month or less compared with those attending three times per month or more had a significantly higher mean score on the marital prediction test ( $P < .001$ ).

#### Analysis According to Number of Friends of Same Sex Before Marriage

According to Locke (48) a sociable woman, as measured by the number of both men and women friends, is a good marital risk. Locke further stated that about one in four divorced women as compared to one in seven married women reported "almost no" and "a few" women friends. Likewise, "almost no" men friends were reported more frequently by divorced than by married women. Locke stated that sociability of a husband before marriage is not as essential to marital adjustment as is sociability of a wife.

In the present study, in comparing the test scores for marital adjustment according to the number of friends of the same sex before marriage there were no differences

sufficiently high to be significant. However, in comparing the test scores for marital prediction according to the number of friends of the same sex before marriage a highly significant difference was determined between the following categories of comparison: "none or few friends" compared with "many friends," and between "several friends" as compared with "many friends." Participants with "many friends" had a much higher score for marital prediction than those in the other categories.

Analysis According to Degree of Conflict  
With Father Before Marriage

According to Locke's study (48), the data indicated that "no conflict" between self and father is associated with marital maladjustment, whereas, "a little conflict" with the father was associated with a high marital adjustment score. In Locke's study, both divorced men and women reported no conflict with the father much more frequently than did the happily married individuals.

In the present study, the t-test was used to determine the differences between the means of the test scores for marital adjustment and for marital prediction according to the degree of conflict with the father before marriage (Table XV). The difference between the marital adjustment scores, when analyzed according to the degree of conflict with the

father, were not sufficiently high to be significant. On the other hand, on the marital prediction test, there was a highly significant difference between the group means with but one exception. The group reporting "no conflict" had a higher mean as compared to those reporting "little conflict." Participants with "no conflict" had the highest mean score and those with the lowest mean score indicated "a good deal or continuous" as to the amount of conflict with the father before marriage.

#### Analysis According to Degree of Attachment to Father

Burgess and Cottrell (15) summarized conclusions on parent-child attachments and conflicts and marital adjustment as follows:

Closeness of attachment and absence of conflict in the association of parents and son show a consistent although small positive relation to marital adjustment.

No such consistent pattern appears in the association between parents and daughter, although "no" attachment to the father and "little" or "no" attachment to the mother appear to work against a high marital adjustment score.

Findings of Locke's study (48) did not agree with the findings of Burgess and Cottrell.

In the present study, a comparison of test scores for marital adjustment according to varying degrees of attachment to the father did not yield sufficiently high values to be significant, therefore agreeing with the findings of Locke (48). However, in the comparison of test scores for the marital prediction, according to varying degrees of attachment for the father, the mean differences were highly significant for all group comparisons: "none or little attachment" compared to "moderate"; "none or little attachment" compared to "good deal or very close"; and "moderate" compared to "good deal or very close".

#### Analysis According to Degree of Conflict With Mother Before Marriage

In the present study, the degree of conflict with the mother was classified under four categories: "none," "very little," "moderate," and "good deal or continuous." The findings are shown in Table XV. In comparing the "none" to the "good deal or continuous" response category there was a significant difference. In comparing the "very little" to the "good deal or continuous" response category there was a highly significant difference. In comparing the "moderate" to the "good deal or continuous" response category there was a significant difference. For each of these three comparisons the mean score was higher for those individuals

reporting the lesser degree of conflict with the mother. The findings of this study were comparable with those of Burgess and Cottrell (15) concerning this item.

The comparison of test scores for marital prediction, according to the degree of conflict with the mother before marriage, indicated a highly significant difference between each category comparison with the exception of "very little" as compared with "moderate." In this case there was a trend. Again it was noted that the group having the higher mean for each category comparison reported the lesser degree of conflict with the mother.

#### Analysis According to Degree of Attachment to the Mother

In the present study, the varying degrees of attachment to the mother were classified under four categories: "none or very little," "moderate," "good deal," and "very close" (Table XV). In comparing test scores for marital adjustment according to the different categories, all mean differences were non-significant except in the comparison of "moderate" with "very close." The t-value determined between these two categories was 1.987 which indicated a difference significant at the 0.05 level.

The comparison of test scores for marital prediction, according to attachment to the mother before marriage,

indicated significant difference between only two group comparisons; "moderate" as compared to "good deal" ( $P < .05$ ), and "moderate" as compared to "very close" ( $P < .01$ ). For each comparison for which differences were significant the group reporting the higher degree of attachment to the mother had the higher mean.

#### Analysis According to Appraisal of Parents' Happiness

In the present study, the happiness of the parents' marriage was appraised by the students according to the following categories: "very happy," "happy," "about averagely happy," and "unhappy or very unhappy." The findings are shown in Table XV. In comparing the test scores for marital adjustment, the "very happy" as compared to the "unhappy or very unhappy" group had a significantly higher mean. Also, in the comparison between the "happy" and the "unhappy or very unhappy" group, the former group had the higher mean. No significant difference was found in comparing the other categories, however there was a trend for the "very happy" group to have a higher mean than the "average happy" group.

In comparing the test scores for marital prediction, there was a highly significant difference between group means for all the category comparisons. In each instance,

the group reporting the higher degree of happiness of their parents' marriage had the higher mean score in the marital prediction test.

### Analysis According to Happiness

#### During Childhood

According to Locke's study (48), significant differences between happily married and divorced parents on happiness of childhood was substantiated. Locke stated that a significantly larger percentage of both happily married men and women than of divorced couples reported their childhood as happy or very happy.

In the present study, the degree of happiness during childhood was classified under four categories: "very happy," "happy," "about averagely happy," and "unhappy or very unhappy." The findings are shown in Table XV. In comparing the test scores for marital adjustment between the different categories, there were not significant differences except for the following: "very happy" as compared to "unhappy or very unhappy" ( $P < .02$ ) and "happy" as compared to "unhappy or very unhappy" ( $P < .01$ ). In each group comparison the group reporting the greater degree of childhood happiness had the higher mean score on the marital adjustment test. In comparing the test scores for marital prediction according to happiness during childhood, a highly significant difference

was found between all group comparisons, with the higher mean score in each instance being for the group reporting the higher degree of childhood happiness.

#### Analysis According to Degree of Punishment in Childhood

In the present study, the degrees of punishment in childhood were classified under four categories: severely, frequently, occasionally, and rarely. The findings are shown in Table XV. Mean scores for marital adjustment differed significantly for the following category comparisons: "severely" and "frequently" ( $P < .01$ ); "severely" and "rarely" ( $P < .05$ ); "frequently" and "occasionally" ( $P < .05$ ); and the combination of "severely" and "frequently" as compared with the combination of "occasionally" and "rarely" ( $P < .02$ ). For each category comparison the group reporting the less severe punishment had the higher mean score on the marital adjustment test.

In comparing the test scores for marital prediction, there was only one comparison that did not indicate a significant difference. In comparing the "occasionally" to the "rarely" response category no significant difference was found. The group in the category, "firm but not harsh" had the highest mean score on the marital prediction test. The lowest mean score was found for the group who reportedly

either had their own way or received irregular training during childhood. The group reporting the lesser degree of punishment during childhood had the higher mean score on the marital prediction test in each analysis.

Analysis According to Type of Training  
in Home During Childhood

According to Locke's study (48) there was a significantly larger percentage of both divorced men and women than happily married couples reporting never having had their own way during childhood. "Usually had own way" was reported by a significantly larger percentage of both happily married men and women than of the divorced men and women.

In the present study, the types of training during childhood were classified under four categories: "exceedingly strict," "firm but not harsh," "usually allowed to have own way" and "had my own way about everything or irregular" training. The findings are shown in Table XV. Group comparisons of test scores for marital adjustment between the different categories were not sufficiently high to indicate any significant differences. Between the "firm but not harsh" and the "usually allowed to have own way" group there was a trend toward a difference ( $P < .10$ ).

In the comparison of the test scores for marital prediction according to the type of home training, there was only

one comparison that did not indicate a significant difference, the category "exceedingly strict," to the category "had my own way about everything or irregular."

### Analysis According to Parents' Attitude Toward Early Curiosity About Birth and Sex

In the present study, answers concerning the attitude of parents toward early curiosity about birth and sex were classified as follows: "frank and encouraging," "answered briefly," "evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished," and "I did not disclose curiosity to them." The findings are shown in Table XV. In analyzing the test score for marital adjustment only one mean difference was sufficiently high to indicate a significant difference. The group reporting a "frank and encouraging" attitude on the part of the parents had a higher mean score than did the group indicating the parents "evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished" in response to questions concerning sex.

In the comparison of the test scores for the marital prediction, three t-values were significant: between "frank and encouraging" and "evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished"; between "answered briefly" and "evaded, lied, rebuffed or punished"; and between "answered briefly" and "I did not disclose my curiosity to them." For both the marital adjustment and marital prediction tests, the more desirable the attitude of the parents concerning curiosity about birth and sex, the higher the mean score for the group.

Analysis According to General Mental Ability  
Compared to That of Mate

In the present study, the participants were requested to give an opinion concerning their mental ability as compared to that of their mate. Responses were classified under three categories: "very superior or somewhat greater," "about equal," and "somewhat or considerably less." The findings are shown in Table XV. Only one comparison of the test scores for marital adjustment was significant. The group reporting "about equal" had a higher mean than did the group reporting "very superior or somewhat greater" mental ability than the mate.

In the comparison of the test scores for marital prediction, the group who reported "about equal" in mental ability had a higher mean than the group reporting "somewhat or considerably less" mental ability than their mates. On both the marital adjustment and marital prediction tests the group reporting their mates had mental ability about equal to their own, had the highest mean score. On the marital adjustment test the group indicating their own mental ability was superior to that of their mates had the lowest mean score. However, on the marital prediction test the group reporting "somewhat or considerably less" mental ability than that of their mates had the lowest mean score.

Analysis According to General Attitude  
Toward Sex Before Marriage

In the Locke study (48) the main hypothesis on the item concerning sex interest in comparison to that of their mate was that equal interest in sex is associated with marital adjustment and unequal interest with marital maladjustment. Data from their questionnaire supported the hypothesis.

In the present study, the general attitudes toward sex before marriage were classified under three categories: "disgust, aversion, or indifference"; "interest and pleasant anticipation"; and "eager and passionate longing." The findings are shown in Table XV. Comparison of the test scores for marital adjustment between the group reporting "disgust, aversion or indifference" and the group reporting "interest and pleasant anticipation" indicated a highly significant difference. Comparison between other categories were non-significant.

In the comparison of the test scores for marital prediction, two comparisons yielded significant differences: between "disgust, aversion, or indifference" and "interest and pleasant anticipation" ( $P < .001$ ); and between the categories "disgust, aversion, or indifference" and "eager and passionate longing" ( $P < .02$ ). On both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests, the group reporting

"interest and pleasant anticipation" had the highest mean, while the group reporting "disgust, aversion or indifference" had the lowest mean.

### Analysis According to Personality Traits

Locke (48) stated the following:

In considering marriage, a person measures possible partners against his conception of the ideal husband or wife. One's conception of an ideal mate includes a number of desired personality traits, which, of course, vary somewhat from person to person. If a possible partner falls too far short of the desired mate, hardly a second thought will be given to him. If he meets the ideal fairly well, the tendency is to emphasize those ways of behavior which are desirable, and to think of the other traits as simply a little less desirable.

Klemer (42) explained the development of personality in the following manner:

Personality develops from physical structure, cultural conditioning, and individual unique experience. Any human being's physical structure affects his personality in several ways. Characteristics such as the ability to talk and smile permit him to develop the individual expressiveness that promotes the differential reactions of other people to him and thus initiates the process of personality development.

In the present study a comparison between responses to questions, concerning personality traits, was determined by means of t-test for marital adjustment and for marital prediction. The results of the findings are shown in Table XVI.

TABLE XVI

## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION

## TEST SCORES ACCORDING TO CERTAIN PERSONALITY TRAITS

Responses According to Personality Traits	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t- value	Proba- bility	Mean	Standard Deviation	t- value	Proba- bility
Do you often feel lonesome, even when you are with other people?								
Yes	104.0	22.22	4.442	P<0.001	306.5	57.67	4.135	P<0.001
No	119.4	20.65			343.5	53.31		
Are you usually even tempered and happy in your out- look on life?								
Yes	118.5	21.12	3.265	P<0.01	344.8	50.75	6.521	P<0.001
No	104.6	22.16			277.3	60.59		
Do you often feel just miserable?								
Yes	102.2	21.95	1.984	P<0.05	252.5	26.20	4.553	P<0.001
No	117.6	21.41			340.5	54.21		

TABLE XVI (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION  
TEST SCORES ACCORDING TO CERTAIN PERSONALITY TRAITS

Responses According to Personality Traits	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
Does some particular useless thought keep coming into your mind to bother you?								
Yes	112.6	17.84	1.144	n.s.	295.3	39.35	4.202	P<0.001
No	111.6	21.85			342.3	55.15		
Do you often experience periods of loneliness?								
Yes	109.1	23.65	2.481	P<0.02	307.7	57.42	3.731	P<0.001
No	118.3	21.01			342.7	53.74		
Are you in general self confident about your abilities?								
Yes	118.3	21.12	2.328	P<0.02	342.1	53.50	3.061	P<0.01
No	110.0	23.04			314.1	61.18		

TABLE XVI (Continued)

## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION

## TEST SCORES ACCORDING TO CERTAIN PERSONALITY TRAITS

Responses According to Personality Traits	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
Are you touchy on various subjects?								
Yes	114.4	22.44	1.822	P<0.10	319.6	58.02	5.027	P<0.001
No	119.0	21.83			351.3	49.79		
Do you frequently feel grouchy?								
Yes	111.1	21.49	2.851	P<0.01	304.5	48.16	6.635	P<0.001
No	119.2	21.18			349.7	53.02		
Do you usually avoid asking advice?								
Yes	110.8	21.78	2.922	P<0.01	321.3	59.07	3.092	P<0.01
No	119.2	21.54			344.1	53.11		
Do you prefer to be alone at times of emotional stress?								
Yes	112.8	22.81	3.073	P<0.01	330.4	56.55	2.137	P<0.05
No	120.5	20.04			344.3	54.16		

TABLE XVI (Continued)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION  
TEST SCORES ACCORDING TO CERTAIN PERSONALITY TRAITS

Responses According to Personality Traits	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t- value	Proba- bility	Mean	Standard Deviation	t- value	Proba- bility
Do your feelings alternate between happiness and sad- ness without ap- parent reason?								
Yes	107.3	17.03	2.433	P<0.02	291.8	54.04	4.578	P<0.001
No	118.0	21.75			342.6	53.59		
Are you often in a state of excite- ment?								
Yes	112.5	23.90	1.843	P<0.10	328.1	50.99	1.580	n.s.
No	118.2	20.81			340.7	56.31		
Are you considered critical of other people?								
Yes	115.0	22.65	1.195	n.s.	314.0	50.82	5.273	P<0.001
No	118.3	21.04			349.4	53.97		

TABLE XVI (Continued)  
 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION  
 TEST SCORES ACCORDING TO CERTAIN PERSONALITY TRAITS

Responses According to Personality Traits	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t- value	Proba- bility	Mean	Standard Deviation	t- value	Proba- bility
Does discipline make you discon- tented?								
Yes	110.6	26.50	2.451	P<0.02	318.7	52.55	2.870	P<0.01
No	113.5	20.08			342.7	55.22		
Do you try care- fully to avoid say- ing anything that may hurt anyone's feelings?								
Yes	118.9	22.72	2.076	P<0.05	344.0	53.68	2.617	P<0.01
No	113.4	18.53			326.1	57.26		

In comparing the "yes" and "No" responses as to whether the participants "often feel lonesome even when with other people," for both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests, those reporting "No" to this item had a significantly higher mean score.

Individuals who reported generally being self confident about their abilities had significantly higher mean scores for both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests. Concerning responses to the item "touchy on various subjects" the mean scores on both the marital adjustment and marital prediction were higher for the group responding "No" than for the group responding "Yes." However, only for the marital prediction test was the mean difference significant.

The group responding "No" to the question "Do you frequently feel grouchy" had a higher mean for both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests. For both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests, the group who reported not avoiding asking for advice had higher mean scores than those responding "Yes" to this item.

In comparing "Yes" and "No" responses as to whether the participants were usually "even tempered and happy in their outlook on life" for both marital adjustment and marital prediction the participants responding "Yes" had a higher

mean score than participants responding "No." Those responding "No" to the item concerning "often feel just miserable," had the higher mean scores for both tests.

In comparing "Yes" and "No" responses concerning "some particular useless thought keeps coming into your mind to bother you," for the marital adjustment test the difference between the means was non-significant. However, for the marital prediction test, the difference between the means was significant at the 0.001 level. The participants responding "No" had a higher mean score than those responding "Yes."

In regard to responses concerning "often experience periods of loneliness," for the marital adjustment test the difference between the means was significant at the 0.02 level. For the marital prediction test the difference between the means was significant at the 0.001 level. The participants responding "No" had a higher mean score than those responding "Yes" to this item.

The group who preferred not "to be alone at times of emotional stress" had a significantly higher mean score on both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests than the group who preferred to be alone. In comparing "Yes" and "No" responses concerning "feelings alternating between happiness and sadness without apparent reason," for both the

marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests the mean was significantly higher for the group responding "No" to this item.

Group means for the responses to the item concerning "often in a state of excitement" were non-significant for both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests. The group reporting "No " to the item "considered critical of other people" had a higher mean score for both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests. However, differences were significant only for the latter test.

The group who reportedly accepted discipline had a significantly higher mean score on both the marital adjustment and marital prediction tests, than the group who found it difficult to accept discipline. Those responding "Yes" to the item, "try carefully to avoid saying anything that may hurt anyone's feeling," had a significantly higher mean on both the marital adjustment and the marital prediction tests than did the group responding "No" to this item.

#### Analysis According to Different Types of Personality

In the present study, the participants were requested to complete Crane's Introvert-Extrovert Test (19). The tests were scored and participants were categorized according to three classifications: introvert, extrovert, and

ambivert (Table XVII). Comparisons of test scores between the three categories were determined by the t-test. The difference between the means of introverts and ambiverts for the marital adjustment test was significant at the .05 level. The participants classified as introverts had a higher mean score than those classified as ambiverts.

TABLE XVII

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS ON MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND MARITAL PREDICTION TEST  
SCORES ACCORDING TO TYPE OF PERSONALITY

Types of Personality	Marital Adjustment				Marital Prediction			
	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Probability
Introvert	123.2	14.75	1.158	n.s.	334.5	56.82	1.412	n.s.
Extrovert	118.8	21.20			349.8	50.19		
Introvert	123.2	15.00	2.119	P<0.05	334.5	56.82	0.078	n.s.
Ambivert	115.4	22.65			335.3	56.49		
Extrovert	118.8	21.00	1.044	n.s.	349.8	50.19	1.807	n.s.
Ambivert	115.4	23.00			335.3	56.49		

## CHAPTER V

### S U M M A R Y , C O N C L U S I O N S , A N D R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

Marital adjustment is a problem of great concern to the American society. The high percentage of divorces that is evident at the present time and the apparent tendency toward even more lax divorce laws make family counselors, social workers, ministers, and family life educators aware of an ever increasing need to assist people with their family problems. Although a broad literature exists on marital adjustment, and many studies are being conducted upon the subject, the field of study needs constant reappraisal of American families; their needs, functions, and interests; and up-to-date knowledge of the problems facing present day marriages is needed.

The present study was an outgrowth of the investigator's interest in marital adjustment and marital prediction of college students both before and following graduation. Efforts to understand the problems that face young people during the early years of marriage inspired the author to investigate the marital adjustment of a selected group of male and female college alumni and their spouses in an

effort to determine the extent to which marital adjustment exists within the group. The specific purposes of this study were:

- 1) To determine attitudes concerning marital adjustment and prediction of adjustment of mature adults by means of data obtained from a battery of instruments;
- 2) To explore selected personal background factors of married couples, to determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment according to education, age at time of marriage, geographic area of orientation, religious activities, use of leisure time, and use of alcohol and tobacco;
- 3) To determine if there is a difference in marital adjustment according to personality type: introvert, extrovert, and ambivert;
- 4) To determine if there is a significant difference in marital adjustment of participants having studied at least one marriage course while in college and students not having studied a marriage course while in college;
- 5) To compare marital adjustment scores of the selected sample of college alumni and their spouses with scores reported by Locke and Wallace.

The study consisted of 300 participants, 147 males and 153 females. This was a random sample of college alumni who had graduated from Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon between 1958 and 1964. The names of the alumni that constituted the random sample were pulled by hand by the person in charge of the alumni files.

A battery composed of four instruments was completed by the 300 participants who furnished the data for the present study. The data were obtained in February, 1970, from a "Survey of Marital Adjustment of College Students" developed by the author: Part I, General Information; Part II, Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test; Part III, Locke Wallace Short Form Marital Prediction Test; and Part IV, Crane's Introvert-Extrovert Test.

The general information part of the battery of instruments obtained personal data concerning the participating respondents. The participants in the study were between the ages of 21 and 67 years, 95 per cent being between 21 and 39 years with 32 per cent of the men and 60 per cent of the women being between the ages of 21 and 29 years. Of the total group of 300, only 16 individuals had been married more than one time.

Fifty three respondents indicated not having any children, while 57 individuals had only one child, 142 individuals had two children, 38 had three children, six had four children and four had five children residing at home. Four couples indicated unrelated individuals residing in the home. One couple had four unrelated individuals residing in the home and one female indicated five unrelated individuals residing in the home.

The participants in the present study were primarily Caucasians, 97.7 per cent. One couple indicated being Negro and four individuals indicated being of some other ethnic group.

There were very few health problems. Over 85 per cent of the males and over 70 per cent of the females indicated having excellent health. Only one individual, a female, indicated poor health.

Of the total group of 300 participants, only 59 indicated never using alcohol. Likewise, 54 individuals indicated an objection to the use of alcohol in their spouses. On the other hand, 64 individuals indicated using tobacco but 174 objected to the use of tobacco by their mates.

The types of hobbies and preferred recreational activities indicated by the participants divulged a high percentage of the women listed home economics as either first or second choice of a hobby, while a high percentage of men indicated a preference for sports as both a hobby and a form of recreation.

Church placed third in the list of social organizations of which the participants were members. In the listing of professional organization, there were almost equal percentages of males and females listing educational and business

organizations. Educational organizations were listed three times as often by the females as were other categories.

According to the data from the present study over 42 per cent of the respondents were in the category of oldest child in the sibling position in the family of orientation. The next most frequent position was that of middle child, approximately 25 per cent of the group.

The majority of the respondents indicated receiving an allowance during childhood, however, approximately 90 per cent checked working for money during childhood. Twenty eight individuals, eight men and 20 women, indicated not working for money during childhood.

More of the women than of the men respondents indicated pouting or sulking occasionally or frequently. A total of 88 individuals, 56 men and 32 women, indicated never pouting or sulking.

According to the responses, 50 per cent of the participants of the present study lived in three bedroom houses, while about equal numbers indicated having either two or four bedroom residences. Almost 50 per cent of the participants indicated having two bathrooms and a large number indicated three and four bathrooms in their present homes.

Less than one third of the participants indicated having taken a marriage course while at Linfield, however there were almost equal numbers of men and women, 40 men and 45 women, having taken a marriage course.

Only 17 individuals, 9 men and 8 women, have consulted a marriage counselor. Only four of the 16 individuals who had been divorced had consulted a marriage counselor.

On the scale for indicating the degree of happiness of the present marriage, all males, except five males checked a number in the range from happy to perfectly happy. All the females except eight checked a number in the same range as did the men.

On the eight items concerning agreement between the husband and wife on the marital adjustment test, over one-half of the total group indicated almost always agreeing as the handling of family finances. Likewise 62 per cent indicated almost always agreeing on matters of recreation. Concerning the demonstration of affection, 58 per cent indicated almost always agreeing. Over 60 per cent almost always agreed on the choice of friends. Slightly over 50 per cent indicated almost always agreeing on sex relations, while almost one-fourth admitted occasional disagreements. On matters of conventionality, over 56 per cent almost always agreed, while almost one-fifth admitted occasionally disagreeing.

Over 60 per cent checked almost always agreeing on their philosophy of life. Slightly less than 50 per cent checked almost always agreeing on matters of in-law relationships. Over one-fourth indicated always agreeing and only 2.7 per cent checked frequently disagreeing on matters of in-law relationships.

On the item concerning settling disagreements that arise between spouses, 240 of the total group indicated that mutual give and take was the manner of agreement used in settling disagreements. According to the responses more wives than husbands had to give in to their mates.

As to the extent of sharing in social activities, over three-fourths of the entire group indicated sharing some of the activities, while slightly over one-tenth shared all of the activities. As to choice of leisure time activities, slightly over half of the entire group preferred staying at home and indicated their spouses preferred to stay at home.

Over 85 per cent of the group never or rarely regretted having married. Only seven individuals expressed frequently regretting having married. Likewise, five individuals, two males and three females, indicated that if they had their lives to live over that they would not marry at all while 273 persons indicated that they would marry the same individual if they had their lives to live over. Over 95 per cent of

the entire group indicated confiding in their mate in most matters or in everything.

On the marital prediction test, several interesting data were obtained. Over two-thirds of the participants had some college at the time of marriage and 67 individuals had post graduate education. Over one-half of the group had "kept company" from six months to two years preceding marriage; over one-fifth had "kept company" over three years. Likewise, the length of acquaintance preceding marriage for 90 per cent of the participants was from six months to since childhood. Parental approval of the marriage was reported by almost 90 per cent of the participants with only 2.0 per cent indicating that both parents disapproved of their marriage.

Over one-half of the participants were reared in communities of less than 10,000 population and less than one-fourth came from a city of over 50,000 population. There were 12 individuals, 11 males and one female, who had never attended Sunday School, while 53 individuals were still attending. The responses concerning religious activity at the time of marriage indicated that 16.3 per cent of the males and 18.5 per cent of the females never attended church; however, almost one-half of the females and 20 per cent of the males attended church four times or more per month. Over

85 per cent of the females and over 80 per cent of the males indicated having several or many friends of the same sex before marriage.

Almost 80 per cent of the group indicated having very little or no conflict with their fathers preceding marriage. Likewise approximately the same number indicated moderate to very close attachment to their fathers. Also, the same number indicated moderate to no conflict with the mothers preceding marriage. Over 90 per cent indicated moderate to very close attachment to their mothers.

Three-fourths of the participants expressed the opinion that their parents' marriage was about average to very happy. Also, over 90 per cent evaluated their own happiness as about average to very happy during childhood.

Over 80 per cent of the participants indicated that the degree of punishment they received during childhood varied from occasionally to never. The type of training for over 80 per cent was described as "firm but not harsh" or "usually allowed to have my own way." Slightly over 50 per cent indicated that their parents were frank and encouraging or answered briefly questions concerning sex and birth.

Four males had the opinion that their mental ability was very superior to that of their mates; 36 males and six

females indicated somewhat greater mental ability than that of their mates. Almost two-thirds of the group indicated mental ability about equal to that of their mates.

Over 75 per cent of the females and 66 per cent of the males indicated interest in and pleasant anticipation toward sex before marriage. Only 20 individuals indicated indifference or disgust and aversion toward sex before marriage.

Over 85 per cent of the participants checked not feeling lonesome when with other people. Approximately 90 per cent indicated being even tempered and happy. Over 85 per cent stated not often feeling miserable. Nine out of 10 individuals indicated not being annoyed by some particularly useless thought. About 20 per cent of the females and 5.0 per cent of the males experienced periods of loneliness. Over 90 per cent of the males and 80 per cent of the females were self confident about their ability. Approximately 40 per cent of the group was touchy about various subjects, while about 25 per cent frequently felt grouchy. One hundred of the males and 123 of the females indicated that they did not avoid asking advice. Less than one-half of the group preferred to be alone at times of emotional stress. Approximately 15 per cent of the group indicated alternating feelings between happiness and sadness without apparent reason. About 20 per cent of the group indicated often being in a

state of excitement. Less than one-third of the group, about equal numbers of men and women, expressed the opinion that they were considered critical of others. About one-fourth indicated discipline produced discontentment. Approximately 60 per cent of the males and over 75 per cent of the females indicated being respectful of the feelings of others.

Analysis of the introvert-extrovert test indicated more females than males were introverts; more males were extroverts. Almost two-thirds of the males and over two-thirds of the females were ambiverts.

The recognized method employed in this study to obtain the data is not as reliable as it might have been had the battery of instruments been administered in such a way that the alumni and their spouses could not have compared answers. The instruments that were returned singly indicated lower scores than those returned in pairs.

The study was confined to alumni of one college in the Northwest region of the United States, thus limiting the conclusions to one college group. The conclusions apply specifically to the 300 participants, college alumni and their spouses, who responded in this study but may have consideration for other college alumni and their spouses.

Data analysis revealed the following:

- 1) Couples without children had better marital adjustment scores than those with children.
- 2) Non-users of alcohol had significantly higher marital adjustment scores than those who used alcohol in any degree.
- 3) The use of tobacco did not affect the marital adjustment scores; however, those who objected to the use of tobacco by their mates had higher mean scores.
- 4) There was a highly significant difference in the marital adjustment between persons having consulted a marriage counselor as compared to those never consulting one. The latter group had the higher mean score.
- 5) Use of leisure time showed a highly significant relationship. Participants who preferred to stay at home had a better marital adjustment than those who preferred to be on the go.
- 6) The level of education at the time of marriage was highly significant. The groups reporting higher levels of education had higher mean scores for marital adjustment.
- 7) The higher the age at the time of marriage the higher the marital adjustment score.
- 8) The length of time that the participants kept company preceding marriage did not affect their marital adjustment, with but one exception. Those reporting a three to six months period of courtship had significantly higher scores than those who kept company one to two years preceding marriage.
- 9) Marital adjustment was not affected by the size of the community of orientation.
- 10) Attendance of Sunday school and church had no significant effect upon marital adjustment with but one exception. Those who attended church more than four times per month had better marital adjustment than those attending twice per month.

- 11) Marital adjustment was not affected by the number of friends of the same sex before marriage.
- 12) Conflict with father during childhood or the attachment to the father had no significant relationship to marital adjustment.
- 13) Marital adjustment test scores were significantly higher when there was none, very little, or a moderate amount of conflict with mother before marriage. Also, the group reporting a very close attachment to the mother had significantly higher marital adjustment scores than the group reporting only a moderate attachment to their mothers.
- 14) The group of individuals appraising the marriage of their parents as happy or very happy had higher marital adjustment scores.
- 15) Marital adjustment was affected by happiness during childhood. The group of individuals reporting a happy or very happy childhood had better marital adjustment scores.
- 16) The degree of punishment during childhood affected the marital adjustment. Severely and frequently punished individuals had much lower marital adjustment scores than the individuals punished occasionally or rarely.
- 17) The type of training in the home did not affect the marital adjustment scores of the participants.
- 18) Individuals whose parents answered their questions about sex and birth in a frank and encouraging manner had significantly higher marital adjustment scores.
- 19) Couples who credited their mates with a mental ability about equal had a significantly higher marital adjustment than those reporting a difference in mental ability.
- 20) Participants with an interest in and pleasant anticipation toward sex before marriage had significantly higher marital adjustment scores than those who indicated disgust, aversion, or indifference toward sex before marriage.

- 21) Differences in marital adjustment scores were significant for 13 of the 15 items concerning personality traits. In each case the group having the more desirable response to these personality items had the higher mean score. Items for which a significant difference was found were: feeling lonesome, even tempered and happy outlook on life, often feeling miserable, experience periods of loneliness, self confidence about ability, frequent feeling of grouchiness, avoids asking advice, prefers to be alone at times of emotional stress, alternating between happiness and sadness without apparent reason, discontentment caused by discipline, and trying to avoid saying anything that might hurt anyone's feelings.
- 22) Individuals with an introvert type of personality had higher marital adjustment scores than those who were ambiverts.
- 23) The coefficient of correlation between marital adjustment and marital prediction was 0.296 which is much lower than reported by Locke and Wallace, however this correlation coefficient is highly significant. The mean score for marital adjustment for the entire group was 117 or a much lower score than the mean derived by Locke and Wallace for their happily married group but much higher than the score derived for the maladjusted group.

The conclusions from the study served as a basis for the following recommendations:

- 1) Additional studies conducted in other sections of the country and with alumni of different types of colleges are needed to generalize the findings and call attention to the changing trends in attitudes toward marriage of college educated people.
- 2) Continuous research concerning marital adjustment and prediction of marital adjustment is needed to assist couples with their problem of selecting the best mate prior to marriage, and adjusting to the marital problems following marriage.

3) Improved methods of obtaining data relating to marital adjustment and marital prediction.

4) Follow-up studies should be made to test the degree of marital adjustment during different periods of the life cycle and to test the degree to which predictions of marital adjustment are verified.

5) Studies should be made of the differences in patterns of marital adjustment among different ethnic groups, religious faiths, and different sections of the country.

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A P P E N D I X E S

PART

Sex

of

Children

Girls

Boys

Race

Health

Health

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A P P E N D I X   A

SURVEY OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT OF  
COLLEGE STUDENTS

SURVEY OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT  
OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Number  
of times \_\_\_\_\_

Children at home:

Girls \_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Boys \_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Race: Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_ Negro \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Health: Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Health problems: Diabetic \_\_\_\_\_ Epileptic \_\_\_\_\_ Handicap \_\_\_\_\_

Do you use alcohol? \_\_\_\_\_ Daily \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally \_\_\_\_\_

Do you use tobacco? \_\_\_\_\_ How much daily? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you object to the use of alcohol in your mate? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you object to the use of tobacco in your mate? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your hobbies? List two favorites \_\_\_\_\_

What are your preferred recreations? List two \_\_\_\_\_

To what organizations do you belong?

Social \_\_\_\_\_

Professional \_\_\_\_\_

In childhood were you an only child? \_\_\_\_\_ Oldest \_\_\_\_\_

In between \_\_\_\_\_ Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

In childhood did you receive an allowance? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you work for your money? \_\_\_\_\_



When disagreements arise, they usually result in:

Husband giving in \_\_\_\_\_  
Wife giving in \_\_\_\_\_

Agreement by mutual  
give and take \_\_\_\_\_

Do you and your mate engage in outside interests together?

All of them \_\_\_\_\_  
Some of them \_\_\_\_\_

Very few of them \_\_\_\_\_  
None of them \_\_\_\_\_

In leisure time do you generally prefer to

Be "on the go" \_\_\_\_\_

Stay at home \_\_\_\_\_

Does your mate generally prefer to

Be "on the go" \_\_\_\_\_

Stay at home \_\_\_\_\_

Do you ever wish you had not married?

Frequently \_\_\_\_\_  
Occasionally \_\_\_\_\_

Rarely \_\_\_\_\_  
Never \_\_\_\_\_

If you had your life to live over, do you think you would:

Marry the same person \_\_\_\_\_

Marry a different person \_\_\_\_\_

Not marry at all \_\_\_\_\_

Do you confide in your mate:

Almost never \_\_\_\_\_  
Rarely \_\_\_\_\_

In most things \_\_\_\_\_  
In everything \_\_\_\_\_

### PART III: MARITAL PREDICTION TEST

In the following questions, husbands circle H and wives circle W.

H

W

- Circle the number which represents the highest grade of schooling which you had completed at the time of your marriage:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
Grade school

1 2 3 4  
High  
school

1 2 3 4  
College

1 2 3 4  
Post-  
graduate

2. Check the number which represents your age at the time of marriage:

19 and under \_\_\_\_\_  
20-24 years \_\_\_\_\_

25-30 years \_\_\_\_\_  
31 and over \_\_\_\_\_

3. How long did you "keep company" with your mate before marriage?

1 to 3 months \_\_\_\_\_  
3 to 6 months \_\_\_\_\_  
6 months to 1 year \_\_\_\_\_

1 to 2 years \_\_\_\_\_  
2 to 3 years \_\_\_\_\_  
3 years or longer \_\_\_\_\_

4. How long had you known your mate at the time of your marriage?

1 to 3 months \_\_\_\_\_  
3 to 6 months \_\_\_\_\_  
6 months to 1 year \_\_\_\_\_  
1 to 2 years \_\_\_\_\_

2 to 3 years \_\_\_\_\_  
3 to 5 years \_\_\_\_\_  
5 years or longer \_\_\_\_\_  
Since childhood \_\_\_\_\_

5. My father and mother

Both approved my marriage \_\_\_\_\_  
Both disapproved my marriage \_\_\_\_\_  
Father disapproved \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

6. My childhood and adolescence, for the most part, were spent in:

Open country \_\_\_\_\_  
A town of 2,500  
population or under \_\_\_\_\_

A city of  
2,500 to 10,000 \_\_\_\_\_  
10,000 to 50,000 \_\_\_\_\_  
50,000 and over \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did you ever attend Sunday school or other religious school for children and young people? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If answer is "Yes," at what age did you stop attending such a school?

Before 10 years old \_\_\_\_\_  
11 to 18 years \_\_\_\_\_

19 years and over \_\_\_\_\_  
Still attending \_\_\_\_\_

8. Religious activity at time of marriage:

Never attended church \_\_\_\_\_  
Attended less than  
once per month \_\_\_\_\_  
Attended once per  
month \_\_\_\_\_  
Attended twice  
per month \_\_\_\_\_

Attended three  
times per month \_\_\_\_\_  
Attended four  
times per month \_\_\_\_\_  
Attended more than  
four times per  
month \_\_\_\_\_

9. Indicate the number of your friends of the same sex before marriage:

Almost none \_\_\_\_\_  
A few \_\_\_\_\_

Several \_\_\_\_\_  
Many \_\_\_\_\_

10. Before your marriage how much conflict was there between you and your father?

None \_\_\_\_\_  
Very little \_\_\_\_\_  
Moderate \_\_\_\_\_

A good deal \_\_\_\_\_  
Almost continuous \_\_\_\_\_

11. Before your marriage how much attachment was there between you and your father?

None \_\_\_\_\_  
Very little \_\_\_\_\_  
Moderate \_\_\_\_\_

A good deal \_\_\_\_\_  
Very close \_\_\_\_\_

12. Before your marriage how much conflict was there between you and your mother?

None \_\_\_\_\_  
Very little \_\_\_\_\_  
Moderate \_\_\_\_\_

A good deal \_\_\_\_\_  
Almost continuous \_\_\_\_\_

13. Before your marriage how much attachment was there between you and your mother?

None \_\_\_\_\_  
Very little \_\_\_\_\_  
Moderate \_\_\_\_\_

A good deal \_\_\_\_\_  
Very close \_\_\_\_\_

14. Give your appraisal of the happiness of your parents' marriage:

Very happy \_\_\_\_\_  
Happy \_\_\_\_\_  
About averagely happy \_\_\_\_\_

Unhappy \_\_\_\_\_  
Very unhappy \_\_\_\_\_

15. My childhood on the whole was:

Very happy \_\_\_\_\_  
Happy \_\_\_\_\_  
About averagely happy \_\_\_\_\_

Unhappy \_\_\_\_\_  
Very unhappy \_\_\_\_\_

16. In my childhood I was:

Punished severely for every little thing\_\_\_\_\_

Punished frequently\_\_\_\_\_

Occasionally punished\_\_\_\_\_

Rarely punished\_\_\_\_\_

Never punished\_\_\_\_\_

17. In my childhood the type of training in my home was:

Exceedingly strict\_\_\_\_\_

Firm but not harsh\_\_\_\_\_

Usually allowed to have my own way\_\_\_\_\_

Had my own way about everything\_\_\_\_\_

Irregular (sometimes strict, sometimes lax)\_\_\_\_\_

18. What was your parents' attitude toward your early curiosities about birth and sex?

Frank and encouraging\_\_\_\_\_

Answered briefly\_\_\_\_\_

Evaded or lied to me\_\_\_\_\_

Rebuffed or punished me\_\_\_\_\_

I did not disclose my curiosity to them\_\_\_\_\_

19. My general mental ability, compared to my mate's is"

Very superior to  
his (hers)\_\_\_\_\_

Somewhat greater\_\_\_\_\_

About equal\_\_\_\_\_

Somewhat less\_\_\_\_\_

Considerably less\_\_\_\_\_

20. Before marriage what was your general attitude toward sex?

One of disgust and aversion\_\_\_\_\_

Indifference\_\_\_\_\_

Interest and pleasant anticipation\_\_\_\_\_

Eager and passionate longing\_\_\_\_\_

21. Do you often feel lonesome, even when you are with other people? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

22. Are you usually even-tempered and happy in your outlook on life? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

23. Do you often feel just miserable? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

24. Does some particular useless thought keep coming into your mind to bother you? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

25. Do you often experience periods of loneliness?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
26. Are you in general self-confident about your abilities?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
27. Are you touchy on various subjects? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
28. Do you frequently feel grouchy? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
29. Do you usually avoid asking advice? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
30. Do you prefer to be alone at times of emotional stress?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
31. Do your feelings alternate between happiness and sadness  
without apparent reason? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
32. Are you often in a state of excitement? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
33. Are you considered critical of other people? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
34. Does discipline make you discontented? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
35. Do you always try carefully to avoid saying anything  
that may hurt anyone's feelings? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

#### PART IV: INTROVERT-EXTROVERT TEST

Place a check mark in the space at the left of the description applying to you. If you cannot decide, leave it blank and go on to the next set below.

- | A     | B   |
|-------|---|
| _____ | Prefer books; or                              |
| _____ | Prefer social affairs                         |
| _____ | Prefer to struggle alone on a problem; or     |
| _____ | Prefer to ask help on a problem               |
| _____ | Slowly make friends with the opposite sex; or |
| _____ | Easily make friends with the opposite sex     |
| _____ | Carefully hang up your clothes at night; or   |
| _____ | Throw your clothes over a chair               |

A B

Feel embarrassed in front of a crowd; or  
Feel at ease before a crowd

Dislike sales work; or  
Like sales work

Worry a great deal; or  
Seldom have a worry

Are your feelings hurt easily; or  
Not easily offended by what is said about you

Prefer being a bookkeeper; or  
Prefer being a sales clerk

Find it difficult to start a conversation with a  
stranger; or  
Find it easy to start a conversation with a  
stranger

Slowly adopt new slang; or  
Quickly adopt new slang

Blush easily; or  
Blush rarely

Squeeze the tooth paste tube from the end; or  
Squeeze it from the middle

Find yourself among the last 50 per cent who  
adopt the new fashions; or  
Find yourself among the first 50 per cent who  
adopt new fashions

Easily remember all your expenses for the day or  
week; or  
Forget many of the expenses of the day or week

Forget almost all of the funny stories you hear;  
or  
Remember most of the funny stories you hear

Save grocers' bags; or  
Discard them

Dread asking for a loan; or  
Feel little hesitation in asking for a loan

A      B

—      —      Prefer to deliver a written report; or  
—      —      Prefer to deliver an oral report

—      —      Find yourself a "standpatter" in religion and  
—      —      politics; or

—      —      Find yourself broad-minded in religion and  
—      —      politics

Dear

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## A P P E N D I X B

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403 Texas Street  
Denton, Texas  
January 10, 1970

Dear Alumni:

As you may have heard, I am taking a sabbatical leave this year from Linfield to endeavor to complete that long talked about Ph. D. I am attending Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas, and enjoying the role of full time student.

I have been doing some research for a dissertation problem and quite naturally I turn to those of you, whom I know, to request that you spare a few minutes of your time to complete a questionnaire to supply me with the data I need for the study. I trust this will not be too great an inconvenience to you. Those of you, who have completed your advanced degrees, will understand how difficult it is to get a good response to such a questionnaire.

I am enclosing a questionnaire for both husband and wife. If you are divorced I would also appreciate your completing the questionnaire. I have tried to select short tests that will not require too much time and I trust that you will complete them as quickly as possible and return in the enclosed envelope. You will note that I have not asked for your name so there will be no identification that might cause you any embarrassment by the answers given.

I hope that those of you who are members of the American Home Economics Association may find this dissertation listed in the March, 1971 issue of the Journal of Home Economics under the Family Relations division.

Thanks for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Margaret E. Fisher