SELF EVALUATION OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENTS OF 1100 COLLEGE STUDENTS AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY 1958 - 1959

by

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continued interest, guidance and encouragement can never adequately be acknowledged.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This is a study of a group of married college students at Michigan State University in 1958-1959. It was an attempt to investigate the marital adjustments which these couples encountered while being a part of the growing "phenomena of college marriages."[1] This phenomenon is of fairly recent origin. Student marriages were rare during the first quarter of this century.[2]

During the First World War the President of the University of Washington gave a reception for the first married couple on campus, "not to celebrate the event but to avoid misunderstanding which might arise from such an unusual relationship between two university students."[3]

This, however, had changed by 1956, when one out of every four college students was married.[4]

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 and Public Law 550, commonly known as the G.I. Bill, enabled many young men upon returning to civilian life to become husbands and students simultaneously. This contributed greatly to the phenomenon of the married college student.

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[1] Svend Riemer, "Marriage on the Campus," American Sociological Review, Vol. VII (December, 1942), pp. 802-815.

[2] Ibid., p. 802.

[3] Ibid., pp. 802-803.

[4] Paul C. Glick and Hugh Carter, "Marriage Patterns and Educational Level," American Sociological Review, Vol. XXIII (June, 1958), p. 286.

Since that time there have been an increasing number of college marriages and married college students who were not veterans.[5]

According to many authorities college marriages, whether one or both spouses are undergraduate or graduate students, are presented with unique problems. If either one or both of the spouses are employed the inter-relationships may become more confusing. In addition to these factors peculiar to a college marriage, the couples must also face the adjustments which are inevitable in any marriage.[6]

To make these marriages a success the student will not only have to face these adjustments but "...solve them with all the intelligence, insight, stamina, and fortitude that he can muster."[7] The student should, of course, be allowed to make his own decisions but there should be available for his analysis the thinking of the preceding generation.[8] The need for information pertaining to the adjustments in a marriage and more specifically the adjustments of college marriages have only been generally recognized recently.

In 1956 Judson T. Landis surveyed 1600 junior colleges, colleges and universities in an attempt to determine the extent of marriage

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[5]Alice Thorpe, "How Married College Students Manage," Marriage and Family Living, Vol. XIII (August, 1951), pp. 104-105.

[6]Henry A. Bowman, Marriage for Moderns (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1954), pp. 156-157.

[7]Ibid., p. 142.

[8]T. Alexander Magoun, Love and Marriage (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1956), p. xi.

education on the college level.[9] Six-hundred and thirty institutions reported having courses in marriage and family living. Interestingly enough, nearly fifty percent of these courses were initiated within the last ten years. There were 1027 courses offered. These consisted primarily of three types: (1) Functional courses which pertained to the applied areas in preparation for marriage, (2) institutional courses described as offering theoretical concepts of marriage and the family as a societal element, and (3) the balance which included graduate courses, marriage counseling courses, and education courses for marriage educators. These courses involved 1082 instructors and 76,805 students, comprising 6.4 percent of the total student body. There was a one hundred percent increase in student enrollment in marriage and family living courses within the ten year span of 1947-1956.[10]

Two-thirds of the student body reported by Landis[11] were enrolled in "functional courses." Approximately half, 47 percent, of the functional courses were predominantly for freshmen and sophomores. One purpose of functional marriage courses was to prepare the student for

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[9]At least four studies of the development of education for marriage have been made during the past twenty years. The most recent and the one referred to here is a study by Judson T. Landis, "The Teaching of Marriage and Family Courses in Colleges," Marriage and Family Living, Vol. XXI, No. 1 (Feb., 1959), p. 37. The others are Cecil E. Hayworth, "Education for Marriage Among American Colleges," Association of American Colleges, Bulletin 21 (November 1953), pp. 478-481; Henry A. Bowman, "Marriage Education in the Colleges," Journal of Social Hygiene, Vol. XXXV (December 1949), pp. 407-417; A. O. Hollerand and William Olsen, "Courses in Preparation for Marriage in 113 Colleges and Universities," Alpha Kappa Delta, Vol. XXVI (Winter 1956), pp. 37-40; and "Education for Marriage and Family Relations in Southern Colleges," Report of the Members of the Committee on the Teaching of Sociology of the Southern Sociological Society, Social Forces, Vol. XXXII (October 1953), pp. 61-65.

[10]Ibid., pp. 36-37.

[11]Ibid.

mate selection and the various and sundry adjustments in marriage. Despite this growing interest in the subject of college marriage there has been relatively little objective research in the field.

Definitions of Terms

The term "adjustment" in this study is used to refer to the working arrangement which exists in a marriage. This arrangement could be one in which a mutually satisfactory operational relationship exists, but one which may not necessarily meet the personal needs of the spouses involved.

The term "happiness" refers to a mutually satisfactory marital adjustment.

The term "areas of adjustment" refers to predetermined segments of interpersonal marital relationship where adjustment might take place. These areas are: Child training, in-law relationships, mutual friends, personal freedom in use of time, personal privacy, religious activities, social activities, spending family income, and sexual activities.

The term "rate" refers to that numerical figure given by the respondent as an evaluation of his or her marital situation.

The term "rank" refers to that figure, based on the rating, calculated by the writer to determine the position attributed to an adjustment area in respect to the other eight areas.

The term "full time" refers to the enrollment status of the student who enrolled in twelve or more credit hours of schooling.

The term "part time" refers to the enrollment status of the student who is enrolled in twelve credit hours or less of academic schooling.

CHAPTER II

THE PROBLEM AND CURRENT OPINION

The Problem Area

The shortage of current objective research in the area of college marriages was illustrated in 1942 when a systematic research of the available information revealed that material fulfilling the need was entirely lacking. The one type of information available were magazine articles which carried strong opinions of the authors which were based on experience rather than research.[1] During the war most of the marriage and family research was focused on the trials and tribulations of war marriages. Even though at least a dozen family research critiques have appeared in the post-war period and hundreds of articles written, the situation remains basically the same.[2]

The largest single contributions to the area of marriage research has been the marital adjustment prediction schedules and the marital happiness rating scales developed and re-defined by such sociologists as Terman, Burgess and Cottrell, Locke, Burgess and Wallin, and Landis and Landis. These studies encompassing numerous facets of marital adjustment, plus a number of studies focused on special areas, such as sexual

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[1]Riemer, op. cit., pp. 807-815.

[2]Claude C. Bowman, "Research in Family Dynamics: A Criticism and a Proposal," Social Forces, Vol. XXXIII (March, 1956), pp. 201-207.

adjustment, represent a solid and continuing research effort concerning the subject of marital adjustment.[3]

The need for research evaluating and/or reporting the current adjustments necessary for marriages consummated before or while one or both members of the marriage are attending college still exists.[4]

The Problem

During the academic year of 1957-1958 while the writer was serving as a graduate assistant to Dr. Myrtle R. Reul who was the Coordinator of Marriage Courses in the School of Social Work at Michigan State University, the need for more information pertaining to the marital adjustments of college students was noted. In joint discussions of the marriage courses this concern was also voiced by Dr. Reul. This need was brought to the attention of the instructor and the writer by questions asked by the students enrolled in marriage courses. Questions raised by the students were of a personal nature which could not be adequately answered by the information available.

During these discussions Dr. Reul also pointed out the need for more detailed personal information concerning the married student population as a more realistic base on which to design the courses of marriage to meet the students' need.

It was through the discussion of this and other questions that a common interest was recognized. While discussing the possible solutions

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[3]William M. Kephart, "Some Knowns and Unknowns in Family Research: A Sociological Critique," Marriage and Family Living, Vol. XIX (February, 1957), pp. 7-15.

[4]Interview with Dr. Myrtle R. Reul, April 7, 1958.

to these problems the married student body was recognized as a potential source of information.

Purpose and Objectives

As a direct result of this noted lack of current information a study of "Married Students at Michigan State University"[5] was undertaken by Dr. Myrtle R. Reul.

The essential purpose of Dr. Reul's study was:

> . . . to examine a segment of the married student population attending Michigan State University in order to assess the degree to which these married students have adjusted in their roles as husband and wife. The criteria for measurement used to assess the degree of adjustment is indicated through their ability to handle finances and their assignment of various family responsibilities. . . .[6]
>
> Another purpose of the study was to learn something of the circumstances that govern college marriages such as ages of the individuals, how long they knew each other prior to the marriage, and whether their parents approved of the marriage.[7]

This writer's project was designed to function as an addition to the larger study with the purpose of obtaining an evaluation of the degree and type of marital adjustment reported by 1100 members (550 husbands and wives) in eight specific areas of the marital relationship.

Considering the lack of current information the prime objective for compiling this material was to supply the educators with current information which they may present to the students in answer to questions

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[5]Title of Dr. Myrtle R Reul's study of approximately 825 married students at Michigan State University. (Unpublished)

[6]Statement of Purpose for Married Students at Michigan State University, Dr. Myrtle R. Reul. (Unpublished)

[7]Ibid.

pertaining to college marriages. It is hoped that some of the implications found in latter portions of this study will in some small way help the prospective student bride and groom and the educational system to further evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of a college marriage.

Scope and Setting

This study was conducted at a Mid-Western University which has grown from a college of seventy male students in 1857 to a co-educational university with a total enrollment of over 18,000 in September of 1958.[8] It was determined with the aid of the Registrar's Office that this student population consisted of approximately 4,500 married students enrolled as graduates or undergraduates as of spring term, April to June, 1958, when this study was formulated. When the actual data were collected in November and December, 1958, and January, 1959, this married population had increased to 6,030 married students. This figure is approximately thirty-four percent of the total student population.

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[8]Michigan State University Registrar's Office, September 1958.

CHAPTER III

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Pilot Study

In order to determine the feasibility of doing research within this population a tentative questionnaire of fifty-five questions was constructed jointly by Dr. Reul and this writer. During the spring term of 1958 this writer conducted a pilot study. The pilot study consisted of personal interviews with fourteen married couples, who were both graduate and undergraduate students, with and without children. Their length of marriage varied from three months to five years. These couples represented families with as many as three children. They resided in college and private housing with neither, one, or both of the spouses gainfully employed.

The selection of these couples was on the basis of acquaintanceship with the investigator.

Based on the pilot study, it was decided to group the questions into two categories: (1) Factual data; and (2) evaluative data. It was concluded that questions designed to assess adjustment based on factual material such as family background, age at marriage, cost of marriage, parental consent, distribution of household tasks would be Dr. Reul's area of interest while the assessment of the married students' adjustment in specific areas of marriage relationship would be the writer's area of investigation.

Questionnaire

The final questionnaire included new questions, and modifications of the questions used in the pilot study. It was hoped that these questions were so designed that the questions eliciting factual responses would substantiate, support, and further define the conclusions drawn from the evaluative questions. It was also hoped that the converse would be true. The final questionnaire included a total of forty-nine questions, forty-two of which pertained to factual data while seven were subjective in nature. This project is concerned primarily with the subjective responses using the factual questions only for background purposes to identify the group being studied.

Questions of a factual nature and subjective nature were printed on separate pages.

The subjective questions were arranged on the questionnaire so that the two questions which were of similar nature were alternated. The first question asked the respondent to rate the nine areas according to the degree of importance in a marriage. The second question asked the respondent to rate the same nine adjustment areas according to the degree of adjustment required in his marriage. These two questions were separated by a third question asking them to signify the degree of satisfaction achieved. This was an attempt to minimize the possibility of the respondent repeating his or her response to an earlier question in an attempt to give a favorable response.

Provisions were made to enable the husband and wife to complete and return the evaluative questionnaire separately.

The respondents were asked to rate from one to nine, nine possible areas of adjustment. Seven of the nine areas of adjustment--child training,

in-law relationships, mutual friends, religious activity, sexual activity, social activity, and spending family income--were chosen because of their usefulness in the Landis and Landis study of 409 couples.[1] The remaining two areas--personal freedom in use of time and personal privacy--were added since it was the belief of Dr. Reul and the writer that these areas may have particular significance in a college or student marriage due to the time delegated to studies.

Four of the seven questions which elicited subjective responses were concerned with the respondents' evaluation and rating from one to nine the nine areas of marital adjustment according to four different criteria:[2]

> (a) . . . according to which you feel are the most important adjustments in a marriage.
>
> (b) . . . the areas in your marriage that required the greatest degree of adjustment on your part.
>
> (c) . . . the degree of adjustment you have experienced in these areas.
>
> (d) . . . the number of months or years of your marriage required before some degree of adjustment was achieved.

Selection of the Sample

In view of the large number, 6030 married students, it was determined that an original selection of one-third would render a workable sample. This was assuming that the useable returns would reach the proportions of eighteen percent. As will be noted later, this was a low estimate. With the aid of the Registrar's Office an alphabetized list

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[1]Judson T. Landis and Mary G. Landis, Building a Successful Marriage (New York: Prentice Hall Inc., 1948), p. 245.

[2]These criteria are given in full in Appendix B and C.

of the married students was selected from the total student body. The actual selection of every third married student was done by International Business Machines. These names and addresses were printed on gum labels which served to address the envelopes. A second listing was made in the same manner from the balance of the married population to be used in the event of administrative difficulties such as improper address, misidentification of the marital status, and students no longer enrolled in school. Notification of this came about by the return of the questionnaire. It was conceivable that there would be some duplicate listing of married couples due to the similarity of names and both husband and wife being enrolled as students. This was controlled by visual verification. Other complications and other administrative difficulties were corrected so as to maintain the original total sample. This was done by substituting other names from the second listing which was constructed for such an occasion.

Response to the Questionnaires

In contrast to the anticipated eighteen percent return the return of 41.6 percent was unexpected and most welcomed. To recapitulate, 2010 questionnaires were mailed. Eight hundred and thirty-six were returned. Five hundred and fifty questionnaires were returned complete by both the husbands and wives including both the factual and evaluative questionnaires. The 550 complete responses represented 27.4 percent of the total sample.

Tabulation and Calculation

Responses of the 550 husbands and 550 wives were calculated separately. No attempt was made because of time limitations to compare the responses of the individual marital partners. This has been done by Landis[3] and Burgess[4] in their respective studies. A comparison of this sort would be both interesting and possible with the data.

Ranking of the Eight Adjustment Areas[5]

Construction of a ranking scale was based on the respondent's rating. The respondent rated each adjustment area according to the criteria indicated for each question. Questions 41 and 43 used a nine element rating while question 44 used a five element scale.[6] In order to determine the ranking order for each question the following procedure was used:

(1) In each of the nine areas of adjustment the sum of the number of responses in each rating was calculated.

(2) The sum for each rating was multiplied by the numerical rating of 1 through 9 to give a weighted rating.

(3) The sum of the weighted ratings for each adjustment area was obtained.

(4) These totals were arranged in an array from highest to lowest.

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[3]Judson T. Landis, "Length of Time Required to Achieve Adjustment in Marriage," American Sociological Review, Vol. XI (December 1946), pp. 666-676.

[4]Ernest W. Burgess and Leonard S. Cottrell, Predicting Success or Failure in a Marriage (New York: Prentice Hall Inc., 1939).

[5]The area of child training is not included in the rankings since less than half of the couples do not have children.

[6]The ratings scales are shown in Appendix B and C.

(5) A rank of 1 through 8, 1 being the highest and 8 being the lowest, was assigned each marital adjustment area.

A joint ranking scale including both the husbands and wives is used when comparing the responses of two questions. This ranking scale was prepared by the same procedure as mentioned above with the addition of one step. This step may be called (3a) and is as follows:

(3a) The sums of the weighted ratings for the husbands and wives were combined.

Following the insertion of this step the procedure was identical. This method was used on important areas of adjustment, question 41, degree of adjustment required, question 43, and length of time required for some degree of adjustment, question 44.[7]

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[7] Ibid.

CHAPTER IV

NATURE OF THE GROUP

In this chapter an effort is made to record the various characteristics of the 550 couples of whom either one or both of the marital partners were students at Michigan State University during the academic year of 1958. The results are compared with available reports from the same university, of other colleges and from national statistics. Selection of factors is based on those items which were felt most descriptive of the group. These characteristics are enrollment status, educational status, age at time of marriage, length of marriage, and length of engagement.

Student Enrollment Status

The distribution of this sample indicates that 96.9 percent of the husbands and 21.6 percent of the wives are enrolled as students. These findings are very similar to groups studied by Judson T. Landis in 1946-1947, here at Michigan State University.[1] Seventy-eight and three-tenths percent of the couples the husband is the only member of the marriage attending school. Seventy-six and seven-tenths percent of the husbands are enrolled on a full-time basis while 11.8 percent are

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[1]Judson T. Landis, "Study of Student Adjustment in Marriage," 1946-1947, unpublished. Partial findings reported in his book Building a Successful Marriage (New York: Prentice Hall, 1948). His study of Michigan State University married students revealed that 100 percent of the husbands and 10.7 percent of the wives were students.

attending on a part-time schedule. Twelve and one-tenth percent of the wives are enrolled on a full-time basis while 9.6 attend school part-time. The wife has the "distinction" of being the student in 3.1 per cent of the marriages. The husband and wife both have academic responsibility in 18.6 percent of the marriages.

TABLE 1

ENROLLMENT STATUS OF 550 MARRIED COUPLES
AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, 1958-1959

Enrollment Status	Number	Percent
Full Time Student Status		
Husband Only	382	69.4%
Wife Only	13	2.4
Husband and Wife	46	8.4
Part Time Student Status		
Husband Only	49	8.9
Wife Only	4	.7
Husband and Wife	9	1.6
Combinations		
Husband Full Time, Wife Part Time	40	7.3
Husband Part Time, Wife Full Time	7	1.3
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%

Educational Status of 550 Married Couples

Table 2 indicates the distribution of the 550 husbands and wives according to their educational status. It should be noted that nine of the husbands and fifty-six of the wives did not reply to this question. Of the 541 husbands who did reply, 81 percent were in either the senior year of college or had completed college. The majority, 58.8 percent, of the husbands in this sample had completed college while 20.6 percent were in their senior year.

TABLE 2

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF 550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES
AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, 1958-1959

	Number		Percent	
Years of Education Completed	Husbands	Wives	Husbands	Wives
Did Not Complete High School . .	0	2	0.0%	0.4%
High School Graduates	14	107	2.6	19.4
One Year of College	25	60	4.6	10.9
Two Years of College	65	73	11.8	13.3
Three Years of College	113	63	20.6	11.4
Four Years of College	151	144	27.4	26.2
Graduate School*	173	45	31.4	8.2
No Reply	9	56	1.6	10.2
TOTAL . . .	550	550	100.0%	100.0%

*These persons now enrolled in graduate school.

Less than one-half of one percent of the wives did not complete high school. Nineteen and four-tenths percent did not go beyond high school. Those who attended college but did not graduate comprised 35.6 percent of the total group. Thirty-four and four-tenths percent of the wives had graduated from college with 8.2 percent continuing in post graduate work.

When we compare the husbands and wives distribution we find that the husbands have attained a higher degree of education since 31.4 per cent are enrolled in graduate school in comparison to 8.2 percent of the wives. This is supported by the fact that the mean cumulative years of education is sixteen years, one month, for the husbands, and fourteen years, five months, for the wives. This is just slightly higher than a

similar sample taken at Purdue in 1950 which showed 15.5 and 13.3 years of education for the husband and wife respectively.[2]

Age at Time of Marriage for 550 Husbands and 550 Wives

The great majority of the husbands, 89.3 percent, were married between the ages of twenty and twenty-nine. The largest grouping of 378, 68.7 percent, were married between the ages of twenty and twenty-four. The range for the husbands was from seventeen to thirty-three years with the median age of twenty-three years. Of the wives 519, 94.3 percent, were between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four years, while 393, 71.4 percent, were between twenty and twenty-four years at the time of marriage. Their median age at marriage is twenty-one years, two months, with the range being from sixteen to thirty-two years. Less than one percent of the husbands and wives were married after age twenty-nine.

P. C. Glick and E. Landau[3] of the National Census Bureau calculated in 1948 based on current statistics that the median age at first marriage for men and women was 24.2 years and 20.9 years respectively. They also reported that over half of the men enter into the first marriage between the ages of 22 and 28 years while fifty percent of the women were first married between the ages of 19 and 24. Considering the extremes, they found that only nine percent of the men were married before age twenty and fifteen percent of the women were first married before their nineteenth year.

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[2]Harold T. Christensen and Robert E. Philbrick, "Family Size as a Factor in Marital Adjustment of College Couples," American Sociological Review, Vol. XVII (1952), pp. 307-312. A study of 346 couples of which one member was a veteran and a student.

[3]Paul C. Glick and E. Landau, "Age as a Factor in Marriage," American Sociological Review, Vol. XV (1950), pp. 517-529.

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TABLE 3

AGE IN YEARS AT TIME OF MARRIAGE FOR 550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, 1958-1959

Age at Time of Marriage	Number		Percent	
	Husbands	Wives	Husbands	Wives
15-19 Years	53	126	9.6%	22.9%
20-24 Years	378	393	68.7	71.4
25-29 Years	113	30	20.6	5.5
30-34 Years	5	1	.9	.2
No Reply	1	0	.2	...
TOTAL . . .	550	550	100.0%	100.0%

Paul Glick and Hugh Carter[4] studied marriages contracted between the years 1947 and 1954. They found that the median age at first marriage for college students married during these years was 25 years, 5 months, for the husbands and 22 years, 10 months, for the wives.

When a comparison is made to these national figures we find that the median age of the husbands in this sample is lower while the wives is slightly higher. However, percentagewise more students are marrying at a younger age.

Length of Marriage for 550 Couples

The largest single group of 128 couples representing 23.3% of the total sample were married less than one year. In this, the less than one year group, 68 couples have been married from three to six months. The majority of the couples in the total sample, 61.8 percent, have been married three years or less. The mean length of marriage is two years,

[4]Glick and Carter, op. cit., p. 234.

one month. The majority of the students in the sample had completed the Bachelorate degree. Therefore, many of the respondents had been married for at least two years of their college career. This was also indicated in a study of 346 married couples done at Purdue University in 1950 by Christensen and Philbrick. They found the mean length of marriage to be four years, two months, with fifteen years, six months, and thirteen years, four months, being the mean cumulative years of education for husband and wife respectively.[5]

Length of Engagement of 550 Couples

The engagement period is a joyous occasion with the major function of testing out the relationship between the future husband and wife.[6] Hornell Hart thinks of the engagement period as the time when the working hypothesis of marriage is explored.[7]

According to the distribution of the 550 couples, 151 couples in this study, 27.5 percent, maintained their engagement period from six to nine months. The second and third largest groups of 134 and 103 reported engagement periods of three to six months and twelve to twenty-four months respectively.

Landis and Landis[8] in their study of 544 college students reported that fourteen percent of the couples did not have any engagement period.

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[5]Christensen and Philbrick, op. cit., pp. 307-312.

[6]James A. Peterson, Education for Marriage (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1956), p. 191.

[7]Hornell Hart and Ella Hart, Personality and The Family (Boston: D. C. Heath and Company, 1935), p. 142.

[8]Landis and Landis, Building A Successful Marriage, p. 183.

Seventy-four percent had up to two years engagement while twelve percent had an engagement period of two or more years. This is in contrast to this study which indicates that 3.8 percent did not have any engagement, 5.9 percent had two or more years engagement, and the balance, 90.3 per cent, had an engagement period of from one day to two years. Considering that both of these studies were conducted at the same educational institution, a person might make the assumption that the trend for married students attending this university has been to have shorter engagements.

TABLE 4

LENGTH OF ENGAGEMENT IN MONTHS FOR 550 COUPLES AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, 1958-1959

Length of Engagement	Number	Percent
No Engagement	21	3.8%
0 - 3 Months	53	9.7
3 - 6 Months	134	24.4
6 - 9 Months	151	27.5
9 - 12 Months	55	10.0
12 - 24 Months	103	18.7
24 Months and Over . . .	33	5.9
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%

Chapter Summary

Study of the various factual characteristics, of enrollment status, educational status, age at time of marriage, length of marriage, and length of engagement indicates that in general the 550 couples in this study were similar to those in previous studies. This was particularly true in the area of enrollment status where a greater number of husbands than wives were enrolled as students. In the majority of the marriages the husband was the only student. Even so, a higher percentage of wives were reported as students in this study than in any of the other studies.[9] Husbands reported a higher academic attainment than the wives. The largest number of husbands reported completion of some graduate training, while the largest number of wives had completed just undergraduate work. The majority of both husbands and wives were married between the ages of twenty and twenty-four. The age at time of marriage ranged from sixteen to thirty-two years and seventeen to thirty-three years for husbands and wives respectively. The median age at time of marriage of the husbands (twenty-three years) was lower than the national average for men, while the median age of the wives (twenty-one years, two months) was higher than the national statistics for women.[10] In general, students in this study were engaged a shorter length of time than students at the same school ten years prior to the time of this study.[11] Most of the students had been married three years or less with the largest number having been married less than one year. This was in contrast to a study

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[9]Landis, op. cit., p. 28, and Christensen, op. cit., p. 21.

[10]Glick, op. cit., pp. 22-23.

[11]Landis, op. cit., p. 26.

done at Purdue in 1950 where the mean length of marriage was four years, two months.[12]

It must be remembered that this study was based on a select sample of married students who chose to share personal information. There may therefore be some inherent bias in this study. However, the similarity to other studies seems to suggest a relatively representative sample.

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[12]Christensen, op. cit., p. 24.

CHAPTER V

RANKINGS AND COMPARISONS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AREAS AND CRITERIA

In the following sections the writer has attempted to present a picture of the husbands' and wives' evaluations through the rankings of eight areas of marital adjustment according to three criteria. These criteria are: (1) Most important areas of adjustment in a marriage; (2) Areas which required the greatest degree of adjustment in their marriage; and (3) The length of time required to achieve some degree of adjustment. The rankings of the eight areas will be described first followed by a comparison of the three marital adjustment criteria.

Rankings of Marital Adjustment Areas by Three Criteria

Important Areas of Adjustment

In an attempt to determine what the husbands and wives consider important areas of adjustment in a marriage, they were asked to rate the eight areas. The resulting rankings by the husbands and wives are shown in Table 5 on the following page.

It will be noted that the husbands and wives agreed in the ranking of sexual activities as first, spending family income as second, and religious activities as third most important areas of adjustment in a marriage. The wives felt that in-law relationships and mutual friends were more important than social activities, while the reverse was true for the husbands. Husbands and wives agreed in the ranking of personal

freedom in use of time and personal privacy as sixth and eighth respectively. Social activities and mutual friends were the areas where the greatest degree of disagreement between the husbands and wives occurred.

TABLE 5

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF ADJUSTMENT IN A MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO IMPORTANCE BY 550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES

Rank*	Husbands	Wives
1	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities
2	Spending Family Income	Spending Family Income
3	Religious Activities	Religious Activities
4	Social Activities	In-Law Relationships
5	In-Law Relationships	Mutual Friends
6	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
7	Mutual Friends	Social Activities
8	Personal Privacy	Personal Privacy

*1--Most Important
8--Least Important

Degree of Adjustment Required

The spouses were asked to identify and rate these same areas within their <u>own</u> marriage. See Table 6.

The husbands and wives agreed in ranking spending family income as the second and personal privacy as the sixth requiring the greatest degree of adjustment. In all other six areas there was disagreement. The husbands ranked personal freedom in use of time first while the wives felt sexual activities required the most adjustment. The wives ranked personal freedom in use of time as third. The husbands ranked sexual activities third. The husbands felt that social activities required a greater degree of adjustment than in-law relationships. This

is the reverse of the wives' ranking. The wives ranked religious activities seventh and mutual friends eighth, while the husbands felt that mutual friends required a greater degree of adjustment than religious activities.

TABLE 6

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF ADJUSTMENT IN YOUR MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO DEGREE OF ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED BY 550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES

Rank*	Husbands	Wives
1	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Sexual Activities
2	Spending Family Income	Spending Family Income
3	Sexual Activities	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
4	Social Activities	In-Law Relationships
5	In-Law Relationships	Social Activities
6	Personal Privacy	Personal Privacy
7	Mutual Friends	Religious Activities
8	Religious Activities	Mutual Friends

*1--The greatest degree of adjustment.
8--The least degree of adjustment.

Length of Time Required to Achieve Some Degree of Adjustment

The 550 husbands and wives ranked the eight areas in regard to how long it took them to achieve some adjustment.

Both groups ranked sexual activity as the area requiring the greatest length of time to achieve some degree of adjustment.

The reader will notice that there is more disagreement than there is agreement even though the differences are slight. Ranking of the husbands' and wives' responses showed there was disagreement in five out

of the eight areas. Most of the areas remained within one ranking of each other.

TABLE 7

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF ADJUSTMENT ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE SOME ADJUSTMENT (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

Rank*	Husbands	Wives
1	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities
2	Spending Family Income	In-Law Relationships
3	In-Law Relationships	Spending Family Income
4	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
5	Religious Activities	Religious Activities
6	Personal Privacy	Social Activities
7	Mutual Friends	Personal Privacy
8	Social Activities	Mutual Friends

*1--The Longest.
8--The Shortest.

Comparison of Measures of Adjustment

In order to facilitate a comparison among the three measures of adjustment, the combined rankings of the husbands and wives for each criterion are being utilized.

In relation to all three measures, the combined responses of husbands and wives showed that sexual activity and spending family income posed the two greatest problems in their marriages. The area of mutual friends, which is ranked seventh on all three criteria, is the only other area where the same ranking was given on theoretical importance, the experienced adjustment, and the length of time required to adjust.

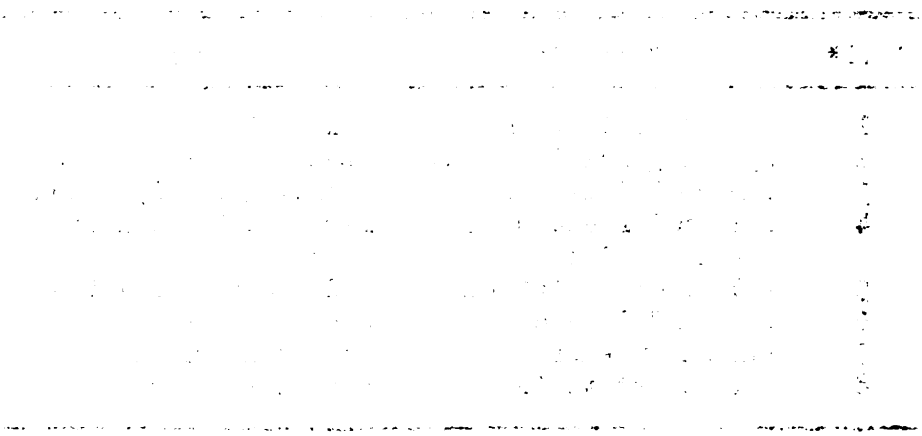

TABLE 8

COMPARATIVE RANKING OF EIGHT MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AREAS BY 550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES BASED ON THREE CRITERIA

	CRITERIA		
Rank*	Degree of Importance	Degree of Adjustment Required	Length of Time to Adjust
1	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities
2	Spending Family Income	Spending Family Income	Spending Family Income
3	Religious Activities	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	In-Law Relationships
4	In-Law Relationships	In-Law Relationships	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
5	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Social Activities	Religious Activities
6	Social Activities	Personal Privacy	Personal Privacy
7	Mutual Friends	Mutual Friends	Mutual Friends
8	Personal Privacy	Religious Activities	Social Activities

*--1 is Greatest.
8 is Smallest.

The rankings of religious activities indicate that this area is considered important but it required the least amount of adjustment which was accomplished in a relatively short period of time. In the area of personal privacy the degree of adjustment required and length of time are the same, and are ranked higher than importance. Length of time was also highest in in-law relationship with degree of importance and degree of adjustment required ranked the same. In the area of social activities the respondents ranked degree of adjustment higher than degree of importance with length of time ranked lower than both. The area of personal freedom in use of time found degree of adjustment ranked higher than degree of importance and length of time required to achieve some adjustment. However, this area required a relatively long period of time before some adjustment was achieved.

CHAPTER VI

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED FOR ADJUSTMENT

To the individual considering marriage and the person recently involved in a marital relationship an assessment of the areas considered important and the amount of adjustment required could be interesting. It is conceivable to understand how the individuals might be more interested in the length of time required before some degree of harmony exists. This question may also be important in evaluating existing marital relationships. Therefore, the respondents in this study were asked to indicate for each marital adjustment area the time required in their marriage before some degree of adjustment was achieved.

From the respondents' replies a ranking of the eight areas and a percentage calculation for each of the eight areas in regard to the length of time required was possible.

When the responses were ranked it was found that the husbands and wives agreed that sexual activities, spending family income, and in-law relationships were the three areas which required the longest period of time to achieve some adjustment. Considering the over-all ranking, the husbands and wives agreed in the following three areas: sexual activities, personal freedom in use of time, and religious activities. In four of the five remaining areas the rankings were in close proximity, not more than one rank difference. However, in the area of social activities the husbands reported that this area required the

shortest length of time to achieve some degree of adjustment while the wives considered it third from the shortest. Since each area of the eight areas has a bearing on the respondents' marital adjustment, each area is reported separately.

Sexual Activities

The wives reported that sexual activity required the longest time for adjustment. The majority of the husbands stated they had achieved adjustment in the first two months of marriage. Eight percent said it took them longer than three years. In comparison, less than half of the wives, 45.6 percent, reported that sexual adjustment required less than three months while 6.2 percent took longer than three years.

TABLE 9

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE SOME ADJUSTMENT IN SEXUAL ACTIVITIES (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	284	51.6%	251	45.6%
3 - 6 Months	72	13.1	99	18.0
6 - 12 Months	61	11.1	69	12.6
12 - 36 Months . . .	56	10.2	70	12.7
36 Months and Over .	44	8.0	34	6.2
No Reply	33	6.0	27	4.9
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

Seventy-five and eight-tenths percent of the husbands and 76.2 percent of the wives found some adjustment within the first twelve months. This is quite similar to a study by Landis of marriages not restricted to college students. His report stated that of 409 couples 76.5 percent of the husbands and 75.2 percent of the wives achieved

sexual adjustment within the first year.[1] It seems that more husbands felt they had achieved some adjustment earlier but over a space of two years more wives had achieved adjustment.

Spending Family Income

The husbands and wives both reported that adjustment to spending family income required the second greatest degree of adjustment. See Table 6, page 26. Considering the length of time to adjust in this area the majority of husbands, 51.5 percent, achieved some adjustment within the first two months while 47.5 percent of the wives reported the same. On the other extreme 6.9 percent of the husbands and 5.2 percent of the wives reported that adjustment had not been forthcoming until three or more years had passed. Thirty-two husbands and thirty wives did not respond to this portion of the questionnaire. If this is an indication of an inadequate adjustment, 5.8 percent of the husbands and 5.4 percent of the wives still have not achieved adjustment.

Landis in his study of 409 couples[2] found that both the husbands and wives rated spending family income second to sexual activity when considering the length of time required to achieve adjustment. Landis also found that 77.0 percent of the husbands and 75.6 percent of the wives achieved adjustment within the first year.[3] A similar percentage of husbands in the present study adjusted within one year, but a larger

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[1] J. T. Landis, "Length of Time Required to Achieve Adjustment in Marriage," American Sociological Review, Vol. XI (December 1946), p. 667.

[2] Ibid., p. 669.

[3] Ibid.

TABLE 10

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN SPENDING FAMILY INCOME (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	283	51.5%	261	47.5%
3 - 6 Months	86	15.6	91	16.6
6 - 12 Months	56	10.2	91	16.6
12 - 36 Months	55	10.0	48	8.7
36 Months and Over . .	38	6.9	29	5.2
No Reply	32	5.8	30	5.4
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

percent, 80.7 percent, of wives in the college atmosphere found adjustment in the first year of marriage. The difference in these findings may be due to the difference in financial pressure and roles of the spouses. In the study done by Landis and this project, approximately the same percentages and rankings were reported by the husbands and wives for sexual activity and for spending family income. This would seem to suggest that these two areas are of similar significance in the marital relationship.

Personal Freedom in Use of Time

Approximately the same percentage of husbands and wives, 54.6 per cent and 54.8 percent respectively, achieved adjustment in this area during the first three months. Seventy-nine and eight-tenths percent of the husbands were able to achieve some adjustment within the first year of marriage. The same was true for 80.6 percent of the wives. Ten and six-tenths percent of the husbands and 10.9 percent of the wives did

not reply or stated that adjustment has required three or more years. Since 37.7 percent of the couples have been married for three or more years, this may be an indication of inadequate adjustment.

TABLE 11

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN PERSONAL FREEDOM IN USE OF TIME (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	300	54.6%	301	54.8%
3 - 6 Months	86	15.6	83	15.1
6 - 12 Months	53	9.6	59	10.7
12 - 36 Months	53	9.6	47	8.6
36 Months and Over . .	28	5.1	26	4.7
No Reply	30	5.5	34	6.2
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

In general, the husbands' and wives' responses are very similar. This similarity is maintained in their comparative rankings of personal freedom in use of time to the other seven areas of adjustment under the topic length of time required before some adjustment is achieved. However, when considering another criterion, degree of adjustment required, the husbands rank personal freedom in use of time as the second most demanding while the wives rank it third. This suggests that even though the husbands and wives required similar lengths of time, the husbands found it more difficult than the wives to attain a satisfactory condition in the area of personal freedom in use of time.

Religious Activities

Making an adjustment in the religious life of a couple required less time than half of the other areas. As far as the husbands were concerned it required the least amount of adjustment. However, with the wives the situation varied slightly. They ranked religious activities next to last. See Table 6, page 26. This finding coupled with the fact that 71.3 percent of the husbands and 66.4 percent of the wives achieved adjustment within the first two months of marriage indicates that this is an area in which these husbands and wives adjusted readily. Reference Table 12 below.

TABLE 12

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	392	71.3%	365	66.4%
3 - 6 Months	28	5.1	29	5.3
6 - 12 Months	25	4.6	43	7.8
12 - 36 Months	37	6.7	35	6.4
36 Months and Over . .	30	5.4	32	5.8
No Reply	38	6.9	46	8.3
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

Judson T. Landis reported similar findings and made these comments:

> This case may be because many churches discourage 'mixed marriages.' Parents also encourage their children to marry those of their faith so that young people are more awake to the problems in this area than any other adjustment areas of marriage.[4]

[4] Ibid.

Landis found that 80.3 percent of the wives and 83.2 percent of the husbands achieved adjustment within the first year.[5] Comparative figures from this study show that 79.5 percent of the wives and 81.0 percent of the husbands found adjustment within the same period of time. Dr. Landis also found that a larger percentage of wives than husbands had difficulty reaching adjustment. One of the reasons for the difficulty, as indicated above, are mixed religious marriages.

Out of the 550 marriages in this study, 69 couples reported inter-faith marriages. Of the 69 mixed religious marriages, 39 husbands and 36 wives reported that adjustment was achieved within three months following marriage. There were more wives than husbands who neglected to answer this particular question. See Table 13.

TABLE 13

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED IN INTER-FAITH MARRIAGES TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	39	56.5%	36	52.2%
3 - 6 Months	2	3.0	3	4.4
6 - 12 Months	7	10.1	7	10.1
12 - 36 Months	8	11.6	5	7.2
36 Months and Over . .	6	8.7	10	14.5
No Reply	7	10.1	8	11.6
TOTAL . . .	69	100.0%	69	100.0%

[5] Ibid.

Personal Privacy

This area was ranked as one of the less important areas in regard to the degree of adjustment required (ranked number 6), and length of time required by both husbands and wives (ranked sixth and seventh).[6] The majority of the respondents found adjustment complete within the first three months. Four and six-tenths percent of the husbands and 4.4 percent of the wives did find it necessary to allow between one and three years for adjustment. See Table 14. Considering the total group, personal privacy does not seem to be a problem area. This does not negate the fact that for a few couples this may be a major problem.

TABLE 14

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN THE AREA OF PERSONAL PRIVACY (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	374	68.0%	364	66.2%
3 - 6 Months	64	11.6	86	15.6
6 - 12 Months	36	6.6	27	4.9
12 - 36 Months	25	4.6	24	4.4
36 Months and Over . .	20	3.6	16	2.9
No Reply	31	5.6	33	6.0
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

[6] *Supra*, p. 26, p. 27.

Social Activities

The area which was listed as ranking eighth for the husbands and sixth for the wives in this criterion, length of time required to achieve some degree of adjustment, was social activity. Adjustments in this area do not seem to be as difficult as making adjustments in the areas of sexual activities and spending family income. The husbands and wives placed it mid-way on the scale with rankings of four and five respectively. Reference Table 6, page 26.

Sixty-two and nine-tenths percent of the husbands achieved some degree of adjustment before the third month of their marriage. Another 23.1 percent achieved adjustment in the first year of marriage. Similar data for the wives was reported. See table below.

TABLE 15

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husband		Wife	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	346	62.9%	344	62.5%
3 - 6 Months	74	13.5	68	12.4
6 - 12 Months	53	9.6	56	10.2
12 - 36 Months	37	6.7	36	6.5
36 Months and Over . .	12	2.2	12	2.2
No Reply	28	5.1	34	6.2
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

More husbands within the first six months found it easier to adjust to the change of social activities than the wives. Dr. Landis found that four percent of the husbands and wives made an adjustment

within the first year and 13.6 percent said there had never been a satisfactory adjustment.[7] The husbands' easier adjustment may not be a phenomenon that is peculiar to the college atmosphere, because the husbands continue to have, as students, social contacts through their academic classes as the non-student husband does in his avocation.

Mutual Friends

The area of mutual friends is ranked by the husbands and wives as one of the lesser areas requiring adjustment, ranking seventh and eighth respectively. This is in agreement with the Landis study.[8] He reported that both the husbands and wives found this to be an area causing the least amount of difficulty.[9] A difference does exist in the rankings of the length of time required to achieve adjustment. The wives reported that it takes a longer time to achieve some degree of adjustment. See Table 16. The reason for this difference can only be suggested in that the husbands maintain their college friends and the wives have to become integrated into a new social circle. This difference does not seem to pose any major problem since both the husbands and wives ranked it in the lower third of the scale. The husbands seem to have more trouble adjusting and require a longer period of time to arrive at some adjustment. The reverse is true of the wives as shown by the ranking of eight in regard to the length of time required to achieve adjustment. See Table 7, page 27.

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[7]Judson T. Landis, "Length of Time Required to Achieve Adjustment in a Marriage," American Sociological Review, Vol. XI (December 1946), p. 670.

[8]Ibid.

[9]Ibid.

TABLE 16

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN ASSOCIATING WITH MUTUAL FRIENDS (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husbands		Wives	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	372	67.6%	386	70.2%
3 - 6 Months	64	11.6	55	10.0
6 - 12 Months	46	8.4	41	7.4
12 - 36 Months	31	5.6	29	5.3
36 Months and Over . .	8	1.5	8	1.5
No Reply	29	5.3	31	5.6
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

This is also illustrated by the fact that 70.2 percent of the wives and 67.6 percent of the husbands achieved adjustment in the first two months of marriage. Eighty-seven and six-tenths percent of both the husbands and wives had achieved adjustment by the end of the first year. See Table 16 above. A similar figure of 88.5 percent was reported by Landis for the percentage of husbands and wives achieving adjustment within a year.

In-Law Relationships

Unlike the preceding area of mutual friends, an equal proportion of husbands and wives have not achieved adjustment at the end of the first year in the area of in-law relationships. See Table 17. The husbands and wives ranked five and four respectively on the degree of adjustment required and rankings of two for the wives and three for the husbands in regards to the length of time required were reported. This indicates that the wives have been slower than their husbands in

achieving some degree of adjustment.[10] This appraisal is supported by the fact that 59.5 percent of the husbands in comparison to 55.3 percent of the wives reached some degree of adjustment within two months after marriage. By the end of the first year the difference is lessened, 77.2 percent for the husbands and 75.0 percent for the wives. Landis recorded similar data when 80.3 percent of the wives and 83.2 percent of the husbands reported adjustment at the end of one year.[11]

TABLE 17

LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED AFTER MARRIAGE TO ACHIEVE ADJUSTMENT IN IN-LAW RELATIONSHIPS (550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES)

	Husbands		Wives	
Length of Time	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 3 Months	327	59.5%	304	55.3%
3 - 6 Months	50	9.1	52	9.5
6 - 12 Months	47	8.6	56	10.2
12 - 36 Months	55	10.0	64	11.6
36 Months and Over . .	33	6.0	36	6.5
No Reply	38	6.9	38	6.9
TOTAL . . .	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

Chapter Summary

This study of length of time required by 550 husbands and 550 wives to achieve some degree of adjustment indicates that within each area evaluated over fifty percent of the husbands reported having achieved adjustment in the first three months. The wives reported a

[10] Supra, Table 7, p. 27.

[11] Judson T. Landis, "Length of Time Required to Achieve Adjustment in a Marriage," American Sociological Review, Vol. XI (December 1946), p. 669.

somewhat less satisfactory experience. In two areas, sexual activity and spending family income, less than fifty percent of the wives said that adjustment had been achieved during this period. These differences became smaller as more time elapsed. Thus in each area at least 75 per cent of the husbands reported that adjustment had been reached by their first anniversary. The same was true for the wives in seven areas. The one dissenting area is personal freedom in use of time for which only 70.6 percent of the wives reported achievement of some degree of adjustment.

These facts suggest that a sizeable portion of the adjustments took place during the first six months. A large majority of the spouses reached an adjustment by the end of the first year. In general, the husbands felt that they had achieved some adjustment earlier than the wives, but by the end of the second year the difference was negligible. Similar findings were recorded by Judson T. Landis.[12] However, Landis did not include in his study the areas of personal privacy and personal freedom in use of time.

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[12] Ibid., pp. 666-677.

CHAPTER VII

CURRENT STATE OF ADJUSTMENT

After considering the respondents' evaluations of their marriages an attempt was made to ascertain what degree of adjustment had been attained. This attempt was made by a question asking the respondents to describe each of the eight areas according to the degree of adjustment experienced.[1]

In each area studied, the overwhelming majority of respondents reported that adjustment satisfactory to both spouses had been achieved. Those dissenting from this favorable view varied from 12 percent to 29 percent in different areas of adjustment.

Fourteen percent of the husbands and seventeen percent of the wives who responded identified the area of religious activity as an area where no amount of adjustment has occurred. This was the largest proportion of "no adjustment" responses obtained in any of the areas. Personal freedom in use of time is the largest area where the husbands, 13.3 percent, and wives, 13.7 percent, have been able to make adjustments satisfactory for themselves or their spouses but have been unable to accomplish complete agreement. See Table 18.

The area having the highest percentage of respondents reporting mutually satisfactory adjustment is mutual friends. Personal privacy

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[1]The question used, number 42, is found in Appendix B and C.

TABLE 18

PERCENTAGES OF 550 HUSBANDS AND 550 WIVES REPORTING VARIOUS DEGREES OF CURRENT ADJUSTMENT IN EIGHT AREAS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT

Present Adjustment	In-Law Relationships		Mutual Friends		Personal Freedom in Use of Time		Personal Privacy		Religious Activity		Sexual Activity		Social Activity		Spending Family Income	
	H	W	H	W	H	W	H	W	H	W	H	W	H	W	H	W
Satisfactory for Me but Unsatisfactory for My Spouse	5.8	5.1	1.6	1.1	9.1	5.1	1.6	3.3	6.0	3.3	5.8	1.8	4.5	2.6	5.8	5.1
Satisfactory for My Spouse but Unsatisfactory for Me	4.2	6.0	2.0	3.4	4.2	8.6	2.9	2.2	2.7	6.7	3.8	6.2	3.3	5.8	7.1	6.7
Satisfactory to Both of Us	80.7	78.9	88.0	87.1	76.0	78.0	87.1	86.3	76.0	70.7	81.3	82.0	86.2	84.2	78.9	78.6
Unsatisfactory to Both--No Adjustment	8.6	8.4	7.5	6.4	10.0	6.0	7.8	6.2	14.4	17.3	7.8	7.3	5.5	4.9	7.1	7.4
No Reply	.7	1.6	.9	2.0	.7	2.3	.6	2.0	.9	2.0	1.3	2.7	.5	2.5	1.1	2.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

and social activities are second and third respectively. The fourth and fifth positions are held by sexual activities and in-law relationships. Personal freedom in use of time and religious activities have the smallest percentage of respondents reporting mutually satisfactory adjustment. See Table 18, p. 43.

An over-all picture of the adjustment is indicated by the number of areas in which both the husband and wife agree that satisfactory adjustment has been achieved. Only 26.9 percent of the couples reported having achieved total adjustment in all the eight areas under discussion. In contrast, 1.4 percent of the couples are unable to agree in any of the eight areas. See Table 19.

TABLE 19

SATISFACTORY ADJUSTMENT ACHIEVED BY BOTH PARTNERS OF 550 MARRIAGES IN EIGHT AREAS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT

Number of Areas*	Number of Couples	Percent
8	148	26.9%
7	112	20.4
6	87	15.8
5	74	13.5
4	44	8.0
3	40	7.3
2	20	3.6
1	7	1.3
0	8	1.4
No Reply	10	1.8
TOTAL	550	100.0%

*These represent areas in which satisfactory adjustment to both partners was reported.

CHAPTER VIII

RESPONDENTS WHO WOULD NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE--
A COMPARISON TO THE TOTAL SAMPLE

One measure of adjustment to a college marriage or any marriage is for the person to answer the question, "Would you do it again?" When this question was asked of the 550 husbands and wives, 462 husbands and 443 wives gave a positive reply.

The balance of the 1100 respondents, 77 husbands (14 percent) and 83 wives (15.1 percent) replied "no" when asked if they were unmarried and knew what they know now about the special adjustments of a campus marriage would they marry before finishing college.

There were thus 160 negative responses to the question on whether the individual would repeat a campus marriage. Only 66 of the 160 were marriage partners. This meant that, of the 127 marriages represented by these negative responses, 33 or about one-fourth were unsatisfactory to both partners, but three-fourths were unsatisfactory to only one of the partners.

Approximately one-fourth of both the husbands and wives did not give any reason for their negative reply. However, of those who did explain the largest number gave a reason such as "It takes too much time away from studies." Other reasons were: "I wouldn't marry before I had a B.A. degree"; "It would depend if we had enough money." See Table 20.

TABLE 20

REASONS WHY RESPONDENTS WOULD
NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE

Reasons	Husbands		Wives	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Lack of Finances	11	14.2%	11	13.3%
Interferes with School Work. .	21	27.3	23	27.7
Interferes with Campus Activity and Freedom of Time . .	10	13.0	11	13.3
Wouldn't Marry Before B.A. . . .	11	14.3	7	8.4
Other	4	5.2	9	10.8
No Reply	20	26.0	22	26.5
TOTAL . . .	77	100.0%	83	100.0%

In order to facilitate an understanding of this group who said they would not repeat a campus marriage the writer felt that an investigation into the background of these respondents and an evaluation of their adjustments was warranted. This investigation took the form of a comparison of these respondents and the total sample in regards to years of education, age at marriage, length of engagement, and the respondents' evaluation of their adjustment. If the respondents felt they were ready for marriage was also considered.

Population Characteristics

Years of Education

There is a greater percentage of wives in this group who have twelve years or less formal education than in the total sample. This comparison also holds true for those wives who have completed sixteen or more years of education. The same comparisons hold true for the husbands.

It will be noticed that 19.8 percent of the wives in the total sample and 25.3 percent of the wives in this group had completed twelve years or less of formal education. Twenty-seven and seven-tenths per cent of the wives who would not repeat a campus marriage in comparison with 26.2 percent of the wives in the total sample had received their bachelors degree. Of the husbands who would not repeat a campus marriage, 29.9 percent had completed college while 27.4 percent of the husbands in the total sample had achieved the same level of education. However, in the percentage of husbands who have post-graduate education there is a different picture. Forty-two and nine-tenths percent of the husbands who would not repeat a campus marriage and 31.4 percent of the husbands in the total sample have education beyond sixteen years.

TABLE 21

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HUSBANDS AND WIVES IN THE TOTAL SAMPLE AND THOSE WHO WOULD NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL STATUS*

Years of Education Completed	Those Who Would Not Repeat A Campus Marriage		Total Sample	
	Husbands	Wives	Husbands	Wives
12 Years and Less . . .	3.9%	25.3%	2.6%	19.8%
13 Years	3.9	4.8	4.6	10.9
14 Years	5.1	7.3	11.8	13.3
15 Years	13.0	7.3	20.6	11.4
16 Years	29.9	27.7	27.4	26.2
17 Years	18.2	12.0	12.9	5.8
18 Years and Over . . .	24.7	3.6	18.5	2.4
No Reply	1.3	12.0	1.6	10.2
TOTAL . . .	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

*Percentage calculations are based on 550 husbands and 550 wives in the total sample, and 77 husbands and 83 wives in the group who would not repeat a campus marriage.

Length of Marriage

There is a smaller percentage, 44.9 percent, of respondents who have been married less than three years in the group who would not marry while in college than in the total sample. The percentage of respondents married less than three years in the total sample is 61.8 percent. However, the situation is just the reverse for those marriages consummated for three years or more. This would seem to suggest that it is the couples who have been married three years or more that find campus life difficult and unsatisfactory.[1]

In the group who would not repeat a campus marriage 1.6 percent of the marriages containing one or both spouses had been consummated less than three months. There were 128, 23.3 percent, marriages of one year or less in the total sample. Of the people who would not repeat a college marriage there were twenty marriages, 15.7 percent, represented in this group. When the length of marriage is increased to three years or more there is a greater difference in percentage. In the total sample there were 210 marriages, 38.2 percent, of three years or more in length. Of the marriages in which one or both spouses would not repeat a campus marriage, 70 marriages, 55.1 percent, were of three years or more duration.

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[1]Proportionately there is a difference of 17 percent in the number of marriages contained in the three-year or more categories. The group who would not repeat is the larger figure in the proportion. This may have some bearing on the calculations.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

TABLE 22

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL SAMPLE AND RESPONDENTS WHO WOULD NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF MARRIAGE*

Length of Marriage	Those Who Would Not Repeat A Campus Marriage		Total Sample	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 to 1 Year	20	15.7%	128	23.3%
0 to 3 Mos.	(2)	(1.6)	(24)	(4.4)
3 to 6 Mos.	(15)	(11.8)	(68)	(12.4)
6 to 9 Mos.	(2)	(1.6)	(20)	(3.6)
9 to 12 Mos. . . .	(1)	(0.7)	(16)	(2.9)
1 to 2 Years	16	12.7	109	19.8
2 to 3 Years	21	16.5	103	18.7
3 to 4 Years	23	18.1	69	12.5
4 to 5 Years	14	11.0	46	8.4
5 to 6 Years	9	7.1	32	5.8
6 Years and Over . .	24	18.9	63	11.5
TOTAL . . .	127	100.0%	550	100.0%

*There are 77 husbands and 83 wives who would not repeat a campus marriage, representing 160 marriages. Of these 160 marriages there were 33 in which both spouses stated that they would not repeat a campus marriage. Therefore, we arrive at a total of 127 marriages in which one or both spouses would not repeat a campus marriage.

Age at Time of Marriage

The largest percentage of both husbands and wives who would not repeat a campus marriage falls within the age range of 20-24 years at time of marriage. These percentages are 64.9 percent for the husbands and 77.1 percent for the wives. This is also the age range during which most of the spouses in the total sample were married. There were 53 husbands in the total sample, 9.6 percent, who were married between the ages of fifteen and nineteen. Of the husbands who would not repeat a

campus marriage 11.7 percent were within this age bracket. In the 30-34 age range there were 2.6 percent of the husbands who would not repeat a campus marriage in comparison to 0.9 percent of the husbands of the total sample married during this period.

TABLE 23

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL SAMPLE AND RESPONDENTS WHO WOULD NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO AGE AT TIME OF MARRIAGE

Age at Time of Marriage	Those Who Would Not Repeat A Campus Marriage				Total Sample			
	Husbands		Wives		Husbands		Wives	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
15 - 19 Yrs. . .	9	11.7%	11	13.3%	53	9.6%	126	22.9%
20 - 24 Yrs. . .	50	64.9	64	77.1	378	68.7	393	71.4
25 - 29 Yrs. . .	16	20.8	8	9.6	113	20.6	30	5.5
30 - 34 Yrs. . .	2	2.6	0	...	5	.9	1	.2
No Reply	0	...	0	...	1	.2	0	...
TOTAL . . .	77	100.0%	83	100.0%	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

In the age bracket of fifteen to nineteen at the time of marriage the wives' findings are the opposite of the husbands. In the total sample there were 22.9 percent of the wives who married during this time. However, only 13.3 percent of the wives who said they would not repeat a college marriage were wed at this age. This suggests that the degree of dissatisfaction is lower in the younger group.

Length of Engagement

A difference in this area is among the people who had no engagement; however, engagement of less than nine months seems more popular with the would not repeat group. Of the total sample only 3.8 percent marriages were contracted without an engagement period. In contrast, 7.9 percent of the marriages in which one or both spouses would not repeat a campus marriage were consummated without an engagement period.

TABLE 24

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL SAMPLE AND RESPONDENTS WHO WOULD NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF ENGAGEMENT

Length of Engagement	Those Who Would Not Repeat A Campus Marriage		Total Sample	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No Engagement	10	7.9%	21	3.8%
0 - 3 Months	7	5.5	53	9.7
3 - 6 Months	36	28.3	134	24.4
6 - 9 Months	41	32.3	151	27.5
9 - 12 Months	8	6.3	55	10.0
12 Months and Over. .	25	19.7	136	24.6
TOTAL . . .	127	100.0%	550	100.0%

Twenty-four and four-tenths percent of the total sample were marriages which were completed after three to six months' engagement. Twenty-eight and three-tenths percent of the marriages of those who would not repeat a campus marriage were consummated after this length of engagement.

Considering engagements of one year and longer, the percentages of marriages, 19.7 percent, in which one or both spouses would not repeat

a campus marriage is larger than the percentage of marriages in the total sample, 24.6 percent.

The largest percentage of both groups, 32.3 percent for those who would not repeat a campus marriage and 27.5 percent for the total sample, reported an engagement period of six to nine months. There is a larger percentage of engagements of less than nine months in length for those who would not repeat a campus marriage, 74.0 percent, than there is for the total sample, 65.4 percent.

Readiness for Marriage

More husbands than wives in the total sample stated that they were ready for marriage at the age at which they were married. This is also true for those who would not repeat a campus marriage. Conversely, more wives than husbands in both groups stated that they were not ready for marriage. Of the total sample, 3.5 percent more husbands than wives were ready for marriage. In the group who would not repeat a campus marriage there is a difference of 7.9 percent between the husbands and wives.

The percentage difference is more pronounced within the groups who stated that they were not ready for marriage. In the total sample 1.5 percent more wives than husbands stated that they were not ready for marriage. In the group who would not repeat a campus marriage, 5.9 per cent more wives than husbands felt that they were not ready for marriage.

There were 19.1 percent more husbands in the group who would not repeat a campus marriage and who were not ready for marriage than there were husbands in the total sample who were not ready for marriage. The same comparison for the wives is true with 23.5 percent.

TABLE 25

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL SAMPLE AND RESPONDENTS WHO WOULD NOT REPEAT A CAMPUS MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO OWN EVALUATION OF READINESS FOR MARRIAGE*

Response on Readiness for Marriage	Those Who Would Not Repeat a Campus Marriage				Total Sample			
	Husbands		Wives		Husbands		Wives	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Yes	56	70.9%	51	63.0%	490	89.0%	470	85.5%
No	22	28.6	28	34.5	52	9.5	61	11.0
No Reply	1	.5	2	2.5	8	1.5	19	3.5
TOTAL . . .	79	100.0%	81	100.0%	550	100.0%	550	100.0%

*Readiness at marriage determined by self-evaluation related to age at marriage. Reference question 48, Appendix B and C.

Adjustment Areas

The same procedure was used to determine the rankings of the group who would not repeat a campus marriage as was used for the total sample.

Degree of Adjustment

The rankings of the total sample and the rankings of the respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage are very similar in regards to determining the area which required the greatest degree of adjustment. There is one difference. In the total sample the ranking was fourth for in-law relationships and fifth for social activities, the reverse of the rankings by the respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage. Religious activity was ranked as seventh by the respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage and mutual friends as eighth, the reverse of the rankings of these areas by the total sample. See following table.

TABLE 26

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT
ACCORDING TO DEGREE OF ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED

Rank*	Those Who Would Not Repeat a Campus Marriage	Total Sample
1	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities
2	Spending Family Income	Spending Family Income
3	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
4	Social Activities	In-Law Relationships
5	In-Law Relationships	Social Activities
6	Personal Privacy	Personal Privacy
7	Religious Activities	Mutual Friends
8	Mutual Friends	Religious Activities

*1--Greatest degree of adjustment required.
8--Least degree of adjustment required.

Time Required to Achieve Some Degree of Adjustment

Sexual activities was ranked as the number one area in regards to length of time required to achieve some adjustment. The respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage ranked in-law relationships second in length of time and spending family income as third. This is the reverse of the rankings by the total sample. More striking is the fact that the respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage ranked social activities as sixth and personal privacy as eighth. The total sample ranked personal privacy as sixth and social activities as eighth. Reference following table.

TABLE 27

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE SOME DEGREE OF ADJUSTMENT

Rank*	Those Who Would Not Repeat a Campus Marriage	Total Sample
1	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities
2	In-Law Relationships	Spending Family Income
3	Spending Family Income	In-Law Relationships
4	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
5	Religious Activities	Religious Activities
6	Social Activities	Personal Privacy
7	Mutual Friends	Mutual Friends
8	Personal Privacy	Social Activities

*1--Longest length of time required.
8--Shortest length of time required.

Current State of Adjustment

Adjustment Satisfactory to Both

The rankings assigned the eight areas are identical in both the total sample and respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage, except in one instance. Those who would not repeat a campus marriage ranked religious activities as seventh and personal freedom in use of time as eighth in ranking of areas in which adjustment is satisfactory to both. In the total sample this ranking is reversed. See table below.

TABLE 26

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT IN WHICH AN ADJUSTMENT SATISFACTORY TO BOTH HAS BEEN ACHIEVED

Rank*	Those Who Would Not Repeat a Campus Marriage	Total Sample
1	Mutual Friends	Mutual Friends
2	Personal Privacy	Personal Privacy
3	Spending Family Income	Spending Family Income
4	Social Activities	Social Activities
5	In-Law Relationships	In-Law Relationships
6	Sexual Activities	Sexual Activities
7	Religious Activities	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
8	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Religious Activities

*1--Area in which largest number have achieved adjustment satisfactory to both.
8--Area in which smallest number have achieved adjustment satisfactory to both.

No Adjustment Achieved

Religious activities is ranked by both groups as the largest area in which no adjustment has been achieved. Sexual activities is the second largest area of inadequate adjustment for the respondents who would not repeat a campus marriage and is ranked fifth by the total sample. Income is ranked fifth in the ranking of areas of no adjustment by the ones who would not repeat a campus marriage and eighth by the total sample. In-law relationships, social activities, personal privacy, and mutual friends received lower rankings by those who would not repeat a campus marriage than they did by the total sample.

TABLE 29

RANKING OF EIGHT AREAS OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT IN WHICH NO ADJUSTMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED

Rank*	Those Who Would Not Repeat a Campus Marriage	Total Sample
1	Religious Activities	Religious Activities
2	Sexual Activities	In-Law Relationships
3	Personal Freedom in Use of Time	Personal Freedom in Use of Time
4	Spending Family Income	Social Activities
5	In-Law Relationships	Sexual Activities
6	Social Activities	Personal Privacy
7	Personal Privacy	Mutual Friends
8	Mutual Friends	Spending Family Income

*1--Area in which largest number have not achieved adjustment.

8--Area in which smallest number have not achieved adjustment.

Chapter Summary

A small percent of the couples, 15.1 percent of the wives and 14.0 percent of the husbands, said that they would not repeat a campus marriage. (The biggest reason given was "Interferes with school work." This coincides with the fact that personal freedom in use of time proved to be a difficult adjustment area.)

The group stating that they would not repeat a college marriage differed from the total sample in the following respects:

(1) They had a higher percentage of husbands in graduate schools.

(2) Higher percentage of wives had at least a bachelors degree.

(3) They had been married for a longer period of time.

(4) Higher percentage of engagements were less than nine months.

(5) Higher percentage were married before the age of 20 years.

One of the most striking responses was in answer to the question on readiness for marriage. It will be remembered that 28.6 percent of the husbands and 34.5 percent of the wives who would not repeat a campus marriage also stated that they were not ready for marriage at the age at which they were married. This is in contrast to respective percentages of 9.5 percent and 11.0 percent for the total sample.

In comparing the rankings of the group who stated they would not repeat a campus marriage in specific areas of adjustment the following differences were noted:

(1) A higher percentage of the "non-repeats" group reported sexual activities as an area in which no adjustment had been achieved

than was true of the total sample.

(2) A higher percentage of the "non-repeats" had achieved no adjustment in the area of spending family income than the total sample. This coincides with the fact that:

(3) The "non-repeaters" stated it required a smaller degree of adjustment than did the total group.

(4) Social activities required a greater degree of adjustment by the "non-repeat" group than the total group, and:

(5) A larger percentage of the "non-repeaters" achieved a more satisfactory adjustment in the area of social activities than the total group.

(6) In the area of in-law relationships the "non-repeaters" had slightly less trouble achieving a satisfactory adjustment than the total group.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MARRIED STUDENTS, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

(H. is used for Husband; W. is used for Wife)

. Who is the M.S.U. student? H._____W._____Both_____; Full-time, H._____W._____; Part-time, H._____W._____

:. How many years of formal education have you had? H._____ W._____

. Your vocational aims? H._____ W._____

. How long have you been married?_____

. What were your ages when you were married? H._____W._____

. How long did you know each other before marriage? _____

. How long were you engaged? _____

. Who officiated at your marriage? Minister_____Justice of the Peace_____Rabbi_____Priest_____Other (explain)_____

_____

). If married by a clergyman, were you married in a church? _____At home?_____Parish or rectory?_____Other (explain)

_____

). Did your parents approve of your marriage? Husband, Yes_____No_____ Wife, Yes_____No_____

. If your parents disapproved, what was their basis for disapproval?

Husband	Wife
Your education_____	Your education_____
Financial reasons_____	Financial reasons_____
Your choice of a mate_____	Your choice of a mate_____
Other (explain)_____	Other (explain) _____
_____	_____

2. How much cash money did you have to begin your marriage? H._____ W._____

3. Approximately, what was the value of the material things you had to begin your marriage? 1. Automobile_____ 2. Furniture_____ 3. Property_____ 4. Furnishings_____ 5. Other (explain)_____

4. Approximately, what did your wedding cost?_____

5. Who paid the major expense for the wedding? 1. Bride's parents_____ 2. Bride_____ 3. Groom _____ 4. Other (explain)

_____

6. How extensive a honeymoon did you have? 1. Time_____ 2. Distance traveled_____ 3. Approximate cost_____

7. Who paid the major expense of the honeymoon? 1. Groom_____ 2. Groom's family_____ 3. Bride's family_____ 4. Other (explain)_____

8. In what size community did each of you live previous to completion of high school?

Husband	Wife
1. Farm or rural area_____	_____
2. Town under 10,000_____	_____
3. City under 100,000_____	_____
4. City under 1,000,000_____	_____
5. City over 1,000,000_____	_____

9. What is your religious preference? Husband, Catholic_____ Jewish_____ Protestant_____ None_____ Other (fill in)_____; Wife, Catholic_____ Jewish_____ Protestant_____ None_____ Other (fill in)_____

What is your parents' religious preference?

Husband	Wife
Father_____ Mother_____	Father_____ Mother_____

20. What was your parents' marital status when you entered high school? 1. First marriage, H.____W.____ 2. Remarriage, H.____ W.____ 3. Separated, H.____W.____ 4. Divorced, H.____W.____ 5. Widowed, H.____W.____

21. How would you classify the married life of your parents?

Husband	Wife
1. Extremely happy	1. Extremely happy
2. Moderately happy	2. Moderately happy
3. Satisfactory	3. Satisfactory
4. Unhappy	4. Unhappy
5. Very unhappy	5. Very unhappy

(see other side)

22. What was your father's occupation? H._____ W._____

23. What was your mother's occupation, if other than homemaker? H._____ W._____

24. What are your parents' present ages? Husband, Father____Mother____; Wife, Father____Mother____

25. Your parents' education? Husband, Father_____Mother_____; Wife, Father_____Mother_____

26. How large a family do you come from? H._____ W._____

27. How many children do you have? _____ Their ages_____

28. Would another baby, or a baby prevent you as a M.S.U. student from continuing college at this time? Yes _____No____ Would be difficult to continue_____

29. What is your present approximate monthly income?_____

30. What are your sources of income? Husband's salary_____ Wife's salary_____ Veterans Bill _____ Scholarship_____ Loan_____ Other (explain)_____

31. Do you receive some financial help from your parents or family? Husband's family, Yes _____ No_____ Wife's family, Yes _____No_____ If you do receive some financial help, approximately how much a month?_____

32. Is the husand's job full time? _____ Part time_____ What is the job?_____

33. Is the wife's work full time?_____ Part time_____ What is the job?_____

34. How is the wife's paycheck used?_____

35. Who cares for the children while she is employed? Husband____ Relative____ Neighbor, no pay____ Neighbor, paid_____ Baby sitter_____ Paid foster parent_____ Other (explain)_____

36. Approximately, how much do you spend per month for the following? Food_____ Shelter_____ Clothing_____ Insurance _____ Medical expense_____ Car payments_____ Car upkeep_____ Recreation_____ Other (explain)_____

_____

37. How many individuals are covered in the above budget?_____

38. If you included insurance in your budget what does this cover? Automobile _____ Hospitalization and/or accident_____ Life_____ Fire_____ Other (explain)_____

39. Where do you live? Apartment_____ MSU Housing_____ Rented House _____ Own house _____ Trailer_____ Other (explain) _____

40. Who in your family under normal conditions does the following household and home tasks?

	Husband	Wife	Both
Sets the table	☐	☐	☐
Clears the table	☐	☐	☐
Does the dishes	☐	☐	☐
Makes the bed	☐	☐	☐
Gets breakfast	☐	☐	☐
Gets lunch	☐	☐	☐
Gets dinner	☐	☐	☐
Takes care of the garbage and trash	☐	☐	☐
Takes care of the yard	☐	☐	☐
Cleans and dusts	☐	☐	☐
Does the washing	☐	☐	☐
Does the ironing	☐	☐	☐
Prepares the budget	☐	☐	☐
Pays the bills	☐	☐	☐
Shops for groceries	☐	☐	☐
Shops for furniture and/or home furnishings	☐	☐	☐
Shops for a car	☐	☐	☐
Shops for clothing	☐	☐	☐
Picks up and puts away the clothes	☐	☐	☐
Feeds the baby	☐	☐	☐
Bathes and dresses the children	☐	☐	☐
Changes the baby	☐	☐	☐
Sees the children eat the right food	☐	☐	☐
Sees the children go to bed on time	☐	☐	☐
Disciplines the children	☐	☐	☐
Cares for the children when they are sick	☐	☐	☐
Teaches the children how to do things	☐	☐	☐

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MARRIED STUDENTS, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
HUSBAND

These last nine (9) questions have been arranged in such a way as to enable you, if you wish, to answer the questions individually. These questions appear on separate sheets of paper and a plain envelope is enclosed if you prefer to return your questionnaires separately. If so, please print the following address on the envelope and deposit it in a Campus Mail Box--DR. MYRTLE R. FEUL, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK, 225 MORRILL HALL, CAMPUS. No postage is required if mailed on campus.

Following are the nine chief areas of adjustment found in marriage.

41. Rate the following from 1 to 9 according to which you feel are the most important areas of adjustment in a marriage. (1 is the most important, 9 is the least important.)

Child training	___	Religious activities . . .	___
In-law relationships	___	Sexual activities	___
Mutual friends	___	Social activities	___
Personal freedom in use of time	___	Spending family income . .	___
Personal privacy	___		

42. Rate the degree of adjustment you have experienced in these areas by using the following code.

1.--Adjustment satisfactory to you only.
2.--Adjustment satisfactory to spouse only.
3.--Adjustment satisfactory to both.
4.--No adjustment.

Child training	___	Religious activities . . .	___
In-law relationships	___	Sexual activities	___
Mutual friends	___	Social activities	___
Personal freedom in use of time	___	Spending family income . .	___
Personal privacy	___		

43. Rate from one to nine those areas in your marriage that required the greatest degree of adjustment on your part. (1 is the greatest, 9 is the least.)

Child training	___	Religious activities . . .	___
In-law relationships	___	Sexual activities	___
Mutual friends	___	Social activities	___
Personal freedom in use of time	___	Spending family income . .	___
Personal privacy	___		

44. Indicate by the following code the number of months or years your marriage required before some degree of adjustment was achieved.

A--Zero to 3 months
B--3 months to 6 months
C--6 months to 1 year
D--1 year to 3 years
E--3 or more years

Child training . . . . . ___
In-law relationships . . . . ___
Mutual friends . . . . . ___
Personal freedom in use of time___
Personal privacy . . . . . ___
Religious activities . . . ___
Sexual activities . . . . ___
Social activities . . . . ___
Spending family income . . ___

45. If you were unmarried but knew what you know now about the special adjustment of a campus marriage, would you marry before finishing college? Yes___. No___. Why?_____

_____

46. Would you recommend a college marriage for a friend? Yes___. No___. Depend _____. (Explain)_____

47. How old were you when you were married? ___. Your wife? ___.

48. Do you feel you were ready for marriage at that age? _____

49. How old were your parents when they were married? Father___. Mother___.

APPENDIX C

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MARRIED STUDENTS, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
WIFE

These last nine (9) questions have been arranged in such a way as to enable you, if you wish, to answer the questions individually. These questions appear on separate sheets of paper and a plain envelope is enclosed if you prefer to return your questionnaires separately. If so, please print the following address on the envelope and deposit it in a Campus Mail Box--DR. MYRTLE R. REUL, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK, 225 MORRILL HALL, CAMPUS. No postage is required if mailed on campus.

Following are the nine chief areas of adjustment found in marriage.

41. Rate the following from 1 to 9 according to which you feel are the most important areas of adjustment in a marriage. (1 is the most important, 9 is the least important.)

Child training	___	Religious activities . . .	___
In-law relationships	___	Sexual activities	___
Mutual friends	___	Social activities	___
Personal freedom in use of time	___	Spending family income . .	___
Personal privacy	___		

42. Rate the degree of adjustment you have experienced in these areas by using the following code.

1.--Adjustment satisfactory to you only.
2.--Adjustment satisfactory to spouse only.
3.--Adjustment satisfactory to both.
4.--No adjustment.

Child training	___	Religious activities . . .	___
In-law relationships	___	Sexual activities	___
Mutual friends	___	Social activities	___
Personal freedom in use of time	___	Spending family income . .	___
Personal privacy	___		

43. Rate from one to nine those areas in your marriage that required the greatest degree of adjustment on your part. (1 is the greatest, 9 is the least.)

Child training	___	Religious activities . . .	___
In-law relationships	___	Sexual activities	___
Mutual friends	___	Social activities	___
Personal freedom in use of time	___	Spending family income . .	___
Personal privacy	___		

44. Indicate by the following code the number of months or years your marriage required before some degree of adjustment was achieved.

A--Zero to 3 months
B--3 months to 6 months
C--6 months to 1 year
D--1 year to 3 years
E--3 or more years

Child training . . . . . ___
In-law relationships . . . . ___
Mutual friends . . . . . ___
Personal freedom in use of time___
Personal privacy . . . . . ___
Religious activities . . . ___
Sexual activities . . . . ___
Social activities . . . . ___
Spending family income . . ___

45. If you were unmarried but knew what you know now about the special adjustment of a campus marriage, would you marry before finishing college? Yes___. No___. Why?_____

_____

46. Would you recommend a college marriage for a friend? Yes___. No___. Depend _____. (Explain)_____

47. How old were you when you were married? ___. Your husband? ___.

48. Do you feel you were ready for marriage at that age? _____

49. How old were your parents when they were married? Father ___. Mother ___.

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