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SEX ROLE, MOBILITY ORIENTATION, AND THE CONTROL
OF ROMANTIC LOVE.

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Sociology, family

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SEX ROLE, MOBILITY ORIENTATION, AND
THE CONTROL OF ROMANTIC LOVE

DISSER TATION

Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Degree Doctor of Philosophy in the Graduate
School of The Ohio State University

By
Kenneth Nelson Eslinger, B.S., M.A.

* * * * *

The Ohio State University
1971

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PLEASE NOTE:

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CHAPTER ONE

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND AND HYPOTHESES

Introduction

Although romantic love is widely held to be the major basis for mate choice in the United States, its presence and variation in different locations in the social structure remain, for the most part, unknown. Since mate selection results in the joining of separate kinship lines, the transmission of property and other aspects of social stratification, romantic love has not been allowed to develop freely and spontaneously in society.

It is well known that romantic attachments and marriage do not occur randomly. Various forms of social differentiation intervene in the processes by which mates are selected. It is around such major social roles as sex and occupation that differences in romantic behavior can be expected to occur.

The Problem

In a recent paper reporting research on romantic love, Kephart describes some unexplained differences between the
experiences of men and women.¹ Some patterns were discovered which indicate that the differences in romantic experiences are quite large, and possibly much more important to theoretical questions about mate-selection and the process of forming new families than has been presumed heretofore.

The first pattern, which summarizes the cumulative number of romantic experiences by sex, with age controlled, can be shown directly from a table in Kephart's reported findings.

Table 1. Median Number of Cumulative Romantic Experiences, by Age of Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>(N=503) Males</th>
<th>(N=560) Females</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>7.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The anomaly is that as age for women increases, the

number of romantic experiences after age twenty decreases. This is impossible, barring sampling variability, or some sort of selective factor which holds unusual or undesirable women in college after age twenty. The size of Kephart's sample, 1,079 respondents, 560 of them female, casts doubt on the first possibility, and the widespread educational attainments among women in the middle class cast doubt on the second possibility. In addition, Kephart reports that several areas of his findings are consistent with the above unexplained finding, e.g., even the total number of boys ever dated diminishes with age!

Kephart's partial explanation is that women's romantic experiences (a cumulative score based on number of "infatuations" and number of times reported to have been "in love") are more directed than those of the male. (He refers to romantic experiences as RE's.)

Kephart says:

Perhaps because marriage is more central to her life, it is she who is the acknowledged protagonist of the one-man - one-woman matrimonial ideal. In a normative sense, it is more or less expected that the wife will be a "one-man woman", an expectation which as premarital adumbrations; e.g., the girl who is engaged does not as a rule evidence much interest in anyone but her fiance. Even her general dating experience, while certainly not lacking in romantic identification, is more consciously "matrimonial" than in the case of the male. The point is this: the high-school and college age female may have more romantic experiences
than her male counterpart, but, as she passes from the teens to the twenties and nears the matrimonial state, previous RE's tend to be rejected inasmuch as they impinge on the monogamistic ideal.\(^2\)

Kephart also presents data which show that married and engaged women show a decline in the number of reported romantic experiences, while for males the respective categories show an increase.

Kephart's findings are based on a survey study of Philadelphia area college students. The analysis was carried out only on white students. The sampling used available samples. He suggests, "It seems likely, however, that further investigation will be along the segmental lines of the present study rather than within a larger framework based on random sampling methods."\(^3\) He had 1,079 respondents.

Kephart presents additional material to strengthen his point that the female's romantic behavior is more adaptive and directive than is that of the male.

He included the following question in his research: "If a boy (girl) had all the other qualities you desired, would you marry this person if you were not in love with him (her)?"

Responses, by percentage, were as follows:

\(^2\)Ibid., p. 472.
\(^3\)Ibid., p. 470.
Nearly two-thirds of the males reported an unequivocal "No" responses, less than one-fourth of the females did so. 71.7 percent of the women were undecided! To quote what one girl wrote in on her questionnaire, "I'm undecided. It's rather hard to give a 'yes' or 'no' answer to this question. If a boy had all the other qualities I desired, and I was not in love with him -- well, I think I could talk myself into falling in love!"4

Kephart suggests that these findings require the use of additional sociological variables for their explanation. His argument is that personality theories and social psychological theories of homogamy or heterogamy do not provide adequate explanation of mate selection processes. He says that application of the theories of homogamy/complementarity require identification of these additional factors. Kephart's only suggested lead is "partner's family background."5

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4Ibid., p. 473.
5Ibid., p. 474.
It seems clear enough that major components of social structure - age, sex, and possibly social class - are involved in these variations in romantic experience. Additional research could be done to add to the current shortcomings of theoretical explanation. Research on this topic could also be done with the intent of providing information bearing on related theoretical questions in the literature. Such questions include mate selection, the relation of mobility to marriage and marital selection, as well as the question of the control of romantic love in society.

Theoretical Background

The larger theoretical question is that of whether or not romantic love is controlled in society. Sociological theory has given an emphatic affirmative answer to this question. Recent sociological theorists have attempted to spell out "why" and "how" romantic love is controlled.

Goode's article dealt with some of the reasons why romantic love is not allowed to follow the whim and impulse of individuals. He points out that though the love experience between members of the opposite sex is apparently more common than anthropological writings had indicated, there is so

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much at stake in the exchanges surrounding marriage, that romantic love has been widely controlled, viewed in a cross-cultural and trans-historical perspective. Goode's analysis emphasizes the status placement function of the family for the new generation, and that mate choice links two previously separate kin lines. Random mating would require, and precipitate, radical changes in the social structure.

Scott attempted to explain the evolution of the college sorority on American campuses as a middle-class organizational device which operates in conjunction with ethnic and stratification variables to limit the risks involved in mate selection on heterogeneous campuses. A freer play given to romantic love and personal choice would raise the possibilities for class-hypogamous and ethnic-heterogamous marriage, thus threatening what elders consider to be a favored or desirable position in the social structure. Thus the sorority is viewed by Scott as a mechanism to help protect inherited status on the competitive American campus by sharply delimiting the field of eligibles with whom a daughter could develop romantic attachments. The sorority also is viewed by Scott as aiding in the protection of higher-status girls from the competition for mates from attractive lower-status

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women. He refers to the latter condition as the "Brahmin problem" of higher-status women.

An earlier paper by Davis deals with intermarriage in societies stratified along caste lines. Additional statements are provided which point to reasons for the directing and control of romantic love in society. Davis' discussion is specific to stratification following caste lines and represents an analysis tangential to this research. His major points in relation to the control of marital choice center around the intimate (and often equalitarian) nature of marriage, and the placement of children in society.8

Merton also has an early paper in which he analyzes various types of "intermarriages." His analysis emphasizes the application of endogamous rules for the maintenance of similar cultural backgrounds and social prerogatives for a mating pair.9

Referring to intermarriage by people from widely different positions in a society, Merton says:

> Among the more prosy aspects of intermarriage is the role of the social structure. Rates and patterns of intermarriage are closely related to cultural orientations, standardized distributions of income and symbols


of status. The conflicts and accommoda-
tions of mates from socially disparate
groups are partly understandable in terms
of this environing structure.\(^\text{10}\)

He goes on to say that while romance is presumably blind
to class differences, the romantic complex is largely in-
tegrated with preferential class endogamy. The democratic
creed in American society, mingled with the romantic complex,
prevent class endogamy from being a completely stable and
unchallenged norm among participants in courtship systems.

Merton examines endogamy in terms of its functions for
a social group. He holds that endogamy serves to maintain
social prerogatives and immunities within a group, it oper-
ates to symbolize the "reality" of the group by marking it off against other discriminable group units, and in the case
of dominant groups, it serves to maintain preferred status
for the group members, as well as preventing unwanted dif-
fusion of power and status to persons who are not affiliated
with the group. Endogamy can become a device for exclusion
and maintaining social distance between groups. Merton adds
that the accessibility of kinship cliques and friendship
groups surrounding relatives are threatened by the introduc-
tion of an outsider through marriage who is of a greatly dif-
fent social status. The presence of the new spouse creates
numerous problems for the organization of cliques and friend-

\(^\text{10}\)Ibid., p. 361.
ship groupings involving the spouses and their kin.\textsuperscript{11} 

In line with Merton's thinking, but taking some exceptions on a comparative basis, are the theoretical propositions of Goody. Referring to Merton's discussion of the relationship between marriage policies and social stratification, Goody avers:

\begin{quote}
\ldots the general argument is a sound one. But it is not in fact the case that all stratified systems demand a high degree of in-marriage. Status endogamy and related forms of in-marriage are certainly characteristic of the major Eurasian societies. In Africa, on the other hand, endogamy is rarely found except in ethnic situations, in particular those where ruling groups of northern origin have established themselves over black agriculturalists, as happened in South Africa, Ethiopia, the East African Coast, certain Interlacustrine states, and on the Saharan fringes (e.g. in Timbuktu). In the major states of West Africa, ruling groups were rarely if ever endogamous.\textsuperscript{12}
\end{quote}

Goody goes on to point out the complexities involved in comparing tribal Africa and the more centralized states of Europe and Asia. However, his analysis emphasizes the importance of plough farming and more advanced agriculture in the latter geographical and cultural areas. Dowery systems and the bilateral transmission of property to offspring

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{11} Ibid., pp. 361-374.
\end{itemize}
through "diverging devolution" are characteristic of Eurasia, those very societies in which a marked tendency to marry-in is found. Goody feels that in Africa, simpler methods of agriculture prevented ruling groups from developing greatly higher standards of living out of the agricultural surplus. The institutions of serfdom and "peonage" did not develop. Relations between men were rarely based on differences in landholding at either the state or community level. He says:

As far as marriage was concerned, one's daughters were going to get a roughly similar deal (similar to what they had experienced at home) wherever they married so that selection of mates by property control was less significant. Because of the absence of the plow and other capital investment in land one man's holding was much like another. An individual did not have to pursue a policy of marrying people of the same socioeconomic class in order to retain differential status because the differences (other than political ones) were not that great.

Goody adds that this lack of strictures on marital choice, coupled with tendencies toward exogamy in some African states has led to a more fluid system of elites and stratification than is found in Eurasia.

Goody's paper would appear to provide a constraining influence upon future attempts at generalizing from Western, and especially industrial societies' family organization to

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13 Ibid., p. 593.
14 Ibid., p. 596.
15 Ibid., pp. 600-601.
various other world settings.\textsuperscript{16}

It can be noted that earlier, an extremely perceptive social thinker had carried through an analysis of romantic love with extensive concentration on control. Willard Waller's treatment of love can be viewed as using the factor of control of romantic impulse on three levels. First, he practically defined love in terms of idealizations surrounding frustrated and inhibited sexual impulse. This sort of control is thus a personal and mental one. Second, Waller conceptually handled dating, personal control of romantic inclination (and its loss) at a microstructure of interpersonal relations, usually dyadic in nature. This effort is at least partially responsible for his statement of the "principle of least interest" in which he states that the person having lesser interest in the continuation of a

\textsuperscript{16}It should be noted that starting from quite a different set of base points in reasoning, William J. Goode has shown that romantic love and the belief in individual choice in mate-selection are included in the ideology of modernism and industrialization. These are causal influences which seem to flow from the family organization to the larger society. This is argued by Goode in World Revolution and Family Patterns, New York: Free Press, 1963. This widening pattern includes neo-local residence, mate-selection based upon mutual attraction, reduction of obligations to kin in a broad tendency for conjugal family patterns to replace widespread dominance of extended families over their members. See especially Ibid., pp. 19-26, and pp. 374-78. On questions of freedom, p. 380. Marsh considers Goode's analysis of the fit between the conjugal family and industrialism to be a major contribution to recent analyses of social change and thought in modernization. See Robert M. Marsh, Comparative Sociology, (New York: Harcourt, Brace, and World, 1967), pp. 82-87.
relationship is in a position to dominate and possibly exploit the other. Here control of romantic impulse is dealt with on an immediate interpersonal level. It is presumed to be an analysis of dyadic relations unless persons under consideration were dating several different people. Third, Waller looked at dating and mate-selection in terms of its occurrence at a crucial point in the life cycle — often before occupational placement had occurred. Here his famous statement of "dating as dalliance" was made. He can be seen to have been quite concerned with the issue of romantic love in relation to occupational placement in the larger social structure. Much of Waller's writing on the family can be looked upon as his attempt to come to grips with the particular nature of mate selection and romantic love in American society.17

Recent Research Related to the Topic

In a recent article based on a secondary analysis of survey data, Rubin attempted an indirect measure on the question of whether or not American women have a preponderance

of hypergamous marriages. Using data from the March, 1962, Current Population Survey he compared married couples on husbands' fathers' occupations and wives' fathers' occupations for two large age groups. He found very little overall tendency toward hypergamy or hypogamy. Some noteworthy specific examples by particular strata can be cited, though:

Of perhaps greatest significance is the finding that marriages between members of the two highest classes tend to be hypergamous. When (and only when) the constraints of the matrimonial market are taken into account, it appears that the daughter of a white-collar worker is more likely to marry the son of a professional or manager than the white-collar girl's brother is to marry the professional boy's sister.

Rubin's analysis is based on Census data and tells little about the processes involved in mate-selection. The conclusions he drew from his data quickly drew attention from scholars interested in his question.

Scott asserts that Rubin's sample does not provide data suitable for testing his hypothesis. Since Rubin did not include the unmarried men and women in the analysis (they were not included in the sample) Scott maintains Rubin could not determine where the net gains and losses in interclass


\(^{19}\)Ibid., pp. 758-59. See also the table on p. 753 for the actual frequencies.
15 marriages occurred. He also states the theoretical importance of the hypergamy question very clearly.

As occupational mobility is almost certainly the main vehicle of intergenerational stratum mobility for men, so mobility through marriage is almost certainly the main vehicle for women. Most mobility studies implicitly recognize this and limit their analysis of occupational shifts to males, thus neglecting roughly half the population. A comprehensive theory of stratum mobility, therefore, requires an analysis of marital mobility, and this will probably prove to be no less complex than extant analyses of occupational mobility.

He concludes with a call for primary data of improved quality in family research. Important unanswered questions about ethnic endogamy, and especially explanation of occupational mobility and the inheritance of inequality await data on the mechanisms of familial status ascription and differing socialization practices.

Rubin's reply to Scott holds to his original position that net excesses in hypergamous or hypogamous marriages in the United States were not found to any great degree. While maintaining that he was able to test the hypothesis he had

21 Ibid., p. 725.
22 Ibid., p. 727.
set out to test, Rubin concedes that in addition to not containing persons never married, the sample with which he worked also failed to include separated or divorced persons as well as couples where the husband was in the armed forces. In addition to these qualifications of his findings, the reporting of occupations of the fathers of both spouses was given by the husband, during the course of the interviewing, thus raising the possibility that distortion in unknown amounts of response bias may have occurred.\textsuperscript{23}

Martin adds a major point of criticism to Rubin's original article by emphasizing that a wife's status is not the status of her father-in-law, but is usually that of her husband.\textsuperscript{24} He goes on to say, "Since Rubin's tables give father-in-law's status instead of the true status destination or husband's status, marriages between high-status girls and upwardly-mobile young men appear to be hypogamous, when in fact they are not."\textsuperscript{25} He says further that Rubin's


\textsuperscript{25}Ibid., p. 327. In addition, Martin criticizes Rubin's analysis of farmers, as all of them had been put into one category and then treated as lower-status. Martin maintains that while prosperous farm owners are no majority of the category there are too many of them to analyze them with working-class farm laborers and migrant workers as if the category were a homogeneous one. He feels that perhaps "farmers" should have remained unclassifiable. See p. 328 for his reasoning.
major omission is intergenerational mobility, and not so much, as Scott seems to think, differences in marriage rates.

Scott, Martin, and Rubin himself, have raised a number of issues on the question of upward mobility through marriage. It appears that the sociologist's question about the relative occurrence of hypergamous and hypogamous marriages in the United States remains unanswered.

There is also some evidence from earlier studies of processes involving setting priorities affecting one's emotional life in terms of ambitions toward goals in the larger society. Cuber and Harroff's study of four hundred thirty-seven persons in the upper-middle class is replete with examples showing that for many of the women goals during the dating and college years involving security, prospects of marriage with a man headed for or already in a successful career, were given precedence, even traded, in the course of mate selection. At middle age, many who were married to a man with a steady income and stable personality found that the bargaining had exacted later costs in terms of psychological poverty, loneliness, and a dull emotional life.

Cuber and Harroff found that for many of these men and women, marriage and child-rearing had become humdrum, and that there was a sense of restlessness, and wishes for new

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experiences. Intensive interviews were used as the means of studying these interpersonal processes. Often the respondents blamed themselves and the earlier exchanges and bargains they had made. 27

Another study conducted on a university campus, studied dating preferences of men and women. Coombs and Kenkel used data from a situation wherein dates were arranged through computer matching of questionnaire data. 28 They found that the women in the sample had more rigid standards for judging dates than did men. Also, the women's aspirations for their dates were higher. That is, they more often hoped for a person who was a good student, was popular, was a good dancer, wore stylish clothes, was a member of the same race or religion, or member of a Greek-letter organization. Men were more interested than women in having a partner who was physically attractive. Coombs and Kenkel interpret their data in terms of the integration of the family with the larger occupational structure, remarking that family status is largely determined by the income and prestige level of the man's occupation. Because of this they feel that women

27Ibid., Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6. See especially the discussion of "Misalliance," pp. 66-88, for illustrations of the processes involved in some of these decisions.

view dating in relation to the social context of marriage to a greater extent than men, and are more rigorous than the latter in appraising a partner's potential along these dimensions.

In an unstructured study of college students reactions to a romantic story, Kunz analyzed the open-ended interpretations of a large sample. He found that students were willing to substitute other solutions for traditionally romantic solutions in certain situations. He feels that the "norm of reciprocity" influenced romantic responses, also. His thinking is that the "norm of reciprocity" is one major alternative invoked as a solution outside the traditional romantic ones emphasized in American culture, and that men and women use it as a resolution of difficulties in their romantic relationships.

Elder did a secondary analysis of data collected in California in 1932 as part of a study of physical, mental, and social development of boys and girls in the fifth and sixth grades in five elementary schools. Elder analyzed the relative contributions of a physical appearance rating and educational attainments to mobility for women from the work-

ing class and the middle class.  

The women were born in the 1920's, studied in the early 1930's, and most of them participated in at least one adult follow-up study. Staff member ratings of physical appearance (including physique, grooming, and sex appeal), were done at the Institute of Human Development. Elder found that middle-class girls were rated higher on attractiveness than working-class girls. Mobility was measured by marriage to a high-status man. The analysis done provides data showing physical attractiveness and status aspirations were significantly related to mobility through marriage. For working-class girls, physical attractiveness was more predictive of mobility than educational attainment. Avoiding steady dating and sexual involvement were also associated with mobility for working-class girls. Among the middle-class women, educational attainment was more strongly related to mobility through marriage. They were more likely than the working-class women to attend college, and a larger percentage of those attending college were upwardly mobile.  

Among men, educational achievement was more predictive of  


31Ibid., pp. 531-532.
occupational mobility than any other factor.

Elder's analysis gives indications that mobility orientations influenced romantic choice, but the nature of the research appears to hold this issue to that of a moot question for the data with which Elder did his work.

It should be pointed out that romantic conceptions of interpersonal affection are not an attribute temporally confined to adolescence and youth. Knox studied conceptions of love in three different age and developmental categories. He sampled 100 high school age youths (fifty males, fifty females), then 50 married college-age couples, as well as 50 couples married over twenty years. He found that the high school age-group was more romantic in orientation than the married students, but that the people married for more than twenty years were also more romantic, by the measurements on his scale, than were the young married couples. Knox concludes that conceptions of love change at different stages in marriage and that a more romantic conception of love occurs during the later years of marriage.

Finally, it should be noted that there is evidence that the experience of infatuations and romantic love are not indications of emotional maladjustment or pathologies of a

personal nature. Kephart did additional analyses of the data he collected in the Philadelphia area. He correlated a personality adjustment scale with the number of romantic experiences and found no significant differences for males or females between the high and low scorers on the Bell Adjustment Inventory and number of romantic experiences.\footnote{William M. Kephart, "The Dysfunctional Theory of Romantic Love: A Research Report," Journal of Comparative Family Studies, I, No. 1 (Autumn, 1970), pp. 26-36. In particular, see pp. 29-31. Kephart's work on emotional adjustment and romantic experience should be compared with that of Dean, as it can be viewed as corroborative of the latter's earlier work. See Dwight G. Dean, "Romanticism and Emotional Maturity: A Further Exploration," Social Forces, XXXII, No. 3 (March, 1964), pp. 298-303. Dean had hypothesized negative correlations between scales for measuring emotional maturity and "romanticism." The correlations were virtually zero. See the table on p. 302.}

Kephart's conclusion is that romantic experiences are a manifestation of personality development in adolescence and that periodic romantic attachments are typical youthful behaviors in a culture which allows considerable freedom in selecting a mate.

Before stating the hypotheses to be tested, it can be shown that additional work during the last decade is supportive of the effort to seek explanations of variations in courtship and mating behavior through analyses of roles. In a survey of work on dating and mate-selection Moss, Apolonio, and Jensen conclude that discussions of courtship and mate-selection in the future will be more likely to emphasize

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Before stating the hypotheses to be tested, it can be shown that additional work during the last decade is supportive of the effort to seek explanations of variations in courtship and mating behavior through analyses of roles. In a survey of work on dating and mate-selection Moss, Apolonio, and Jensen conclude that discussions of courtship and mate-selection in the future will be more likely to emphasize

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\footnote{William M. Kephart, "The Dysfunctional Theory of Romantic Love: A Research Report," Journal of Comparative Family Studies, I, No. 1 (Autumn, 1970), pp. 26-36. In particular, see pp. 29-31. Kephart's work on emotional adjustment and romantic experience should be compared with that of Dean, as it can be viewed as corroborative of the latter's earlier work. See Dwight G. Dean, "Romanticism and Emotional Maturity: A Further Exploration," Social Forces, XXXII, No. 3 (March, 1964), pp. 298-303. Dean had hypothesized negative correlations between scales for measuring emotional maturity and "romanticism." The correlations were virtually zero. See the table on p. 302.}
roles and needs and their interplay. Needs and their complementarity are not used in the present research as explanations relying on aspects of the social structure are attempted in the present work.

**Statement of Hypotheses**

**Hypothesis One**

Sex-role is directly related to the number of romantic experiences which are reported.

A test of the reliability of the findings of Kephart's study is planned here. Age will be controlled in the test.

**Hypothesis Two**

The strength of mobility orientation is negatively related to the number of romantic experiences.

This hypothesis will be tested with age and sex controlled.

---


Hypothesis Three

Mobility orientations are negatively related to forming interest in a current dating partner.

Here it is thought that the principle of least interest will be found to be operating, and that persons with high mobility orientations will have lower formations of interest in members of the opposite sex.

Hypothesis Four

Sorority membership is related to cautiousness in forming interest in a dating partner.

This is in line with Scott's reasoning. A test will be made to see if the principle of least interest seems to operate to a greater degree with sorority members. A comparison will be made with girls who are not members of Greek-letter organizations.
CHAPTER TWO

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This research is directed toward testing hypotheses concerning variations in romantic experiences among young people. It has been noted that the limiting influences of social structure are thought to affect the frequency and location of romantic behavior. Discerning broad patterns in a realm in which the many aspects of social structure are assumed to be involved in complex interrelations requires the measurement of traits, behaviors, and broad social characteristics among many people. The survey design was selected as the approach most likely to enable the number and diversity of measurements desired in these research pursuits.

Survey Design

The use of a survey design results in contact with those persons, or a sample of them, who are thought to possess the behavioral characteristics which are required for a particular study. Separate treatment of romantic experi-
ences of men and women as well as persons who have high as opposed to low mobility orientations is necessary. Also, the fact that love experiences are cumulative requires that separate tabulations by age categories be made. These considerations point to the requirement of a large sample.

Explanatory research designs can be executed through survey analysis. Measurement is achieved only over one time period, thus introducing severe limitations on a researcher's capacity for achieving strong causal assertions. Yet, science does not deal in, nor seek, absolutes. Relating changes in variables having temporal priority to behaviors thought to have occurred later may yield explanations of a sort which are satisfactory to the man content to live in a world of relative probabilities. The guidelines of theory provide firm starting points for the observation of correlated behaviors.

Improvements in survey analysis have helped to overcome some of the failings of survey designs as a scientific tool.¹ The technology of analysis has vastly improved. Large samples can be analyzed much more quickly. Logical analysis of the status of test factors in surveys has

improved, and is continuing. The use of the questionnaire as a measuring instrument also enables the researcher, under many conditions, to greatly reduce the amount of time required in the collection of data per case. This was another, of the several reasons, why the decision was made to employ survey methodology in the present research.

Measurement of the Concepts

In order to test theory, the concepts involved need to be given referents with experiential meaning. Establishing working definitions of theoretical concepts can be an arduous task, but poor fit between concept and indicator reduces research activity to a set of steps in logic, the conclusions of which say little about the empirical world the theory was devised to explain.

Construction of an instrument went through several stages. Measurement of the major aspects of social structural factors was attempted through questions pertaining to the age, sex, size of community of residence, presence of membership in Greek-letter organizations, and so forth. The factors during the course of analyzing survey data can overcome some of the difficulties involved in forming conclusions about data collected at only one point in time.

Chapters One, Two, and Three in Ibid., go into highly specific detail about various patterns which survey variables typically take in the course of analysis.
wording went through several revisions; the ordering and reordering of questions was done so that the hypotheses used were not readily apprehensible. Efforts to prevent response set on consecutive questions were made.

Faculty members examined the questionnaire and made suggestions. Changes were made in terms of transitions between questions, as well as in wording. The questionnaire was then pretested on some graduate students in the sociology department and one other department. Friends who are not involved in academic pursuits also reacted to the questions in terms of their clarity.

The concepts pertaining to romantic experiences were measured by asking the respondents to estimate the number of times they have been infatuated, as well as the number of times that they have been in love. A cumulative score for the two was given, and is referred to as cumulative or total "romantic experiences."

Two other major theoretical concepts, mobility orientation and the principle of least interest were measured through more refined scaling techniques.

Mobility orientations were measured on a scale developed by Hatt. Previous use of the scale in research indicated its utility in measuring levels of aspiration.³ The

³Alfred C. Clarke, Russell R. Dynes, and John F. Cuber, Social Factors Related to Adaptability of Air Force Pilot Trainees, Columbus, Ohio: The Ohio State University Research Foundation, 1957, Appendix E, p. 5.
scale consists of eleven items, and is scored on the basis of three categories for each item. The first category indicates the lowest level of aspiration, the second category the next level, and the third category indicates the highest level of aspiration for a given item. Thus, with eleven items, the lowest score a respondent could make is eleven; the highest is thirty-three.

Reliability and validity tests were calculated on the present sample. For the reliability test, the odd-numbered items were correlated with the even-numbered ones. The application of the split-half technique requires the use of a correction for reduced sample size. For the sample of eight hundred thirty-one respondents to the questionnaire, the Spearman-Brown split-half correlation coefficient is .80. This is an acceptable level of reliability.

The validity test for the scale involved dividing the respondents into high and low scorers for each item. A critical ratio was calculated between the high and the low scorers. If the critical ratio is significant it was reasoned that the item discriminates between high and low scorers.\(^4\) The method of internal consistency is thus used to determine which items are to be retained in a scale so

that differing levels of occurrence of a phenomenon can be expressed in gradations along a numerical scale. The critical ratios ranged from 6.33 to 15.21. Nine of the eleven items had critical ratios whose values were over 10.00.

The directions to respondents, the eleven items with the response categories used, as well as the critical ratio for each item are given below:

Suppose you were offered an opportunity to make a substantial advance in a job or occupation. Indicate how important each item listed below would be in stopping you from making that advance by circling 1, 2, or 3 after the item according to the following classifications.

1) Might stop me from making the change.
2) Would be a serious consideration but wouldn't stop me.
3) Wouldn't matter at all.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Critical Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Endanger your health.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Leave your family for sometime.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Move around the country a lot.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Leave your community.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Leave your friends.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Give up leisure time.  
7. Keep quiet about political views.  
8. Keep quiet about religious views.  
9. Learn a new routine.  
10. Work harder than you are now.  
11. Take on more responsibility.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>11.79</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8.23</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reliability test: Split-half correlation corrected = .80
N = 831

The principle of least interest was measured on a scale that was developed by Edward C. Powers. He asked subjects to respond in terms of their present dating or marital relationship. His analysis resulted in keeping fourteen items. It is a Likert Scale with five response categories.

In the present research these fourteen items were used with the five response categories. These categories range

from "strongly agree" and "agree" through "not sure," "disagree," and "strongly disagree." Validity and reliability tests were calculated on the respondents to the questionnaire. The validity test involved the use of the method of internal consistency, a critical ratio being calculated between the high scorers and the low scorers, item by item. If an item differentiates between the high and low scorers at an acceptable probability level, it is assumed to be valid. In the present analysis, all items indicated satisfactory capability to discriminate between the high and low scorers, as the critical ratios ranged from 6.36 to 17.32. All are significant beyond the .001 level. As an additional fortuitous indirect test of validity it should be noted that the item with the largest critical ratio is the item, "I am greatly interested in my partner." It is the only item in the scale in which the word "interest" is used, and the item, it would seem, carries some face validity.

Additional validity testing was done by using a criterion group believed to possess greater interest in a current partner. It was reasoned that going steadily, being pinned, engaged, or married, constitute more extensive commitments and indicate more established interest over a given period of time than do dating around or not dating. Persons falling into the first four categories were combined and used as the criterion group implying greater interest. The people who reported either that they were dating around or not
dating, were assumed to possess lesser interest.

In the validity test the criterion group containing those who were going steadily, pinned, engaged, or married, scored higher, as expected, on the scale to measure the principle of least interest. The critical ratio for the difference between the two criterion groups is 5.44. This value is significant beyond the .001 level, and serves as additional evidence of the validity of the scale, in that criterion groups with differing levels of interest in a current partner are shown to form different distributions of responses to the scale.

The reliability test used correlates the even-numbered items with the odd-numbered items. A correction for loss of sample size owing to the "split-half correlation" technique was used. The Spearman-Brown split-half correlation coefficient is .83. This is an acceptable level of reliability for a Likert scale. Both sets of item analyses, the validity test and measure of reliability, as well as the validity test employing criterion groups, indicate acceptable levels of each for the utilization of the scale in this research.

The response categories for the scale used to measure the principle of least interest were scored one through five. Therefore, the highest score a respondent could receive is seventy. The lowest possible score is fourteen. In the listing below, items four, seven, thirteen, and fourteen were scored as reversed, or negative items. That is,
"strongly agree" was scored "one" and "strongly disagree" was scored "five." The remaining items were scored positively. With this manner of scoring, higher scores indicate greater interest and lower scores indicate lesser interest. The set of directions presented to the respondents, the fourteen items used, along with the response categories and critical ratios for each item, are given as follows:

**Directions:** Among the important interpersonal relations are those that occur between a person and his mate. Keep your mate in mind when you respond to the following questions, i.e. if you are dating different persons, keep them in mind; if you are going steadily with one person, keep this person in mind; if you are pinned, keep in mind the person to whom you are pinned; if you are engaged, keep your fiance(e) in mind; if you are married, keep your spouse in mind. In the rest of this questionnaire the word "partner" will be used to refer to the person you are presently dating, going steadily with, pinned to, engaged to, or to whom you are married.

On each of the following questions, place a check mark behind the symbol that is closest to your feeling on that question. Mark only one time for each question.

SA stands for strongly agree,
A for agree,
NS for not sure,
D for disagree, and
SD for strongly disagree.

1. I believe you should live
up to the expectations of
your partner.                          SA A NS D SD 10.97
2. I try to like the people
my partner likes.                      SA A NS D SD 12.06
3. I like for my partner to
tell me about the things
that happened to him/her
during the day.                         SA A NS D SD 15.44
4. I usually decide where
we go when we go out.                  SA A NS D SD  9.59
5. I always try to be under-
standing when my partner
has problems.                           SA A NS D SD 11.50
6. I enjoy being with my
partner more than any-
one else.                               SA A NS D SD 15.85
7. It has never really
occurred to me that
I might lose my
partner.                                 SA A NS D SD  6.36

Critical Ratio
8. I always try to cheer up my partner whenever he(she) is discouraged. SA A NS D SD 13.99

9. My partner usually decides where we will go and what we will do. SA A NS D SD 13.12

10. It makes me proud when I know that I have pleased my partner. SA A NS D SD 15.00

11. I am greatly interested in my partner. SA A NS D SD 17.32

12. I feel good when I make my partner happy. SA A NS D SD 17.09

13. I think marriage places too great a restriction on your freedom. SA A NS D SD 13.70

14. I don't find it very interesting to listen to all the different things my partner did during the day. SA A NS D SD 15.12

Validity test employing criterion groups:
Critical Ratio = 5.44. \( P < .001 \)

Reliability test:

Split-half correlation corrected = .83

\( N = 824 \)

Seven out of eight hundred thirty-one respondents failed to respond to the items.

The Sample

The sample was collected by contacting section leaders in sociology classes at various levels of instruction up through classes with mixed graduate and undergraduate student composition. An attempt was made to obtain proportions of freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors roughly equal to their numbers in the university at large. An attempt was not made to obtain equal numbers of males and females, as the importance of the males in the analysis was to be primarily for purposes of comparison with the females.

The sampling was done during the spring quarter of 1971 at The Ohio State University. It is felt that a wide diversity of student backgrounds are present, and that the university is not atypical of large universities. The total sample consisted of eight hundred thirty-one respondents.

Description of the Sample

A brief characterization of the sample can be given.
The description is in terms of broad structural categories into which the respondents fall.

The major portion of the analysis was carried out on seven hundred four single, white respondents. Of these, forty-one percent were males and fifty-nine percent were females.

Nearly all of the sample consisted of undergraduate students, with less than one percent of the respondents being graduate students. By class rank, the percentages at each level were the following:

- freshmen 29.4 percent
- sophomores 32.1 percent
- juniors 18.9 percent
- seniors 18.8 percent
- graduate students .8 percent

Eighty-nine percent of the students in the sample held no membership in fraternities or sororities. Thus, with eleven percent of the sample being members of Greek-letter organizations, this membership category is a relatively small proportion of the sample. Observation of Table 2 indicates that there are more women with these memberships than men who are in these organizations.

Thus, since the total sample contains more women than men, and since there is a slightly higher percentage of women having sorority memberships than there is of men in
Table 2. Relationship between Sex-role and Fraternity or Sorority Membership, by Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex-role</th>
<th>Member of Fraternity or Sorority</th>
<th>Not Member of Fraternity or Sorority</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>87.2</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

fraternities, it seems that there is an ample number of women having this organizational characteristic to test the hypothesis regarding sorority membership and the principle of least interest.

Analysis of Data

The married students were deleted from the analysis. It was felt that their memory of the salience of earlier romantic experiences might not be as accurate as would be the memory of those who are single. This is consistent with the view that monogamistic orientations are likely to influence perspectives on earlier romantic experiences. Separate tabulations were made for the graduate students. There were only a few; all were dating, and none were over twenty-three years old. They were retained for the analysis.
Black students were deleted from the analysis. It was felt that their mobility orientations are likely to be sufficiently different than the remaining students as to constitute an additional variable. Control for this variable was achieved by removing it from the analysis.

One widowed person, the six divorced, one separated, and three for whom there were no data on marital status (they were not dating, either), were removed from the analysis. The one international student was also removed from the sample. There had been eighty-nine married respondents, and there were twenty-six Black respondents. The final sample upon which the bulk of the analysis was completed thus consisted of seven hundred four cases. One hundred twenty-seven respondents in all were deleted in the attempt to control for variables extraneous to the hypotheses.

The statistical analysis involved tabulating the frequencies of the variables two and three at a time. Hypotheses were tested by noting variations in central tendencies for the major factors. In general, shifts in central tendency across categories are indicative of correlations between variables.

In the analysis of romantic experiences, medians were used because the level of measurement does not have the precision required for the use of means. Medians are also a fairly stable measure of central tendency.

In using the scale to measure mobility orientations as
an independent variable, responses were dichotomized into "high" and "low." This was done by calculating the median and placing those above it into the "high" category. Those equal to or below the median were placed in the "low" category.

The analysis of the scale to measure the principle of least interest was done by a test of significance. The critical ratio was used to determine whether or not the means for two groups could have been randomly generated from the same population. The .05 level of probability was used for making the decision about the variations between means. If the probability value is lower than .05 it was concluded that the research hypothesis was supported. The null hypothesis thus underlies all significance tests. All tests are two-tailed tests.

The specific findings of the research are in the following chapter.
CHAPTER THREE

THE FINDINGS

The first hypothesis of this study deals with the replication of Kephart's findings. It is directed toward the question of sex-role differences in cumulative romantic experiences.

Hypothesis One

Sex-role is directly related to the number of romantic experiences which are reported.

A test of the reliability of Kephart's findings is made here. Observation of Table 3 indicates that Kephart's major pattern is also found in the data of this study. Almost without qualification it can be stated that the pattern for the males appears in even starker form in the present research. Their median numbers of romantic experiences rise from a low of three at ages eighteen, nineteen, and twenty, at a steady increase to eight and one-half for those in the twenty-three and twenty-four year old category.¹

¹In the course of ordering the number of romantic experiences for the calculation of the medians, it was dis-
Table 3. Median Number of Cumulative Romantic Experiences, by Age of Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Males N=267</th>
<th>Females N=400</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the women, the data pattern from Kephart's research also appears. Since the changes through the age range do not show the sudden gradations which are found for the males, upon first inspection it may appear that Kephart's pattern barely appeared. Actually it is, for all purposes, as pronounced as in his data. Kephart's median values for women ran from 7.1 at age eighteen, raised to 7.9 at nineteen, and dropped to 6.7 at ages twenty-three and twenty-four. The range of the diminution of romantic experiences covered that thirty-four persons reported no romantic experiences. These persons were dropped from the analysis of reported romantic experiences. Three seventeen year olds were also dropped. The number of cases for this portion of the analysis is thus six hundred sixty-seven.
is thus 1.2. In the present research the medians fall in value from 5.0 at age eighteen to 4.0 at ages twenty-three and twenty-four. (See Table 3). This is a range of 1.0. It is an interesting pattern. These are presumably romantically active college females, certainly in the years many would regard as their peak in terms of dating activity and multiple romantic experiences. Yet, these experiences are reported to decline!

Replication of this aspect of Kephart's research upholds his earlier finding. The number of cases is not small, four hundred women having returned completed questionnaires. Concurrently, two hundred sixty-seven men have the pattern of the reported frequencies of romantic experiences not only following the pattern reported by Kephart, but, in a linear pattern, their data show an even more sudden rise in the medians.

**Hypothesis Two**

Mobility orientation is negatively related to the number of romantic experiences.

In order to test this hypothesis it is necessary to control for age and sex differences between respondents. Mobility orientations are introduced as a test factor.

Starting with the males, and examining the median number of romantic experiences by age, differences by mobility orientations can be noted. The differences are not great at
all for males. Those with high mobility orientations have only slightly differing amounts of romantic experience than those with low mobility orientations. (See Table 4). At the higher ages, at two age levels, the males with lower mobility orientations report about one-half of a romantic experience more, on the average, than those with high mobility orientations. This is consistent with the hypothesis, but does not substantiate it. At age eighteen, those with high mobility orientation report an average of one more romantic experience. It is possible that these males are more aggressive and extroverted at eighteen than their counterparts with low mobility orientations. If more aggressive and extroverted, the males with high mobility orientations may date more, and thus become involved slightly more often.

Table 4. Median Number of Cumulative Romantic Experiences for Males, by Mobility Orientation, Controlled for Age (N=267)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Mobility Orientation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Testing for differences in romantic experiences among women, with age controlled, by differences in mobility orientation, it is found that a change in the pattern occurs. The females with high mobility orientations start at eighteen years old with more romantic experiences than their counterparts with lower mobility orientations and by age twenty-two and the age category twenty-three and twenty-four have, on the average, twice as many romantic experiences. Looking at the medians for those women having low mobility orientations a very intriguing set of changes occurs. The medians start out fairly low, and never become larger than 5.5, then drop off abruptly at age twenty-two to 3.0, and at ages twenty-three and twenty-four to 4.0. See Table 5. And, of course, these are just exactly the ages where the romantic experiences would be expected to be the highest.

At this point, a four-variable analysis was attempted, and the introduction of the fourth variable, mobility orientations, located the presence of the suppression of previous romantic experiences. Women who have low mobility orientations seem, when they pass age twenty-one, to give

\[ \text{It of course can be counter-argued that the older college women are less desirable to date, but, in the present data, this would mean saying that the twenty-two year-old seniors, during the spring quarter of their senior year are, and have been, the least desirable girls on the campus since it is this age group whose median shows the most precipitous drop. The decrease for those with low mobility orientations is from 5.5 at age twenty-one to 3.0 at age twenty-two. This is a pretty large drop for girls because they are one} \]
less credence to the earlier commitments in their romantic life.

Table 5. Median Number of Cumulative Romantic Experiences for Females, by Mobility Orientation, Controlled for Age (N=400)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Mobility Orientation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>5.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>5.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-24</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beyond this, another interesting pattern can be ascertained in the larger distribution of frequencies for the variables tabulated here. See Table 5. If, for ages twenty and twenty-one the medians for those women who have high and low mobility orientations are looked at as if they were a four-fold table, very interesting shifts on the diagonal are

year older, and presumably have one more year of dating and romantic experience.
present. At age twenty, those with high mobility orientation have 5.5 romantic experiences. Those of the same age with low mobility orientation have only 4.0 romantic experiences. The next age though, age twenty-one, reverses the pattern. (See Table 6). This is a large change, relatively speaking, for the median number of romantic experiences. The number of cases is not small. It is one hundred fifty-five women. Stopping at this point it would remain unexplained.

The only explanations which can be offered are post hoc, of course. Many speculations could be made. Here, a lead is sought by additional observation of the data. The next two age categories show a different pattern in the contrast, but one just as stark. Reference is made back to Table 5. Those women with high mobility orientations begin to report greater numbers of romantic experiences again. Those with low mobility orientations show a sudden drop, at age twenty-two, to 3.0, and at ages twenty-three and twenty-four, 4.0 is the median value. Respective values for women with high mobility orientations are 6.0 and 8.0.

The explanation offered is partly speculation. Perhaps at age twenty-two those women who have high mobility orientations see their course in life, in terms of romance, in more relativistic terms. They sample variously from academic pursuits, romance, and, likely, occupational attainments. The idea of centering their life's organization
Table 6. Median Number of Cumulative Romantic Experiences for Females Ages Twenty and Twenty-One, by Mobility Orientation (N=155)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Mobility Orientation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

around one man may be receding to some degree. We are only speaking of averages, but the other side of the explanation would be that for the girl with low mobility orientations, as she passes age twenty-one, the presence in her life of husband and family may loom large, and thus, the presence of the "monogamistic ideal" referred to by Kephart may impinge on her present romantic orientations, with suppression of earlier romantic experiences occurring. Only additional research can put this explanation to a test, and provide additional answers.

Hypothesis Three

Mobility orientations are negatively related to forming interest in a current dating partner.

The hypothesis that the principle of least interest will be operating in such a way that persons with higher
mobility orientations form interest more gradually is tested here. The dichotomized mobility classifications are used as the independent variable and the critical ratio was calculated on the scale to measure the principle of least interest.

No significant difference was found. (See Table 7). The value for the critical ratio was .31. This is not

Table 7. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Principle of Least Interest, by Mobility Orientation*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mobility Orientation</th>
<th>$\bar{X}$</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>55.34</td>
<td>6.80</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>.31</td>
<td>.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>55.18</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>369</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Two persons with high mobility orientations and four persons with low mobility orientations did not respond to the scale to measure the principle of least interest.

significant at the .05 level. The difference between the means was slight. Those with high mobility orientations even scored slightly higher on the scale for measuring the principle of least interest than the respondents with lower
mobility orientations. The hypothesis of a negative relationship between mobility orientation and the operation of the principle of least interest is not upheld.

**Hypothesis Four**

Sorority membership is related to cautiousness in forming interest in a dating partner.

This hypothesis is in line with Scott's reasoning on the function of the sorority at state universities. A test is made to determine whether or not the principle of least interest seems to be operating to a greater degree with sorority members.

The hypothesis is tested by comparing means for women having membership in a sorority with those women who are not members. The critical ratio is used for the test of significance. In the comparison of the means, no significant difference is found. (See Table 8). The women in sororities score slightly higher on the scale used. The critical ratio is only .70.

At this point, the question of whether or not women in sororities even have higher mobility orientations occurred to the writer. A number of changes in regard to mobility orientations among middle-class youth have taken place on the campus and in American society, in general, since the appearance of Scott's article. For these reasons it was decided that a test would be made for differences in mobility
Table 8. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Principle of Least Interest, by Sorority Membership and Non-membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational Membership</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorority Member</td>
<td>58.21</td>
<td>5.22</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
<td>.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; .05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>57.60</td>
<td>5.96</td>
<td>360</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Two of the women who are not members of a sorority did not respond to the scale to measure the principle of least interest.

orientation between sorority girls and those not in sororities.

The test yielded some engaging findings. Observation of Table 9 shows that the difference is significant. The critical ratio is 2.11; p < .05. The women in sororities have a lower mean score for mobility orientation than do women who are not in sororities. This may well indicate some shifts in the locus of mobility strivings on the campus. It could also indicate greater security in regard to this variable by sorority women. Alternatively, it could indicate a shift in the recruitment pattern of the women's Greek-letter organizations on campus. Finally, it should
Table 9. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Scale to Measure Mobility Orientations, by Sorority Membership and Non-membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational Membership</th>
<th>$\bar{X}$</th>
<th>$S$</th>
<th>$N$</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>$P$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorority Member</td>
<td>22.54</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>$&lt; .05$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>23.55</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>362</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*One of the women with membership in a sorority did not respond to the scale to measure mobility orientations.

be noted that the difference is only a little over one whole number on a scale which has a possible range of eleven to thirty-three.

After noting the above finding that women in sororities have lower mobility orientations than women who are not members in these organizations, it was decided that the data indicating a higher mobility orientation for women not in sororities raise a question meriting additional analysis. Do university women have higher mobility aspirations than university men? It is certainly a relevant question to bring up in the process of analysis of mobility orientations and romantic experiences.
The test was made. In Table 10 it can be seen that women in this sample do, in fact, have higher mobility orientations, on the average, than do the men. The critical ratio is 1.08 and is not significant, though. It cannot therefore, be said that women in the universe of university women have higher mobility orientations than do the university men. Nevertheless, the difference in the sample, though a slight one, is a theoretically interesting one in terms of modal patterns in the division of labor in the larger social structure.

Table 10. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Scale to Measure Mobility Orientations, by Sex-role

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex-role</th>
<th>$\bar{X}$</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>23.14</td>
<td>3.82</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>&gt; .05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>23.42</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>414</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSIONS

A summary of the major findings of the research is presented in this chapter. Suggestions for further research follow the summary given of the findings.

Summary

It was found that the major pattern for cumulative romantic experiences found in the previous study by Kephart was a reliable one, as far as indications from the present research go. The general set of changes for the females' cumulative romantic experience is repeated in the data from this research. For males, the changes in number of romantic experiences have a broader range than in the previous data, and have a more vivid linear pattern of increases upward through the age range. The findings from Kephart's research can be said to have been upheld by the findings of this later research effort.

At a more general level it can be said that the present research resulted in additional data bearing on the question of differential romantic histories by sex-role. The posi-
tion that there is variation by sex-role in the interpretation of earlier experiences is given some support here.

An additional variable was also introduced into the analysis of cumulative romantic experiences. Mobility orientation was added to the analysis, with age and sex controlled. The presence of this additional variable is correlated with only a slight change, for males, in romantic experiences. At the lower ages, males who have higher mobility orientations have slightly higher median numbers of romantic experiences. As age progresses, the pattern reverses itself. Although a reversal occurs, the actual magnitude of the changes is small, being on the average about one-half of a reported romantic experience, by age category, when a difference exists. For males who are age twenty-two, no difference between those with high mobility orientations and those with low mobility orientations exists in the number of reported romantic experiences. There is some variation for all other ages, from age eighteen through ages twenty-three and twenty-four.

For females, more striking changes in the distribution of romantic experiences occurred with the introduction of mobility orientations as an additional variable. Women with higher mobility orientations have higher medians for romantic experiences at age eighteen than women with lower mobility orientations. There is a drop at age twenty-one for women with high mobility orientations. At this age, women
with low mobility orientations surpass them. However, from then on, through age twenty-four, the women with higher mobility orientations report greater numbers of romantic experiences than the females with lower mobility orientations. For age twenty-two and for the age category of twenty-three and twenty-four, the ratio of median numbers of romantic experiences is two-to-one.

While the major pattern was an increase in reported numbers of romantic experiences for women with high mobility orientations, the women who have low mobility orientations show a general decrease, after age nineteen, in their romantic experiences. The only exception is for those who are twenty-one years old. This appears to be an anomaly in the data. The salience of the difference is great enough, age-group by age-group, to warrant additional research on romantic experiences, using mobility variables as explanatory concepts.

For the present time, the explanation offered for the declining numbers, with increasing age, of reported romantic experiences among women with lower mobility orientations is that these women may place, as single women, less emphasis upon external and occupational successes for themselves, and may find family and marriage roles more attractive. Thus, lower incidences of reporting previous romantic involvements may be indicative of these women adapting their romantic orientations to the monogamous union of marriage.
In addition, this research found no differences on the principle of least interest by mobility orientation. Evidently desiring higher mobility does not lead to greater caution in developing greater interest in a dating partner.

Sorority membership is not related to greater caution in forming interest or an involvement with a current dating partner. It was also found that sorority membership is not related to having higher mobility orientations than other women. In fact, women who are not members of Greek-letter organizations have mobility orientations which are higher than those for women in sororities. The difference was statistically significant. The finding raises a number of questions about changes in mobility orientations on the campus.

It should also be recalled that a broad comparison of men and women on their mobility orientations shows that university women have slightly higher aspirations than do university men. The difference was not significant. Whether or not another, and possibly larger sample would contain women with higher mobility orientations than men makes an interesting question for research.

---

1The use of the word "caution" is not intended to imply rationality or design, but rather a lack of spontaneity or willingness to become readily involved.
Suggestions for Future Research

It seems that future attempts at research on the factors involved in the control and location of romantic experiences would benefit from even larger samples. By the time a four-way breakdown of variables is accomplished, the frequencies are growing smaller in some of the cells. Yet, the utilization of four and even five variables is necessary for two main reasons. The first is that age and sex must be controlled. This is because of the cumulative nature of romantic experiences, and because of the differential emphasis given to earlier experiences, by the sexes. The second reason for the necessity of employing four and five variables is that there are no doubt complex interrelations between the several social factors involved in variations of romantic experiences.

It can be said that explanation of the social structuring of romantic experiences will require multivariate analysis, and that the continued refinement of variables is desirable for this research. Some leads from the present attempt at research on the topic can be given.

It is possible that the measurement of actual mobility could be nearly as useful as an explanatory variable as mobility orientation. Probably intergenerational mobility changes, or their absence, could be used. There are several ways to measure this. One straightforward method would be
simply to compare persons who are the first generation to attend college with those who are not. In an age when large proportions of high school graduates attend universities, this might be a useful variable.

Also, mobility orientation is a concept involving several dimensions. Occupational mobility, in terms of upward social mobility, was emphasized in this research. The presence of other forms of mobility orientations, such as geographical mobility, or lateral social mobility might, if studied, serve as additional explanatory variables for the occurrence of romantic experiences.

The principle of least interest seems to have strong potential in sociological research on interpersonal involvement. The concept is rich in theoretical content, and improved measurement could be quite useful.

It is suspected that the historically more passive aspects of feminine roles encourage responses on the present scale which result in lower scores for women. Because of stronger elements of passivity in female dating roles, it would be of benefit for research on the principle of least interest, were a separate scale for men and women constructed, and each refined by separate validity and reliability tests.

In addition to the suggestion above, it would be desirable, as part of the validation of scales to measure the principle of least interest, if measurement of actual
attempts at the control of emotional involvement could be
accomplished. This would be beneficial, as conscious con­
trol of emotional involvement has been held to sometimes be
a component of the operation of the principle of least in­
terest.

Furthermore, attempts at domination through one person
having lesser involvement is sometimes part of the operation
of the principle of least interest. Measuring this latter
aspect would be very useful for researchers, but, so far,
it has not been possible. Perhaps some of these sugges­
tions which are still in the realm of possibilities can be­
come realities in future research.
APPENDIX A

THE QUESTIONNAIRE
This is a study aimed at finding out your views on various issues in American society and on the campus.

We are interested in finding out exactly what you, today, think about some of these questions, as you are in a better position to know than so many who have opinions on these topics. We will appreciate your honest answers. We are interested solely in statistical relationships and will, under no circumstances, report responses on an individual basis or in a way that could identify you. Please do not put your name on this paper. It is to be completely anonymous.

THANK YOU.
WRITE OR CHECK IN THE APPROPRIATE SPACE

1. What was your age on your last birthday? __________
2. Sex: Male _________ Female _________
3. Year in the university:
   1. Freshman _____  4. Senior _____
   2. Sophomore _____  5. Graduate Student _____
4. What college are you in?
   1. College of Biological Sciences _____
   2. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences _____
   3. College of Education _____
   4. College of the Arts _____
   5. College of Engineering _____
   6. College of Administrative Science _____
   7. College of Agriculture and Home Economics _____
   8. College of Humanities _____
   9. College of Mathematics and Physical Sciences _____
   10. University College _____
   11. College of Medicine (Nursing) _____
   12. Graduate School or other Professional School, such as Law, Pharmacy _____
5. What is your father's occupation? (What sort of work does he do?)
   __________________________
6. Does your father receive a salary from an employer or is he self-employed?
   1. Salaried ____
   2. Self-employed ____

7. How many people live in your home community?
   1. Less than 2,500 ____
   2. 2,500 - 25,000 ____
   3. 25,000 - 100,000 ____
   4. Between 100,000 and around one million ____
   5. Over one million ____

8. What is your marital status?
   1. Single ____
   2. Married ____
   3. Divorced ____
   4. Widowed ____
   5. Separated ____

9. If single, how would you classify your present stage in dating?
   1. Not dating ____
   2. Dating around ____
   3. Dating one person steadily ____
   4. Pinned ____
   5. Engaged ____

10. Approximately how many boys (girls) have you dated up to now?

11. I am:
   1. An Ohio resident ____
   2. From out of state ____
   3. International student ____

12. I am:
   1. White ____
   2. Black ____
   3. Oriental ____

13. I would say that in terms of status in American society my parents' status is:
   1. low ____
   2. medium ____
   3. high ____
14. I was reared as a member of the ___ (check one) ___ faith.
   1. Protestant ____ 2. Catholic ____
   3. Jewish ____ 4. Other ____ 5. None ____
15. Which best describes you?
   1. Not in love ____ 3. Engaged ____
   2. In love, but not engaged ____ 4. Married ____
16. How many times do you feel that you have been infatu­
   ated with a person of the opposite sex? _________
17. How many times do you feel that you have been in
   love? _________
18. If a boy (girl) had all the other qualities you de­
   sired, would you marry this person if you were not
   in love with him (her)?
   1. Yes ____ 2. No ____ 3. Undecided ____
   Comments: ________________________________

**Directions:** Among the important interpersonal relations are
those that occur between a person and his mate. Keep your
mate in mind when you respond to the following questions,
i.e., if you are dating different persons, keep them in
mind; if you are going steadily with one person, keep this
person in mind; if you are pinned, keep in mind the person
to whom you are pinned; if you are engaged, keep your
fiancé(e) in mind; and if you are married, keep your spouse
in mind. In the rest of this questionnaire the word "part­
ner" will be used to refer to the person you are presently
dating, going steadily with, pinned to, engaged to, or to whom you are married.

On each of the following questions, place a check mark behind the symbol that is closest to your feeling on that question. Mark only one time for each question. SA stands for strongly agree, A for agree, NS for not sure, D for disagree, and SD for strongly disagree.

I believe you should live up to the expectations of your partner.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I try to like the people my partner likes.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I like for my partner to tell me about the things that happened to him (her) during the day.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I usually decide where we go when we go out.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I always try to be understanding when my partner has problems.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I enjoy being with my partner more than anyone else.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

It has never really occurred to me that I might lose my partner.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I always try to cheer up my partner whenever he (she) is discouraged.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____
My partner usually decides where we will go and what we will do.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

It makes me proud when I know that I have pleased my partner.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I am greatly interested in my partner.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I feel good when I make my partner happy.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I think marriage places too great a restriction on your freedom.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

I don't find it very interesting to listen to all the different things my partner did during the day.

SA _____ A _____ NS _____ D _____ SD _____

Suppose you were offered an opportunity to make a substantial advance in a job or occupation. Indicate how important each item listed below would be in stopping you from making that advance by circling 1, 2, or 3 after the item according to the following classifications.

1) Might stop me from making the change.

2) Would be a serious consideration but wouldn't stop me.

3) Wouldn't matter at all.

1. Endanger your health. 1 2 3
2. Leave your family for sometime. 1 2 3
3. Move around the country a lot.  
4. Leave your community. 
5. Leave your friends. 
6. Give up leisure time. 
7. Keep quiet about political views. 
8. Keep quiet about religious views. 
9. Learn a new routine. 
10. Work harder than you are now. 
11. Take on more responsibility. 

1. What do you believe is the very latest age you should get married? 
   Age _____

2. Are you a member of a fraternity or a sorority? 
   1. Yes _____  2. No _____

3. If the answer to the previous question is "No", have you dropped a membership in a fraternity or sorority? 
   1. Yes _____  2. No _____

Imagine that you are asked to have a photograph taken that will be placed in a Time Capsule for 100 years - the purpose is to preserve an accurate record for future generations. 

Assume you can have the picture taken any way you want. Describe the picture you would want to have included in this Time Capsule. Where would you want the picture taken? Would it be primarily a picture of you? Would there be others in it? If so, who would they be? What would you
or they be doing? In general, describe the details and what would be included in this photograph as accurately as you can in a few sentences.
First decide whether you agree or disagree with the view expressed. Then check the degree of your agreement or disagreement with the views expressed in each question. We are not interested in your tolerance of other people's beliefs. Please answer these questions on the basis of how YOU feel toward the views expressed. Your name will never be connected with these answers. Please be as honest as you can. Thank you.

**Love** means the emotional state which is more intense than affection and which you would define as love.  
**Strong Affection** means affection which is stronger than physical attraction, average fondness, or "liking" - but less strong than love.  
**Petting** means sexually stimulating behavior more intimate than kissing and simple hugging but not including full sexual relations.

**MALE STANDARDS (BOTH MEN AND WOMEN CHECK THIS SECTION).**

1. I believe that petting is acceptable for the male before marriage when he is engaged to be married.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td>Slight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. I believe that petting is acceptable for the male before marriage when he is in love.

   Strong _____      Strong _____
   Agree Medium _____ Disagree Medium _____
   Slight _____      Slight _____

3. I believe that petting is acceptable for the male before marriage when he feels strong affection for his partner.

   Strong _____      Strong _____
   Agree Medium _____ Disagree Medium _____
   Slight _____      Slight _____

4. I believe that petting is acceptable for the male before marriage even if he does not feel particularly affectionate toward his partner.

   Strong _____      Strong _____
   Agree Medium _____ Disagree Medium _____
   Slight _____      Slight _____

5. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the male before marriage when he is engaged to be married.

   Strong _____      Strong _____
   Agree Medium _____ Disagree Medium _____
   Slight _____      Slight _____

6. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the male before marriage when he is in love.

   Strong _____      Strong _____
   Agree Medium _____ Disagree Medium _____
   Slight _____      Slight _____
7. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the male before marriage when he feels strong affection for his partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the male before marriage even if he does not feel particularly affectionate toward his partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FEMALE STANDARDS (BOTH MEN AND WOMEN CHECK THIS SECTION).

1. I believe that petting is acceptable for the female before marriage when she is engaged to be married.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. I believe that petting is acceptable for the female before marriage when she is in love.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. I believe that petting is acceptable for the female before marriage when she feels strong affection for her partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. I believe that petting is acceptable for the female before marriage even if she does not feel particularly affectionate toward her partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Slight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. I feel that full sexual relations are acceptable for the female before marriage when she is engaged to be married.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Slight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the female before marriage when she is in love.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Slight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the female before marriage when she feels strong affection for her partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Slight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. I believe that full sexual relations are acceptable for the female before marriage even if she does not feel particularly affectionate toward her partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Slight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. I would say that the person I marry will achieve a status and style of life that is:
   1. Much lower than that of my parents' _____
   2. Lower than that of my parents' _____
   3. Equal to that of my parents' _____
   4. Somewhat higher than that of my parents' _____
   5. Much higher than that of my parents' _____

2. At about what age did you start dating?
   1. Under 12 _____  8. 17 years old _____
   2. Never started _____ 9. 18 years old _____
   3. 12 years old _____ 10. 19 years old _____
   4. 13 years old _____ 11. 20 years old _____
   5. 14 years old _____ 12. 21 years old _____
   6. 15 years old _____ 13. 22 years old _____
   7. 16 years old _____ 14. Over 22 _____

3. How would you place yourself in regard to Women's Liberation movements?
   1. Actively support them _____ 4. Neutral toward them _____
   2. Support them _____
   3. Undecided _____ 5. Oppose them _____
Table 11. Sex-role and Responses to the Question, "If a boy (girl) had all the other qualities you desired, would you marry this person if you were not in love with him (her)?", by Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex-role</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>No Data</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>84.3</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The "No Data" category was not included in the calculation of the chi-square statistic.

\[
X^2 = 8.87
\]
\[
d.f. = 2
\]
\[
P < .02 > .01
\]
Table 12. Sex-role and Responses to the Statement, "I would say that the person I marry will achieve a status and style of life that is: much lower, lower, equal to, somewhat higher, much higher, than that of my parents," by Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Much Lower</th>
<th>Lower</th>
<th>Equal</th>
<th>Somewhat Higher</th>
<th>Much Higher</th>
<th>Data</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>50.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Owing to the low number of frequencies in the "Much Lower" and "No Data" categories, they were not included in the calculation of the chi-square statistic.

\[ \chi^2 = 9.15 \]
\[ d.f. = 3 \]
\[ P < .05 > .02 \]
Table 13. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Principle of Least Interest, by Sex-role*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex-role</th>
<th>$\bar{X}$</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>51.74</td>
<td>6.79</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>11.99</td>
<td>$&lt; .001$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>57.68</td>
<td>5.86</td>
<td>413</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Four males and two females did not respond to the scale to measure the principle of least interest.
Table 14. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Principle of Least Interest, by Fraternity Membership and Non-membership*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraternity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>51.44</td>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>51.77</td>
<td>6.86</td>
<td>260</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Four men who are not members of a fraternity did not respond to the scale to measure the principle of least interest.
Table 15. Means, Standard Deviations, Number of Cases, Critical Ratio, and Probability Level for the Scale to Measure Mobility Orientations, by Fraternity Membership and Non-membership*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational Membership</th>
<th>$\bar{X}$</th>
<th>$S$</th>
<th>$N$</th>
<th>C.R.</th>
<th>$P$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraternity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>23.72</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.80</td>
<td>&gt; .05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>23.08</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>263</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*One male who is not a member of a fraternity did not respond to the scale to measure mobility orientations.
Books


Articles


Moss, J. Joel; Apolonio, Frank; and Jensen, Margaret. "The Premarital Dyad During the Sixties." Journal of Marriage and the Family, XXXIII (February, 1971), 50-69.


Unpublished Material