



WEEK 3

Intimacy within Partnerships
and Families



COMMITMENT

Trust

Unrestrained self-disclosure

Partner relationships

Parent-child relationships

Debriefing conversations

Intimation sequences



SELF-EXPRESSION

Family Background

Partner Relationships

Parent-Child Relationships



MANAGING PRIVACY

Disclosing private information to loved ones can create complications.

Debriefing conversations (how's your day) lead to increased marital satisfaction.

Siblings disclosures are related to perceived interpersonal closeness.

Medical disclosures are differ as a result of gender, relationships to certain relatives, privacy rules, nature of the disease, and culture.

Expectations of privacy/openness depend on family type.

SEXUALITY AND COMMUNICATION

Socialization

Parent-child communication

Family Sex Communication Quotient results:

- Mutual dialogue
- Openness
- Well before 16
- Frequent, effective communication

SEXUALITY AND COMMUNICATION

Maddock's (1989) family sexuality communication types

- Sexually neglectful
 - Sexually abusive
 - Sexually healthy families
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- Communicating about Same-Sex Partnerships



SEXUALITY AND PARTNER COMMUNICATION

“Communication in the bedroom starts in other rooms” (Schwartz, 1994)

Monological/Dialogical sex

Discourse of intercourse

Euphemisms

Sexual self-disclosure

Nonverbal sexual communication



INTIMACY FACTORS

Effort

Sacrifice

Forgiveness

Sanctification



BARRIERS TO INTIMACY

General fears

- Merger
- Exposure
- Attack
- Abandonment

Jealousy

Deception

MAINTAINING INTIMACY ACROSS FAMILY FORMS

Same-sex couples

Stepfamilies

Adults raising children without partners