



Prifysgol
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ECAY6005: Relationships, Communication and Families in Contemporary Society

Family and Communication Theory – Practical Session

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Transforming Education; Transforming Lives

2024



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Session Recap

- In our last session we explored Theory that supported communication within family dynamics
- Can you remember that these theories were?

Theoretical Evolution

Social Darwinism

19th Century

A form of social DARWINISM theorized that the structure and function of family adapted, as a social organism, to the environment.

Marxist Theory

19th Century

Employed the concept of ECONOMIC DETERMINISM to explain how economic resources determined social power, which in turn determined class struggle.

Durkheim

19th Century

Explained the existence and the changes in family structure and function in terms of the family's functional role in the preservation of society.

Durkheim

19th Century

Functionalism analyzed the role of family as part of a greater whole, in which an equilibrium with other social institutions is established

Systems theory

20th Century

This contrasted with biological or economical determinism of social Darwinism and Marxist Theory

Structural-functional

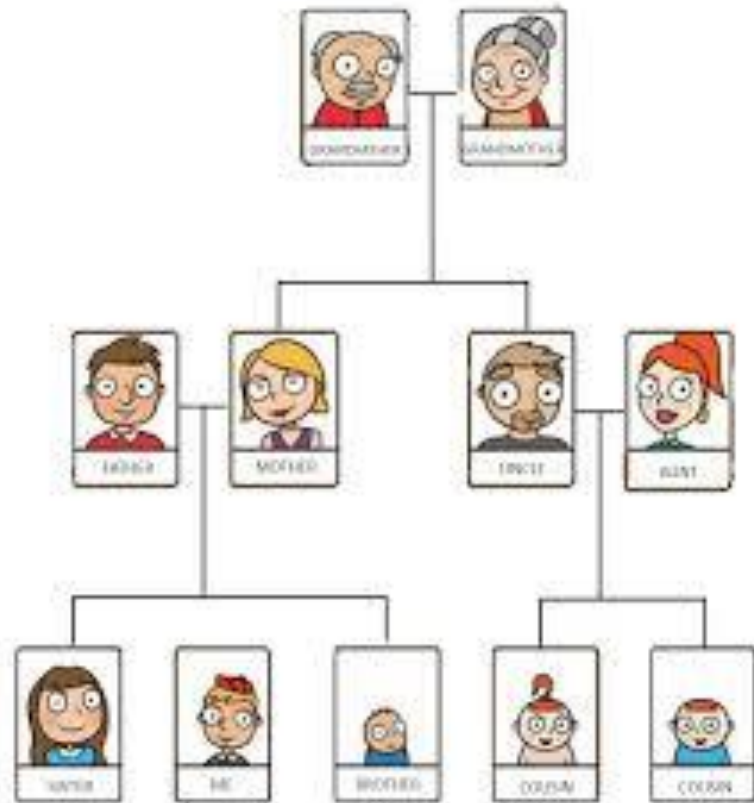
Late 20th Century

Parson's perspective viewed society as an organism striving to resist change and to maintain itself in a state of equilibrium.

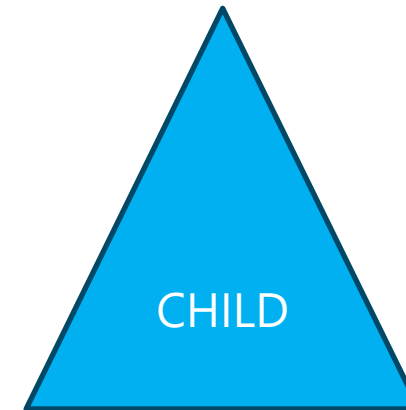
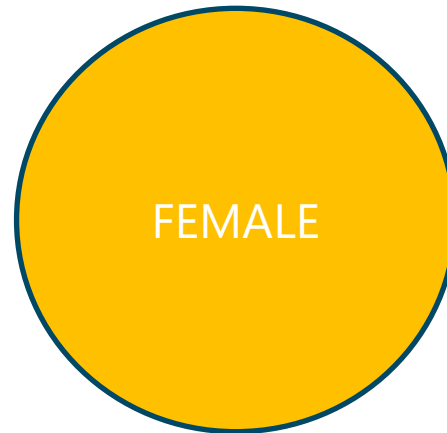
Theory into Practice

- In this session we will be exploring communication techniques further.
- This is a practical session

TASK 1 – Create a family tree

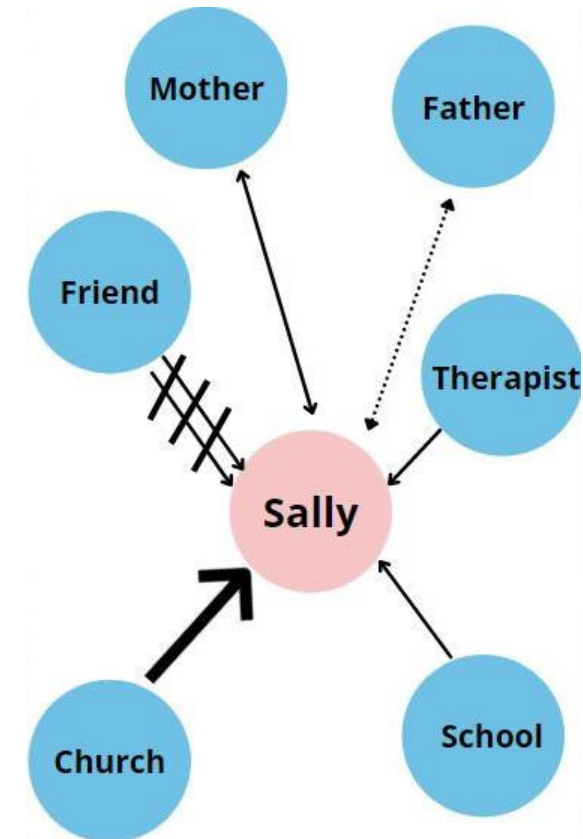


My Family Tree



TASK 2 – Create an Eco-Map

- Create an eco-map centred around you and your family.
- Remember it is all about your lines!
- Dark thick line – Strong relationship
- Thin line with arrow pointing one way – Good energy
- Thin line with arrow pointing both ways – reciprocal
- Broken lines – weak
- Dark line with arrows pointing both ways and short lines overlapping - strenuous



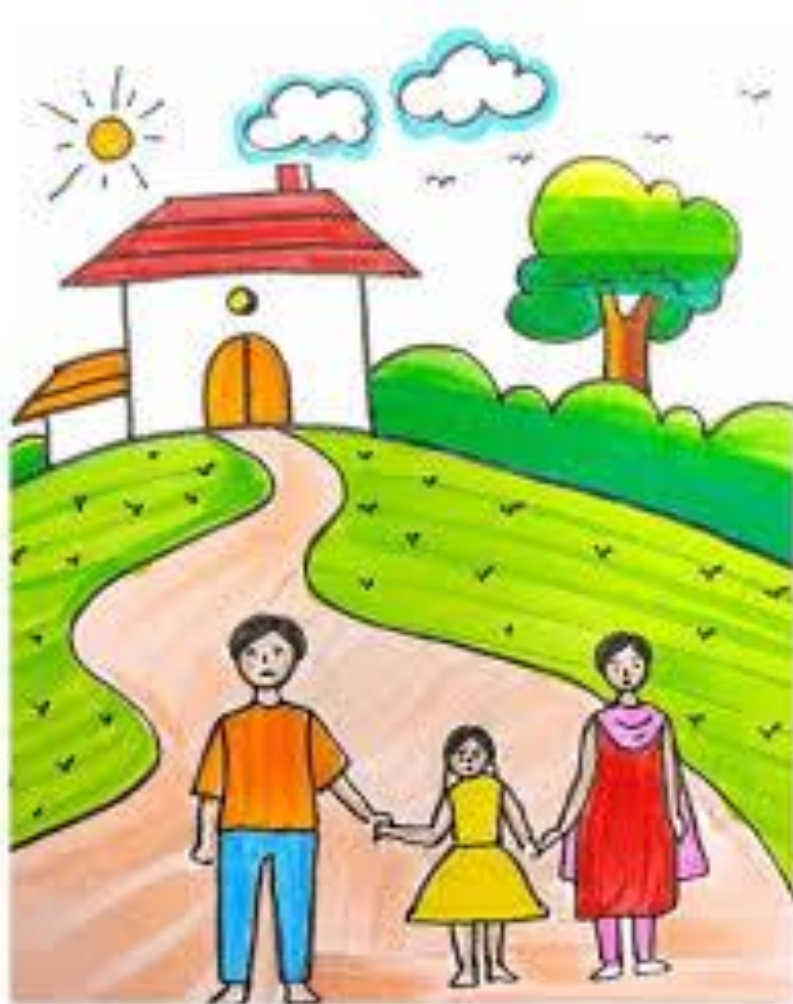
Question

- What is the benefit of eco-mapping compared to a family tree?

- Create a one-page profile that you would be able to give to a child or young person

- [illegible]

TASK 4 – Draw your family Picture



TASK 5 – Communication Therapy

- Choose between Play Therapy and Animal Assisted Therapy and develop a game/ activity/ circumstance that would benefit from that therapy.
- Think about:
 - What therapy
 - Why it would be appropriate
 - How it would benefit
 - Anticipated outcome



References

- Newman, B. M., & Newman, P. R. (2011) *Family Thoery*
Available at:
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/biochemistry-genetics-and-molecular-biology/family-theory#:~:text=Family%20theories%20focus%20on%20the,that%20enhance%20or%20disrupt%20development>