

Trends and issues in family sciences

Family science

Family science is a discipline of study in which “the primary goal are the discovery, verification and application of knowledge about the family”

The scientific study of family and close interpersonal relationship.

Family science isn't just a collection of individuals- as a whole, a family is greater than sum of its parts

- **It is multi disciplinary**
- **It is evolved into its own discipline but pieces of its stems from other social sciences like sociology, psychology, anthropology, family and consumer science and demography.**
- **It looks on information, then look at what science says, then we examine the effect on family, then look how we implement change.**

Family Science

- **Family science provides unique and important perspective on understanding working with families.**
- **Research in psychology and sociology focuses on observing and describing individuals or groups.**
- **Family science focus specifically on family and understand the distinct dynamic we find within them in relationship, interaction & more.**

Family a social group characterized by common residence, economic cooperation and reproduction. It includes adult of both sexes, at least two of whom maintain a socially approved sexual relationship, and one or more children, own or adopted, of the sexually cohabiting adult.

Types of families

- 1. Step families**
- 2. One parent family**
- 3. Dual working family**
- 4. Openly gay family**
- 5. Stay at home dads**

Types of families

**1. Family
of
orientation**

2. Family of procreation

3. Blended family

**Strength-based
approach**



➤ **It is about developing sustainable, self sufficient families by helping identity and establish additional strength-not by saving, doing for, or fixing families.**

Preventive

- ❖ **Family science professional strive to prevent problems within families before they occur**
- ❖ **By minimizing existing problems**
- ❖ **By using education and strength based approach**

Unique skills

- **Family science professional know how to think critically, analytically to work and lead team.**
- **Learned skills in programme development, grant writing, research, strong communication and problem solving abilities.**
- **Positive impact society by empowering families to enrich their own well-being.**



Family system needs to do

- ✓ Establish identity for both family and each other.
- ✓ Define boundaries between family and outside the world
- ✓ Manage the family household
- ✓ Create a warm and nurturing emotional environment
- ✓ Deal with stress encountered over time

History of family science

Before 20th century

- Much of the writings were characterized by:
 - Emotion
 - Superstition
 - Revelation
- With the rise of social Darwinism in second half of 19th century interest peaked in social evolution of marriage and family forms
- Attempts were made to apply Darwin's concept of biological evolution to social forms and institutions

Sources

- Insights concerning family life were typically gleaned from sources such as
- Family folklore
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Theater
- Poetry
- arts

20th century

- During first half there was general shift in academy towards scientific modes of inquiry
- These approaches employed rigorous research methods
- During this time family as a field of inquiry came into its own
- Disciplines like psychology ,sociology, political science, education, anthropology contributed valuable insights but none described it in holistic terms

Early pioneers

- One of early pioneers was sociologist Ernst R. Groves
- In 1922 Groves launched first college course "The family and its social functions."
- In 1931 he published first textbook "Social problems of family"
- He gave special lecture on marriage and family
- He also gave first course on parent education
- In 1939 he inaugurated first three year graduate training program at Duke

Overtime family studies

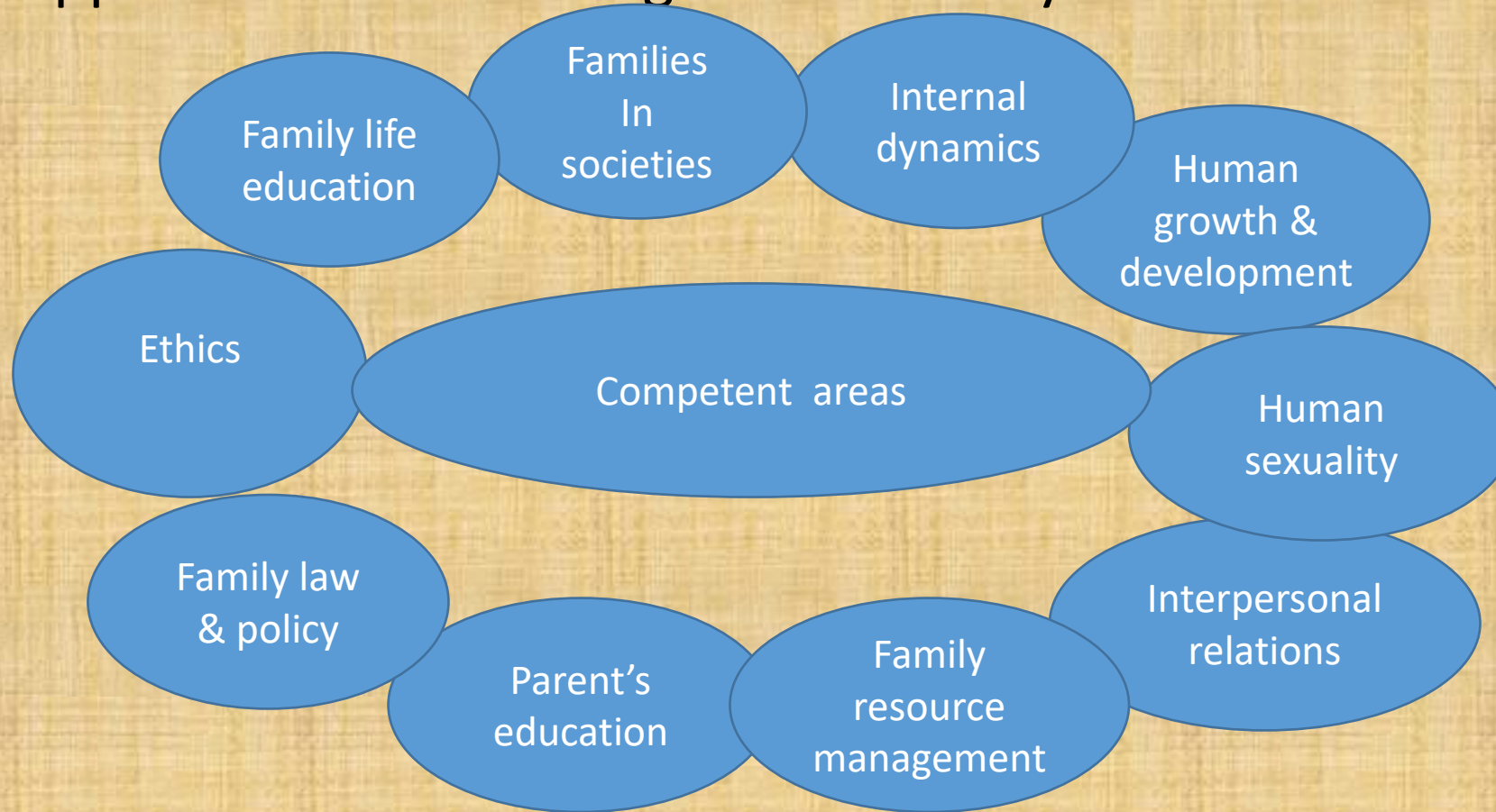
- Family reconstitution that bring scattered information together
- Family were affected by social,economical and political relations called domestic revolutions
- In past structure of family was mostly Godly family were father dominated
- Now family is considered as society and productive unit

Current trends and issues in family science



Family science

- It is a field of study, its primary goals re discover, verification and application of knowledge about family



Development

Career area	Employment opportunities
Education	Teaching is certified
Research	Family life and sexuality education Family peace and justice education Family enrichment Community based research Population studies and demographics
Family intervention	Program evaluation and assessment Individual and family therapy case manager for family treatment program Crisis and hotline services Divorce mediation Abuse protection Victim support services

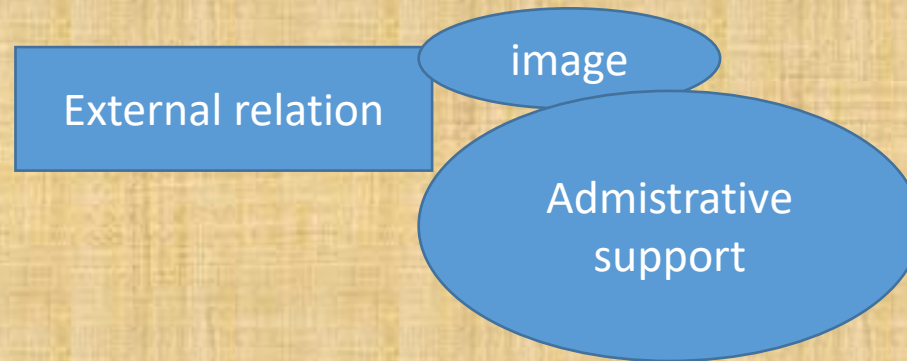
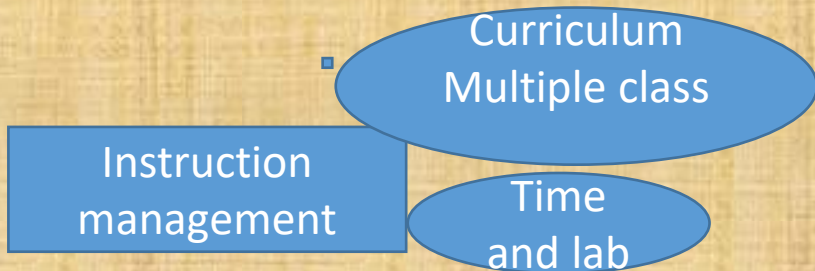
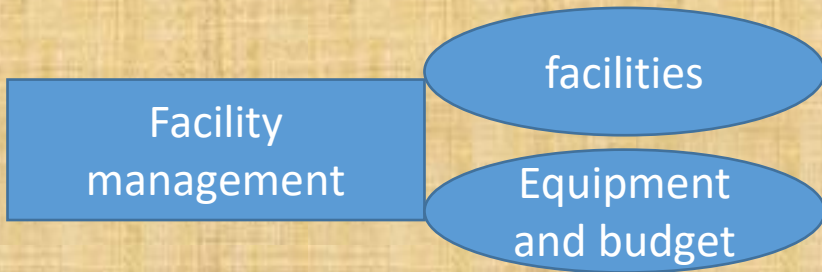
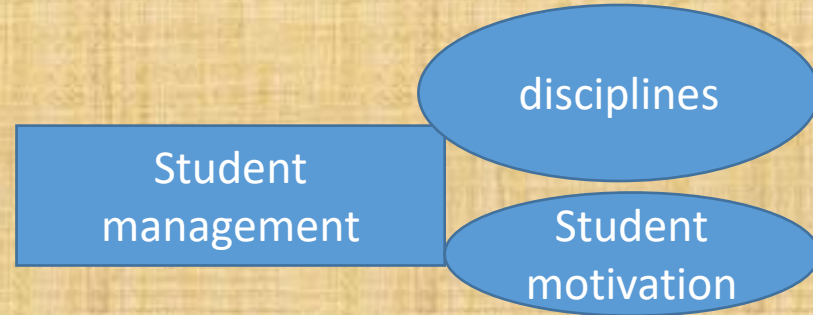
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Government policy	Family policy analyst Advocates for Dependent children Policies for Military families
Writing and communication	Newspaper and magazines raise social issues. Radio and tv programming.

Issues in family sciences teaching

- Deficits of certified teachers
- Retaining current teachers
- Beginners leave the profession

Issues in teaching family sciences



Major issues studied in Family science

- Family living arrangement
- Age of marriage
- Cohabitation
- Divorce and remarriage
- Births to unmarried women
- Illness or disability of member
- Moving house
- Pressure at work
- Financial issue
- Death
- Parenting issues and addiction

How much stress do you think these challenges add to your family?

Anyone who has ever tried juggling knows that it is much harder to juggle if you have too many balls or if one of the balls is much heavier than all the others. Everything seems to get out of balance. The same occurs with problems. If you are juggling too many challenges all at once or if one challenge is heavier or more stressful than the others, then life can get a bit out of balance. It can be hard to juggle or cope with everything at once.



Major trends

- Many forces shape it
 1. Change In society, family and school influence curriculum
 2. Changing characteristics and needs of a family
 3. Result oriented learning
 4. Transition from school to work and then to higher education

Approaches

- Six types of approaches are focused in training
 1. Practical problem focused and process oriented curriculum
 2. Teaching for personal and socially responsible actions
 3. Integrating FCS in education
 4. Standards guiding program development and authentic assesment
 5. Specialized family career and community focused semester courses
 6. Helping students achieve high expectations

1. Practical problem focused and process oriented curriculum

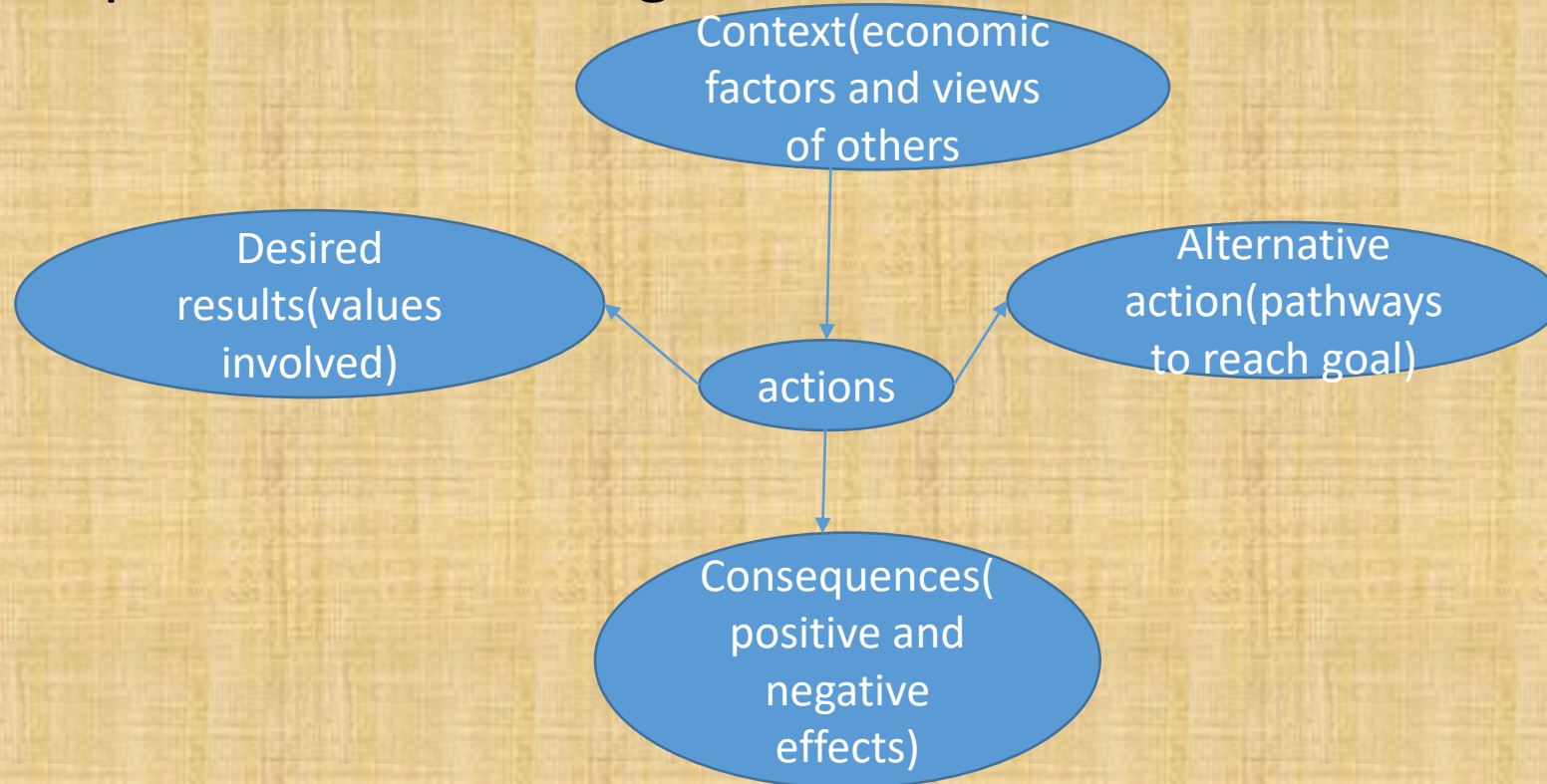
- FCS is concerned with action oriented questions of what to do with practical issues affecting people
- Two types of processes are developed through FCS
 1. Intellectual
 - They are cognitive processes. Practical reasoning is used for resolving complex problems. It generates conceptual complexity and perspective talking
 1. Social
 - It includes interpersonal communication, teamwork, goal setting and conflict resolution

Brown's postmodern worldview

- Human relations are cooperative not coercive
- Wisdom of all cultures is respected
- Natural science is not soul mate to validate knowledge

Practical reasoning process

- It involves asking questions raised by teacher or students related to four practical reasoning



Assumptions

- Family science is related to other areas of life
- Working with practical problems by using practical reasoning is a capacity that can be learned
- Moral and ethical dimensions helps students develop sense of responsibility
- Relevant for all students regardless of socioeconomic status
- FCS should Incorporate actual experiences
- Teaching in ways that enhance practical reasoning
- Teacher and student involvement in formulation of curriculum is important

2. Teaching for personal and social problems

- FCS courses help students in problem solving and deep critical reflection about how their behavior and action affect others
- Moral imagination is stimulated drawing on emotional side
- Reason effectively so that they can take personal and socially responsible actions on individual, family and community issues
- It includes other oriented thinking and serving (Altruism)

3. Standards guiding program development

- Reasoning for actions: Use reasoning processes individually and collaboratively to take responsible actions
- Integrating knowledge skills and practice for careers in specific fields
- Standards include
 1. Evaluating significance of family and its impact on well being
 2. Integrating life roles and responsibilities
 3. Analyze the factors that Impact human development
 4. Evaluate management practices related to resources
 5. Demonstrate caring and careful interpersonal relations
 6. Evaluating parent roles and responsibilities

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- National FCS addresses four processes that need to be developed
 1. Thinking
 2. Communication
 3. Leadership
 4. Management
- Evaluating their curriculum plans and revising FCS programs
- Authentic assessment tools to evaluate student achievement

4.Specialized family career and community focused semester courses

- Shift from comprehensive yearlong courses to specialized or semester began in 1980s
- These courses were designed to address practical questions affecting adolescents, families,communities

These courses include

- Consumer education
- Food nutrition and wellness
- Parenting and child development
- Human relationship and family issues

5. Integrating FCS in educational reforms

- FCS is integral part of educational reforms
- Content and instructional approaches include process oriented, learner centered teaching, authentic instruction and assessment, and school to work reforms
- Consequently it provides leadership within these movement

6. Helping all students meet high expectations

- FCS teachers are using new educational theories and developments
- Teaching for enduring understanding through partnerships and by drawing brain based education, student's multiple intelligence, and culturally appropriate curriculum innovations
- This work influence learning in four ways
- Through partnerships they form
- Through strategies they design to help students making connections
- By attending individual differences
- Through subject matter being taught

Current status

- Many countries include the program at middle, secondary and high school level
- High school career connection
- Parent –child development programs
- Interpersonal relationship courses
- Enrollment is increasing
- Many graduate and masters programs are offered
- Cooperative extension family and consumer science programs have maintained community educational roles in small towns

Current areas of study regarding family sciences

- Consumer studies
- Houses and interior design
- Human development
- Food and nutrition
- Gerontology
- hospitality



Why family science education

- The motivation for such a request comes from the evidence that our society is faced with many perennial issues that negatively impact individuals, families and communities. Each issue (obesity, financial literacy, career preparation, work-life balance, to name a few) can be mitigated through family and consumer sciences education curriculum and courses.
- Family and consumer sciences education is vital to the improvement of the quality of life. Family and consumer sciences curriculum brings to life academic disciplines such as science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and connects students to real world applications of such content.

Gateway

- Family & consumer sciences education provides the first step to a high skill, high wage, high demand career opportunity. Many of the skills needed for success are included in the standards guiding family and consumer sciences course curriculum.
- A few examples of professional jobs related to family and consumer sciences are: apparel and textile design/ merchandising; dietetics, education, food and nutrition sciences, human development and family studies, hospitality, interior design, nutrition and fitness, communications, and consumer economics and financial planning.
- Complex 21st century skills are best learned if first taught in an family and consumer sciences education classroom. Student needs are addressed through hands-on educational and laboratory-based experiences that integrate developmentally appropriate theory and research-based teaching strategies to facilitate learning for the adolescent learner.

Importance of family science

- Family and consumer sciences education serves as a foundation for life literacy education. One curriculum goal is to improve students' ability to be successful in today's world.
- As outlined by National Standards for Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS, 2008-2018) content such as nutrition and wellness; interpersonal relationships; child development; parenting; consumer, personal and family finance; goal setting; problem solving; communication, and conflict resolution are instrumental to an individual's development as a successful career-life manager
- . Success in work-life balance and family relationships impacts career productivity and success. A community is only as healthy as the individuals living and working there. Family and consumer sciences programs integrate leadership development opportunities for youth through Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America

FCS Body of Knowledge







Thank
you

