

March 11, 2004

Study Questions

Read:

Clark: Dating on the Net: Teens and the Rise of “Pure” Relationships
Schalet: Raging Hormones, Regulated Love: Adolescent Sexuality in the United States and the Netherlands
Berkowitz and Padavic: Getting a Man or Getting Ahead
D’Emilio and Freedman: The Sexualized Society

1. How, according to Clark, do teens use the term “dating” today? What are the differences between dating patterns today and during the 1950s?
2. What was the “sexual revolution” that occurred during the 1960s and 1970s?
3. Describe Giddens’ idea of a “risk society” (derived from Ulrich Beck). (p. 126)
4. What is a “pure” relationship, according to Giddens?
5. What conclusions does Clark draw?
6. In what ways did the US and Dutch interviewees sharply differ in their responses to Schalet?
7. What opinions of the US parents do you like? What opinions of the Dutch parents do you approve of?
8. D’Emilio and Freedman suggest that “the liberal consensus about sex had dissolved.” What do they mean?
9. How did family life change between the 1960s and 1980s in ways that affected sexuality in America (as discussed in D’Emilio and Freedman)?
10. What happens to women who enter the marketplace with respect to their marriage roles, as discussed in D’Emilio and Freedman?
11. D’Emilio and Freedman mention a report about Detroit. What did it say?
12. How did the erotic dimension of marriage change during the period 1960-1980? How did it stay the same?
13. In Kinsey’s time the frequency of marital coitus was declining. What was the explanation of this? What period of time was this?
14. The piece by D’Emilio and Freedman mentions “the controversy over Baby M.” If you

know about this controversy, describe it.

15. How did the social life of gays and lesbians change between 1960 and 1980, according to D'Emilio and Freedman?
16. What are some of the differences between gay male couples and lesbian couples?
17. What were the downside aspects of the sexual revolution?