Sociology of Sexualities 2nd edition Fitzgerald Test Bank

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Chapter 2: The Science of Sexuality

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. Until the mid-1800s, which views were the most influential for understanding sexuality in Western cultures?
A. medical
B. religious
C. evolutionary
D. psychological
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Early Years: Sex, Morality, and Medicine
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. According to the authors, why is it important to understand the time period and culture in which research is conducted?
A. The researchers may themselves be shaping discourse around sexuality.
B. The role of religious leaders must always be identified.
C. Scientific research can be affected by widespread cultural assumptions.
D. In some periods, research was biased by funders.
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Understanding Sexuality Through Science
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. How can we best characterize Victorian era attitudes toward sexuality?
A. gender neutral
B. restrictive
C. experimental
D. scientific
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: The Early Years: Sex, Morality, and Medicine

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Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Which early sex researcher introduced the idea that nonprocreative sex was pathological?
A. Sigmund Freud
B. Richard von Krafft-Ebing
C. Havelock Ellis
D. Alfred Kinsey
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Science of Sex: Sexology
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Charles Darwin's theory of *sex selection* claims that in most mammals, the female is much more invested in _____ than the male.
A. the survival rate of offspring
B. self-sufficiency
C. sexual pleasure
D. monogamy
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Evolutionary Theory: Charles Darwin
Difficulty Level: Easy

6. What was the most significant conclusion from the Kinsey Reports?
A. That people are either exclusively heterosexual or exclusively homosexual.
B. That people experience a similar sexual response cycle.
C. The sexuality stems from relationships to parents.
D. That sexuality should be understood as a continuum.
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Kinsey Reports: Alfred Kinsey
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Masters and Johnson were unique from other sexologists because they _____.
A. studied physiological responses
B. studied psychological responses
C. took representative samples
D. openly analyzed their cultural biases

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Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Sexual Physiology Research: Masters and Johnson
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Early sociological research on sexuality focused on _____.
A. normative sexual behaviors
B. sexual evolution
C. sexual deviance
D. physiological responses
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Sociology and Social Constructionism
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. How did feminist scholars expand understandings of sexuality?
A. They critiqued discursive understandings of sexuality.
B. They analyzed how structural inequalities impacted women's sexual lives.
C. They focused primarily on accepted sexual scripts.
D. They separated different systems of oppression for analysis.
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Feminist Contributions to Sexuality Studies
Difficulty Level: Hard

10. What is the central tenet of queer theory?
A. Homosocial relationships are actually normative.
B. The personal is political.
C. Gender and sexuality are fluid.
D. Gender, race, and class should be analyzed simultaneously.
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Queer Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

11. When did the APA stop classifying homosexuality as a mental illness?
A. 1960s
B. 1970s
C. 1980s
D. 1990s

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Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explicate the shifting scientific understandings of homosexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Homosexuality as Mental Illness
Difficulty Level: Medium

12. _____ refers to the normalized status of partnering with one other person.
A. Serial monogamy
B. Compulsory monogamy
C. Homosociality
D. Discursive marriage
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explicate the shifting scientific understandings of homosexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Sociology of Monogamy
Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Why did many early researchers focus on studying homosexuality?
A. to create new discourse around sexuality
B. to refute the idea of a gay gene
C. to challenge sexual norms
D. to try to discover a cure
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explicate the shifting scientific understandings of homosexuality. | 2-4: Describe the history of sexuality studies in academia.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Science of Homosexuality | Ethical Issues in Sex Research
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Early Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies departments focused on studying which group(s) of people?
A. straight and lesbian women
B. sexual deviants
C. gay men and lesbians
D. people who are LGBTQ identified
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-4: Describe the history of sexuality studies in academia.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Sexuality Studies in Academia
Difficulty Level: Easy

15. Which concept captures the reality that people who participate in sex research tend to be more sexually experienced?

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A. informed consent
B. ethical dilemma
C. self-selection bias
D. stigma
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-5: Debate ethical and methodological issues in sex research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Methodological Issues in Sex Research
Difficulty Level: Easy

16. How does sexuality stigma impact scholars' ability to do research?
A. They are less likely to receive grants.
B. They are more likely to publish in low-ranking journals.
C. They have difficulty recruiting participants.
D. They must rely on multiple collaborators.
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-5: Debate ethical and methodological issues in sex research.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Methodological Issues in Sex Research | Stigma and Sexuality Research
Difficulty Level: Hard

17. What are researchers required to do when recruiting potential research participants?
A. pay them for their time
B. obtain informed consent
C. ensure a representative sample
D. share the results of their research
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-5: Debate ethical and methodological issues in sex research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Ethical Issues in Sex Research
Difficulty Level: Hard

True/False

1. Sexual inversion is an older medical term for homosexuality.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explicate the shifting scientific understandings of homosexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Science of Homosexuality
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Queer theory is the same thing as feminist theory.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Queer Theory | Feminist Contributions to Sexuality Studies
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Sexology focuses on understanding sexuality from a biological perspective.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Science of Sex: Sexology
Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Freud argued that sexual drive comes from one's social context.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Psychoanalytical Theory: Sigmund Freud
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Female sex researchers are more likely to experience sexuality stigma.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-5: Debate ethical and methodological issues in sex research.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Stigma and Sexuality Research
Difficulty Level: Easy

Short Answer

1. According to Foucault, how do scientists shape understandings of sexuality?
Ans: Foucault argues that discourse, or language and ideas, plays a significant role in how sexuality is perceived and regulated. Thus, he contends that when scientists began researching and talking about sexual desires and behaviors, they actually created the categories of normal and abnormal (rather than simply identifying them from research).
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Post-Structuralism: Michel Foucault
Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Describe one ethical dilemma in sex research as described in the textbook.

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Ans: One dilemma centers on the question: Should we study sexual orientation at all? Researchers should ask if their research could contribute to misconceptions about what explains homosexuality, intentionally or unintentionally.
Learning Objective: 2-5: Debate ethical and methodological issues in sex research.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethical Issues in Sex Research
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. What was the connection between sex and morality before the 1800s and then during the Victorian era (1800s)?
Ans: Before the 1800s, sexuality was mostly connected to religion, with sexuality being perceived as a moral issue rather than a scientific or social one. Many understandings of sexuality were shaped by ideas from the Christian tradition. Religion continued to play a role for much of the 1800s, but toward the end of the Victorian era, doctors were treated as experts on sexuality more so than religious leaders, although the doctors were still shaped by prevailing religious norms.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: The Early Years: Sex, Morality, and Medicine
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. How did classifying homosexuality as a “mental illness” impact lesbians and gay men?
Ans: This classification had a negative impact because labeling homosexuality as an “illness” suggested the possibility of a “cure.” As a result, many gays and lesbians underwent variations of conversion therapy or other treatments, some willingly and some involuntarily, which could result in lasting damage. This label also contributed to cultural beliefs that homosexuality is “wrong.”
Learning Objective: 2-3: Explicate the shifting scientific understandings of homosexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: The Science of Homosexuality
Difficulty Level: Hard

5. What is queer theory, and how is it different from feminist theory?
Ans: Queer theory is a critical analysis of sexuality, with a focus on understanding how it is socially constructed and how existing ideas (like the sexual binary) are limiting. Queer theory seeks to challenge and destabilize taken for granted assumptions and categories. It is different from feminist theory because feminist theory focuses on the standpoint of women, their sexual identities and experiences, as well as how society has oppressed them.
Learning Objective: 2-4: Describe the history of sexuality studies in academia.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Queer Theory | Sexuality Studies in Academia

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Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. Describe the key contributions of early researchers of sexuality. In what ways are their perspectives shaped by 19th-century cultural ideologies?
Ans: The earliest studies focused on explaining sexual deviance (i.e., Krafft-Ebing). Then, people began trying to document and study the variety of sexual practices in which people engaged (i.e., Ellis). These studies tended to treat heterosexuality as normative and "acceptable" sexuality, with a focus on understanding why "deviant" sexuality developed. Kinsey started to challenge these ideas when he argued that sexuality exists on a continuum. In sum, these studies showed that people engaged in a wide range of sexual behaviors, both inside and outside of marriage, but they were clearly shaped by cultural understandings because they perceived and treated heterosexuality as "normative."
Learning Objective: 2-1: Explain nineteenth- and twentieth-century theoretical perspectives on sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Understanding Sexuality Through Science
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Who are some of the main sociological contributors to the social constructionist perspective on sexuality? In what ways are their perspectives shaped by 20th-century ideologies?
Ans: Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann first introduced and explained the idea of social constructionism. They argued that society forms out of human interactions, but that society also shapes how we perceive the world. Thus, sexuality is something that is learned. Gagnon and Simon also considered the social construction of sexuality by focusing on sexual scripts. However, much of this early work was still shaped by prevailing beliefs that painted homosexuality as deviant, resulting in a bias toward studying heterosexual intercourse.
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Sociology and Social Constructionism
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. How does feminist theory contribute to the science of sexuality? How does intersectionality expand our understanding of sexuality?
Ans: Feminist theory focused on the standpoint and experiences of women, using the phrase "the personal is political" as a starting point. They argued that existing structures far beyond the scope of a bedroom nevertheless impacted women's sexual lives and agency. Feminist scholars have contributed important analyses about gender and sexuality, sexual violence, reproductive rights, and more. Further, intersectionality

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contends that scholars should recognize how class, race, and gender, among other identities, are simultaneously shaping sexuality; this theorizing emerged in response to early feminists' focus on primarily White, middle-class women.
Learning Objective: 2-2: Define the social construction of sexuality.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Feminist Contributions to Sexuality Studies
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. What do LGBTQ scholars focus on today, and how are they treated in academia?
Ans: These scholars continue to analyze current and past experiences of LGBTQ+ people. They consider the rise of social movements, the impact of those social movements on people's lives, and more. They continue to broaden the scope of what is studied and to challenge normative ideas about sex. However, they often experience stigma from fellow scholars. People may make assumptions about their own identities, and they may have fewer funding opportunities when their research is perceived as too controversial or taboo.
Learning Objective: 2-4: Describe the history of sexuality studies in academia.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Sexuality Studies in Academia | Researching Sex: Methodological and Ethical Concerns
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Why do we need to be careful about drawing conclusions from sex research? Address at least one ethical and one methodological concern.
Ans: One methodological concern that could limit our ability to draw conclusion is the self-selection bias, which refers to the fact that many people who agree to participate in sex research are likely to be more sexually experienced. Thus, this research cannot speak to the sexual identities or experiences of those who are less experienced or who are less comfortable talking about sex. One ethical concern is about the role of researchers. Now, researchers have to disclose when they are studying someone and share the purpose of their study, but what happens if a researcher realizes they are interviewing someone who has sexually assaulted another person?
Learning Objective: 2-5: Debate ethical and methodological issues in sex research.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Methodological Issues in Sex Research | Ethical Issues in Sex Research
Difficulty Level: Hard

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