

Contents

1 Familial Links to the Sacred Neo-Functionalism and Religion	1
Overview	1
A Multi-Dimensional Interpretation of Religion	1
A Neo-Functionalist Theoretical Framework	4
Multi Dimensionality	4
Multi-Level	5
A Systems Perspective	6
The Inter-Penetration of the System of the Systems	7
Multi-disciplinary	7
Integrative of Extant Family Theories	7
Theoretical Links Between Religion and the Family	9
A Summary Theory and a Theoretical Model	10
References	13
2 The Chronosytem: A Social History of Religion and the Family Orientation	15
The Neo-Functionalist Theoretical Framework and Historical-Longitudinal Reflections	15
The Roman Family	20
A Concise History of the Roman Empire	20
General Characteristics of the Family	21
Marriage	22
Children	24
Some Conclusions	25
Early Christianity and the Family	25
The Role of Women	26
The Early Medieval Family	28
Some Conclusions	30
The Central-Medieval Family	30
The Physical-Social Systems: Medieval Europe: 1050–1250	31
The Cultural-Sacred System: The Church	32
The Personality-Social System: The Central Medieval Family	36
An Anomaly to the Central Medieval Family: The Chivalric Ideal	38

The Late Medieval Family and the Great Plague	39
The Organic System: The Description of the Black Plague	40
Various Systems as Factors of the Black Plague	40
Various Systems as Effects of the Black Plague	42
Families of the Elite in England: 1550–1800	43
The Restricted Patriarchal Nuclear Family	43
The Closed Domesticated Nuclear Family	45
Conclusions	46
References	47
3 The Organic System: Biology, Religion and the Family Orientation . . .	49
The Basic Rationale of the Link Between Religion and Sexuality	49
A History of Religion and Sexuality in the Christian West	51
Ancient Judaism and Early Christian	51
Patristic-Medieval Christianity	56
Early Modern and Modern Christianity	57
Sex and Religion in the United States. Part I: Social History	59
Sex and Religion in the United States and Canada. Part II: Empirical Studies	61
Religion and Sex: The Empirical Link, Part I: General Connections	62
Religion and Sex: The Empirical Link, Part II: Canadian Evangelical Ministers	63
Religion and Sex: The Empirical Link, Part III: NHSLS	67
Sexual Satisfaction	68
Conclusions of Empirical Links of Part II and III	71
Religion and Sex: The Empirical Link, Part IV: Muslim Women's Health and Reproduction	72
Religion and Sex: The Empirical Link, Part V: Religion and Changes in Family Size	72
Religion and Sex: The Empirical Link, Part VI: Religion and Premarital Sex in Adulthood	73
Religion and Sex: Some Conclusions	74
References	74
4 The Personality System: Religion having an Impact on the Individual and the Individual's Influence on Religion in Familial Settings	77
Orientation	77
Conversion	77
Attachment Theory and Conversion	78
Conversion and Changes in Family Structure	79
Gender	80
The Construction of Islamic Patriarchy	80
South Asian Women in the United States	87
Muslim Women in Arab States	87
Gender Differences in Religiosity	88

Clergy Women and Gender	88
Religion and Intimate Violence	89
Freud and a Study in History: Young Man Luther	90
The Effects of Childhood Maltreatment on Adult Religiosity and Spirituality	93
Gender, Religion and Intimate Violence	94
Clergy and Sexual Abuse	95
Religious Organizations and Child Sexual Abuse	96
Marital Equality and Violence against Women	96
Linkage of Social Action to Violence, Religion and the Family	97
Sexual Orientation	98
Homosexuality and Religion: Some Generalities	98
Homosexuality and Religion: Statistical Relationships	100
Political Agendas and Same Sex Marriage	101
Continued Reflections on Same-Sex Marriage	102
Coping with Stress	102
Family Spirituality	103
Conclusions	103
References	104
5 The Social System: Ritual and Social Organization	107
Overview	107
Ritual	107
A Sacred Organization	108
Ritual in Context	108
Multi-Level Theory in a Neo-Functionalist Framework	108
An Empirical Test	113
Descriptive Data	113
The Analytical Data	114
A Discussion	116
Ritual and Sacred Organization: Two Studies of Adolescent Substance Abuse	116
Ritual and Sacred Educational Organization: Three Studies of Academic Achievement	117
Ritual and Religious Organization in Time: The Chronosystem Revisited ..	119
Religious Organization and Divorce-Remarriage	125
Social Relationships, Ritual, Divorce and Religious Involvement Among Young Adults	126
Religious Organization, Ritual and Marital Fidelity	127
Roles in Religious Organization and Families	128
Social Networks	130
Cohort Effects, Ritual and Family Structure	130
Religious Homogamy and Marital Quality	131
Conclusions	132
References	132

6 The Cultural System: Mythology and Ethos	135
Overview	135
Definitions of Myth and Ethos	135
Attachment Theory and the Mythology of Christianity: Concepts of the	
Divine	136
Attachment Theory Terms	136
The Sacred Attachment Figure	138
The Sacred-Attachment-Behaviour-System	142
Seeking Proximity to God	142
God as a Haven of Safety	142
God as a Secure Base	143
Responses to Separation and Loss	143
Interpersonal Attachment Variations and Attachment to the Sacred	
Attachment Figure	143
Summary Notes on Attachment Theory and Religion	144
Attachment Theory Embedded in a Neo-Functionalist Theory	145
Conclusions	147
Parental and Self Origins of Young Adults' God Concepts	147
Adopting New Religious Belief Systems: A Case	
of Taiwanese Immigrants	149
Images of God and Marriage	150
Beliefs and Ritual in Resolving Marital Conflict	151
Nascent Islamic Law, Marriage and Divorce	152
Marriage	153
Divorce	155
Assimilation and Arabs in America	156
Bangladeshi Muslims in Canada	156
Religious Conservatism and Women's Public Employment	157
Moral Cosmology and Adult Values for Children	158
The Effects of Consistent Parental Beliefs and Behaviours	
Upon Religious Transmission	159
Conclusions	161
References	161
7 Conclusions	165
References	167
Glossary	169
Index	177



<http://www.springer.com/978-0-387-75620-2>

Religion and Family Links
Neofunctionalist Reflections
Swenson, D.
2008, XII, 190 p., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-0-387-75620-2