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How does the fictional TV marriage influence a young adult's own perceptions about marriage?

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HOW DOES THE FICTIONAL TV MARRIAGE INFLUENCE A YOUNG ADULT'S

OWN PERCEPTIONS ABOUT MARRIAGE?

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Abstract

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This study explored the relationship between television influence and the young adult's perception of marriage. The participants were 178, college-aged males and females (median age 20) from a large Midwestern university. How much television participants watched and the types of programs they watched were examined. Participants were asked where they got their information about marriage and how they thought marriage was displayed on TV. Two hypotheses were tested -- H_1: Female students are more likely than male students to use TV programs for ideas on what marriage is really like; H_2: Television has a greater influence over female students than male students with regard to their thoughts and behaviors about love and marriage. Neither hypothesis was supported.

However, some gender differences were found. In terms of TV watching, males ranked the *Sports, TV Movies, and Educational* categories higher than females; females ranked the *Drama* and *Reality* categories higher than males. Females ranked their friends as a source on love and marriage higher than males ranked their friends as a source.

Other findings in the study include the following. Ninety two percent of participants want to be married someday. For males and females combined, *Comedy* was the top ranked type of TV show; and *Parents or Family* were given the most number one rankings as source of information on love and marriage, with *Partner* being second and *Friends* third in terms of number one ranking. Participants aged 22 and older ranked the *News* category higher in terms of watching than 19 to 21 year olds. In addition, participants were more likely to believe TV portrays marriage in a negative tone and stylized manner. Few participants reported they thought TV portrays an accurate representation of real life marriage, and few look to the media for ideas on what marriage is like.

Acknowledgements & Dedication

I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who helped me with this project whether it was giving me positive words of encouragement, watching my kids so I could work, participating in my survey, or proofreading this paper. I needed all of you to succeed and I thank you. I did not reach this goal alone and I would like to specifically thank those who had a part in this research and my education. I would like to express my deepest thanks to Dr. Chris Allen. His time and expertise were invaluable to me and I want to thank him for serving as my chair. In addition, I would also like to thank Dr. Robert Carlson and Dr. Mary Ann Powell for all of their advice, feedback and proofreading. I would like to express my gratitude to my mother in-law, Rose Svendsen. Without her never-ending availability to watch my two kids while I spent time at the library, I would have never accomplished this feat. Finally, I want to thank the Lord because the only thing I have control over in this life is my own mind.

I would like to dedicate this work to my husband, Adam. We came from families who showed us what a healthy marriage was like. Now, we are showing our children the same values we learned. Before long, it will be their turn. I'm proud of us for showing them what love, affection, respect and integrity looks like.

I would also like to dedicate this work to my children, Noah and Chloé. The investment that will reap the most rewards is an investment in you. Your education can never be taken away from you and will only pay dividends over time.

Happy is he who has found wisdom, and the man who has acquired understanding; for wisdom is more profitable than silver, and the gain she brings is better than gold. She is more precious than red coral, and all your jewels are no match for her. Long life is her right hand, in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are pleasant ways and all paths lead to prosperity.

Proverbs 3:13-7

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Introduction

Television and media play an increasingly greater part in the modeling of behavior, especially for teens (Stern, 2005). Often, teens are described as watching TV for the purposes of entertainment, identity formation, sensation-seeking, coping, and youth-culture identification (Stern, 2005). Research has supported the idea that adolescents use media to help define the world around them (Arnett, 1995; Brown, Tucker Halpern, & Ladin L'Engle, 2005). Less able to separate reality from fantasy, teens are more likely to respond to the images and archetypes they see on popular television shows and believe this is normal life (LaFerle, Edwards, & Lee, 2000). It is not surprising then, to suggest that television and media could also affect the way teens perceive the reality of marriage and modern romance.

This thesis will take the position that if we consider the significant increase in the type, style and number of TV shows and channels available to us; we may come to believe that what we see on TV is true to life. With the advances in television and the change in story lines, TV has come to have a greater impact on how individuals perceive interpersonal relationships. In every image, line of dialogue and behavior enacted, television conveys important messages about cultural norms and belief systems; giving viewer's information about what is potentially valued, expected and possible.

First, this study reviewed current models of thinking surrounding interpersonal relationships as they are portrayed on television. Next, this study looked to see if television had any influence on what people thought about marriage and romance. Last, this study examined if any influence had extended to changes in behavior.

Review of Literature

Communication theory and research have demonstrated that entertainment media have a profound and measurable influence on the attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors of media users (Chaffee, 1986 & Ward, 2003). Of all the abundant technologies available to us today, television is still likely the most important in terms of how people perceive the world; this could be because TV watching is a passive activity, and nearly everyone owns at least one TV. Television has come to play an important role in our society and is considered "the great common experience" (Gerbner, Gross, Morgan, & Signorielli, 1986, p. 17). The television has been present in our households for more than 60 years. Today, the average American home contains 2.86 TV sets and just 2.5 people (Nielsen Media, 2009).

For a large segment of the population, television is the most common source for ideas and actions related to marriage and intimate personal relationships (Gerbner, et al., 1986). This is particularly true for young people who seek independence and look for ways to meet people and socialize outside their families (Kelly & Donohew, 1999). According to Kelly and Donohew (1999) there are three primary means of socialization for young people: school, family and media. Television has given today's youth a sense that any complex human problem, in any relationship, can be solved rather quickly and simply (60-minutes or less, minus commercials) or else the relationship is not likely worthy of redemption.

Implied sexual content: The soap opera

It has been continually demonstrated that television has an increasing degree of explicit or implied sexual content, although it is more likely that the sexual content on

television today takes place in the form of innuendo rather than a visual picture of characters actually engaging in sexual activity (Sapolsky & Tabarlet, 1991; Ward, 2002). In a content analysis study of prime-time soap operas, Sapolsky and Tabarlet (1991) found sex displayed on TV was not on the decline. Most sex found on TV was implied, prime-time sex occurred between unmarried couples, and more white males were found to initiate sex, and engage in sex and sexual dialogue than other males.

The soap opera has become a rich source of information about personal relationships (Meijer & van Vossen, 2005), and soap operas are often a source of information where people learn how to conduct social relationships (Fine, 1981). Greenberg (1982) studied 50 fictional families that were televised weekly during prime-time. He found that close, personal relationships were frequently portrayed. In the same study, he reviewed day-time soap opera content and found soap operas are also abundant in relationship portrayals.

In a sample of more than 200 soap opera conversations, Fine (1981) found that almost 70 percent of all male and female interaction was accounted for by family, friends and romantic relationships. Most conversations between romantic partners and family members involved marriage and more than 60 percent of interactions touched on marriage, family or romance (Greenberg, 1982; Head, 1954; Signorielli, 1982).

Role portrayals: Gender stereotyping

Television content analyses frequently address gender role portrayals. One study (Rivadeneyra & Ward, 2005) found that television depicts men and women as one-dimensional opposites. Male characters were often featured as ambitious, intelligent, and

dominant. Women, on the other hand, often serve as subordinates to the male lead, and are frequently portrayed as submissive, romantic and emotional.

According to Bate and Bowker (1997), there are two significant problems in which television is the likely culprit in gender stereotyping: 1) under representation of women by media tends to devalue women, and 2) the portrayal of men and women reinforces stereotypic and destructive patterns for both genders. Women are significantly devalued in most programming and advertising. Bate and Bowker (1997) conclude that television tends to portray men and women in such artificially stereotyped ways that it reinforces unrealistic patterns of behavior regarding relationships.

Females tend to come across as obsessed with physical features and perfection, also known as "the beauty myth," which was first noted by Wolf (1991). Men, according to television, must only be three things: 1) physically strong, 2) financially successful, and 3) sexually potent and promiscuous (Bate & Bowker 1997).

If adolescents are given these models to follow, they may find it difficult to maintain healthy relationships with peers and could view the more commonly found relationships in life somewhat lacking in excitement.

Studies of the portrayal of male-female interaction carry the picture of traditional roles further. Men are more likely to succeed at a task, and women are more likely to seek emotional support (Browne, 1998).

There have been some improvements in these trends, where women are portrayed as professionals and men as nurturing, but evidence indicates that prime-time TV presents males in positions of greater power than females (Lauzen & Deiss, 2009; Signorielli & Bacue, 1999). Although not conclusive, empirical evidence suggests that

regular exposure to TV's stereotypical gender roles are associated with young viewers' ideas about gender (Signorielli, 2001).

Role portrayals: Sexual script theory

The theory behind roles may go deeper than any simple media influence. A sexual script theory found within society's cultural norms is believed to guide behaviors of all kinds, including sexual and relationship behaviors (Simon & Gagnon, 1986). According to the sexual script theory, individuals follow a sexual script used for sexual behavior and sexual encounters. The sexual script becomes a learned practice and ultimately guides our behavior for certain levels of intimacy and also attaches meanings to certain behaviors. Research has concluded that there are gender differences in sexual scripts, but both males and females will rely on a combination of two things: 1) the cultural scenarios (that they have acquired through socialization) and 2) their own unique experiences (that they have found to be appropriate and successful). This theory says that our understanding of our own sexuality determines how we carry out our sexual actions and how we generally feel about those actions.

Relationship scripts, for example, may influence how someone goes about choosing a mate, or how someone makes a new personal friend.

Different sexual behaviors like sexual feelings and choice of mate may be affected by sexual scripts (Bowleg, Lucas, & Tschann, 2004; Hynie, Lydon, & Wiener, 1998; Simon & Gagnon, 1986). Two studies on sexual scripts (McMormick, 1979; Regan, 1997) report that people use different sets of verbal and nonverbal behaviors to ask a partner for sexual contact. Men and women use these scripts to communicate their desire, initiate intimacy or to reach a more advanced level of sexual activity.

Studies on television viewing have linked the sexual script theory to sexual variety and sexual timing (Aubrey et al., 2003) and to scripts about adolescents' ideal romantic partner (Eggermont, 2004). Eggermont reported that between the ages of 15 to 18, TV viewing reinforces an adolescent's belief in how effective sexual scripts are. Adolescents see these sexual scripts being acted out on TV and pick up cues on how to conduct their romantic relationships.

Role portrayals: Men & women

More than ninety-eight percent of American households own a television and the average household watches forty hours of television per week, with women watching approximately an hour more per day than men (Pugatch, 2007).

Americans are particularly attuned to the messages they see and hear on television shows and commercials. Commercials have been found to be a significant influence in role portrayals. In a content analysis of commercials broadcast in prime-time Scharrer, Kim, Lin, and Liu (2006) found that male characters were more likely to be found outside the home (at work), while females were found in a domestic setting, usually a bathroom or kitchen. In these settings, females were most likely to be involved in housework and childcare. When males were shown doing domestic tasks, they were often depicted as incompetent. Reinforcing these gender roles in this fashion implies men are not suited for domestic tasks and therefore, these tasks should be the female's job.

People also have the tendency to agree with and validate the roles of men and women on television, even when we know we don't see these same images in real life (Signorielli, 1990). Fathers portrayed on today's television shows are typically clueless, useless, and practice bad parenting (Weinman, 2006). In the NBC comedy *According to*

Jim, the father (played by Jim Belushi) was portrayed as a "doofus dad" who gave bad advice and seemed to be most interested in his own needs. And he was married to a competent wife whom he relied on. Other doofus TV dads with competent wives have been, Tim Taylor (*Home Improvement*), and Ray Barone (*Everybody Loves Raymond*). Animated dads follow suit like Homer Simpson (*The Simpsons*) and Peter Griffin (*Family Guy*).

Networks are currently airing more comedies and dramas than family based shows portraying married couples as the major plot. According to Nielsen Media, March 2011, the top network shows in prime-time are: *American Idol, NCIS, Glee, Modern Family, Big Bang Theory, How I Met Your Mother, House, Grey's Anatomy, Bachelor, Criminal Minds, The Office,* and *Two and a Half Men*. That comprises five comedies, four dramas, two reality shows and one family show.

The family show *Modern Family* portrays all members of a typical modern blended family: grandparents, parents, children and extended family members like aunts and uncles. This family show doesn't lack the doofus dad either; in fact most of the men in this show have the doofus trait.

Men are known to take a more involved role with their children, but TV producers still give the mother the primary caregiver role, especially when it comes to the children (Goldscheider & Waite, 1991). In the ABC drama *Brothers & Sisters*, the mother character (played by Sally Field) has an involved role in her adult children's lives but the father on the show is deceased. However, Field's brother, the uncle character (played by Ron Rifkin), is involved in most of the family's affairs, so there does appear to be a strong male role, even in this typical American TV family.

There is other research however, that shows there is a huge contrast between the doofus male character, and other male characters portrayed on TV. According to a content analysis study by Thompson & Zerbinos (1995), male characters are more often seen as independent, assertive, athletic and responsible. The study also found male characters are more animated than female characters and appear to do more than female characters want to or are capable of doing.

The roles assigned to minorities are also an issue. Two separate studies (Mastro & Greenberg, 2000; Signorielli, 2009) performed content analyses on network prime-time programs from 1990 to 1999 and from 2000 to 2008. Both studies found a significant decrease in the number of African American actors on TV and a significant increase of Caucasian actors on TV. Latino actors displayed on TV were drastically below that of the real world population (Signorielli, 2009). For the first five seasons beginning in 2000, *The George Lopez Show* (ABC) had an all-Latino cast, and again in its last season in 2007. In this time-frame, this was the only show on network TV that made an attempt at filling a Latino-based sitcom with Latino actors.

Female characters, regardless of race, are better represented in prime-time, but have been stereotyped and tend to play traditional roles: "married women have children, perform homemaking tasks, are involved romantically, and are presented as feminine, peaceful, happy and nurturing," (Signorelli, 1991, p. 122). Luckily, women tend to be less stereotyped regarding occupation than they were 20 years ago, which demonstrates that there are more role models available for females. Although more than likely a coincidence, and not a cause and effect, but when the character Abby Lockhart, a registered nurse on the NBC drama *ER,* went back to school for her medical degree

Creighton University School of Medicine reported a 9 percent rise in enrollment of nurses entering medical school (Wernig, 2007).

In her study, Illouz (1998) suggested that as teens get older, their taste in media (use and content) changes. Illouz reported that during this time, teenagers develop their own sense of individuality and they try to gain independence from adults. Teenagers experience a decrease in family influences and an increase in peer influences (Arnett, 1995). The rate of educational development and emotional maturity in teens tends to have a significant effect on how media influence teenagers, especially regarding relationships, marriage and sexual issues.

Television and the media are primary means of socialization and today represent our collective method of acquiring social knowledge (Gerbner, 1998; Ward, 2003). Arnett (1995) found that adolescents use media to help define the world around them.

This is worrisome, especially in light of some of the stereotypes that have already been discussed. Situation comedies on TV have consistently shown and stereotyped unrealistic images of families (Pehlke, Hennon, Radina, & Kuvalanka, 2009). For example, it is not uncommon for television to portray men as incompetent and unable to adequately replace the woman when she leaves the home (especially when there are children to care for) (Pehlke, et al., 2009; Ross, Mirowsky, & Huber, 1983; Scharrer, 2001).

Multifactor sociocultural theory

Researchers Shibley-Hyde and Durik (2000) explained a sociocultural theoretical approach with regard to sexual differences between men and women. Shibley-Hyde and Durik believe there are four key elements to this theory: first, men have more power than

women on many levels (such as institutional and interpersonal levels). Second, education gives a woman power. Education offers a woman access to more powerful jobs. A woman's self-confidence is increased when she has an advanced level of education, and she could be exposed to new information about gender, such as feminism. So, according to this theory, women with the most education are equal in power to men. Conversely, women with little education have the least power in relation to men. Third, groups with less power (women) pay more attention and adapt their behavior more to those with power (men) than the reverse. Fourth, gender roles were found to shape behavior.

The elements of the multifactor sociocultural theory stand to show that the clueless, incompetent, doofus dad is only found in a TV sitcom. The type of male that is portrayed on TV is nothing like the males found in real life. It seems the TV marriage-family roles and real-life marriage-family roles are nearly opposite.

Viewers' knowledge and beliefs

Available research indicates television has an effect on viewers' knowledge and beliefs surrounding relationships, sexual or not. In an effort to link family television content directly to perceptions about real-world families Buerkel-Rothfuss and Mayes (1981) questioned grade school children about their viewing behavior and perceptions. They related the data to content analyses of three years of family programming. A moderate relationship was revealed between viewing family content and perceptions about real-world families. This association suggests that real-world expectations may be affected by televised family portrayals.

A study by the Kaiser Family Foundation (Kunkel, Biely, Eyal, Cope-Farrar, Donnerstein, & Fandrich, 2003) demonstrated that attitudes and beliefs surrounding

relationship issues such as premarital sex and contraception were highly linked to media effect. In addition, this same survey showed that teenagers who watch more television tend to have stronger beliefs in the real-world frequency of the relationship behaviors they see on television. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, affairs, recreational sex, sex talk and bragging among males, giving birth to children out of wedlock and the use of sex specifically to gain favor or power in a relationship. The study found it was also more common for one to have the same beliefs about one's own sexual experiences as compared to those depicted on television, which tends to suggest there is a relationship between the effect of the media and sexual satisfaction.

Perceptions of marriage and romantic relationships

Ward, Gorvine, and Cytron-Walker (2002) found that gender was an important factor regarding the effect of media on perception of relationships. In this study, researchers noted that while there appeared to be no direct influence of sexuality on television; they did note that males were likely to report a higher degree of sexual satisfaction in their first experience than did women. Women were more likely than males to watch television and were more likely to have conservative attitudes regarding marriage and relationships, than males.

Adolescents are large consumers of TV and other media (Roberts, 2000) and are given confusing and false messages about intimate relationships (Harris & Scott, 2002). It would seem that under these circumstances, many adolescents lack a solid understanding of what marriage means and how a healthy, stable marriage is sustained.

A report initiated by the Clinton administration (Hatch, 2001) indicated that media frequently have a negative effect on the behavior of boys and men, and that

television represents a world that viewers perceived to be real. This is especially significant in single parent households, where there may be no dominant role model for boys and young men to emulate. In this case, the men we see on TV become the influence. The report called for an increase in the placement of healthier men's roles on television and described the importance of images of men who are good at interpersonal communication and who could maintain an ongoing relationship with women. The report also suggested a marital monogamous setting was ideal.

Television tends to portray men who restrict or hold back their emotions which are the opposite of what males would do in a healthy marriage-relationship. In addition, studies have shown that men tend to restrict communication and suppress emotion just like the characters they watch on TV. This tends to show boys and men they should follow the more primitive psychological defenses such as violence, substance abuse and dependence, and a reluctance to seek professional psychological help (Good & Wood, 1995; Good, Dillon, & Sherrod, 2000). One study (Ferris, Smith, Greenberg, & Smith, 2007) examined reality dating shows and found that male heavy viewers (as compared to male light viewers) were more likely to have stereotypical viewpoints about dating like, 'men are sex-driven,' 'dating is a game,' and 'women are sex objects.'

Marital expectations and cultivation theory

Cultivation theory addresses the relationship between television content and viewers' beliefs about social reality (Gerbner, 1969). According to this theory, people who are heavy viewers of television are more willing to accept what they see on television as real life. Later research on cultivation theory has confirmed that television can shape someone's concept of social reality (Gerbner, Gross, Morgan, Signorielli, &

Shanahan, 2002). In the context of marital expectations, cultivation theory suggests that by portraying idealized images of marriage, (which include: a lot of romance, physical intimacy, passion, celebration, happiness, "love at first sight," physical beauty empathy and open communication) the media may be cultivating unrealistic beliefs about what marriage should be like. Signorielli (1991) argued that "television may be the single most common and pervasive source of conceptions and action related to marriage and intimate personal relationships for large segments of the population" (p. 121).

In a series of case studies on media and romance, Illouz (1998) noted that during in-depth interviews participants often claimed that popular media were responsible for their views of romance. This is shown in the two interviews below.

Where do you think your ideas about love come from?

I think a lot of them come from the movies, I think the movies have fucked us up a great deal in terms of our images about love.

Fucked us up?

Yeah, I think that the 'love at first sight' is commonly found in the movies. Two people meet on the train and fall in love instantly, and they run off and they get married, and we are supposed to believe that that's possible. And I don't think that it happens that way very often. So in that sense I think a lot of us spend our lives on trains hoping to fall in love. Sitting across the subway maybe I will meet my wife. It doesn't work that way. But there is still this expectation from the movies. (male, 33, actor). (p. 180).

And:

Where do you think your ideas about love come from?

A large part I guess from media and from myths about love.

Which myths?

Oh, the myth about happily ever after and the myth of being swept off your feet. I think the most dangerous myth for women is finding a man or being attached to a man is somehow so terribly important […] I guess mostly just from those images that you see in the media and that you see your friends all trying to live up to (female, editor). (p. 180).

Signorielli (1991) found that if television contained any logical themes across genres, those themes presented a conflicted view of marriage. This supports the notion that the media has a role in cultivating unrealistic expectations of marriage. On the other hand, Signorielli found that within certain types of programming, a more idealized portrayal of marriage is also present.

Larson (1988) claimed that one reason for a high divorce rate in the United States stemmed from couples dissatisfied with their marriage which was due to unrealistic expectations. In a study of college students, Larson found that compared to less romantic students, students who were romantic believed in more myths about marriage such as, "the single best predictor of overall marital satisfaction is the quality of a couple's sex life" (p. 5).

Although our expectations about marriage are likely shaped by interpersonal experiences, authors have, in fact, pointed to mass media influences as a significant source of romanticized and idealized views of marriage. For example, Jones and Nelson (1996) suggested that when there are no significant role models to follow people "would

be more vulnerable to accept the romanticized view of marriage put forth by society and the media" (p. 173).

The social aspects and effects of television and popular media cannot be underestimated. It appears that the role models we set for our relationships begin with our children at the very earliest age, and that the affect of media appears to be more significant than the role that we play ourselves in the overall modeling of relationship behaviors for our children and for our peers.

It is fallacy to believe that we can live lives like those we see on television – these worlds are not real. Yet do people really base their satisfaction in marital relationships on what they see on television? It would appear to be so, in that we base what we want in our homes, in our garages, in our bodies and in our cupboards on what we see on television. Why not base what we want in our mates on the same thing?

To date, while a significant body of evidence has taken place surrounding the effect of media images on children and adolescents, there is little which specifically addresses how we see our relationships compared to how television portrays marriage-relationships. Considering the divorce rate in the United States, this would appear to be a significant issue to study and therefore a valid research project, as based upon this review of literature.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this study was to investigate the young adult's opinion of marriage portrayed on TV, and to see if young adults rely on TV programs for information on marriage. This is important for two reasons. First, the review of literature indicates there is a lack of information that shows if television has any effect on people's feelings about marriage. Second, a person's knowledge about marriage and how marital satisfaction is achieved may significantly affect one's pattern of courtship, choice of mate, age at marriage, expectations of marriage and eventually marital satisfaction (Hohmann-Marrriott, 2006); Greenberg & Nay, 1982).

A survey instrument was designed to measure the young adult's position on marriage displayed on TV. This survey instrument was created by first reviewing the literature and looking for common trends about marriage.

The marriage relationship that appears on TV is rarely an honest portrayal. Our understandings of family are shrouded in myths that we see in the media. The consequence of accepting myths about marriage, romance and family life is that we overlook the negative aspects and assume what we see in the media is real and ultimately come to expect this false portrayal. To improve our understanding of marriage, romance, and family life we need to demythologize what we see in the media and on TV.

This study has proposed two hypotheses about media use and marital beliefs based on gender. According to three studies (Haynes, 2000; Grant, 2000; Botkin & Weeks, 2000) females are conditioned to think and prepare for marriage and family roles more than males. If females are thinking about and preparing for marriage, it would seem that they would look to popular media for some of their information.

H_1: Female students are more likely than male students to use TV programs for ideas on what marriage is really like.

Another study found that females feel more competent as future spouses than males (Ganong & Coleman, 1992). Is it the conditioning that gives females the competence? If they are more competent, do they rely on the media?

H_2: Television has a greater influence over female students than male students with regard to their thoughts and behaviors about love and marriage.

Methodology

Participants

The participants in this study were 178 male and female college students enrolled in speech communication, journalism, and social science courses at a Midwestern university where enrollment was more than 14,000 students. Some communication courses were approved electives for all students at the university; therefore it was possible that all majors were represented. Courses solicited for the survey were: public speaking, nonverbal communication, media writing, grammar, media relations, psychology and sociology.

Demographic information was asked of each participant. The demographics collected were: age, gender, marital status, and class standing.

Procedure

The researcher contacted professors via email and asked to visit their classrooms and solicit participation for this study. The students were told that the purpose of the research was to study marriage perceptions and TV use. In order to ensure participation was optional, all students were given a questionnaire and told that anyone who didn't want to participate could turn in a blank questionnaire. Questionnaires were kept confidential and each student was told not to write his or her name on the survey. Besides the face-to-face solicitation in the classroom, the participants remained anonymous to the researcher.

Each participant was asked personal demographic questions, questions about his or her media use, and questions about his or her marital beliefs. There were 13 questions total (see Appendix A for a copy of the questionnaire).

The survey information obtained was coded into numbers then entered into SPSS for analysis. Some survey questions were also coded and analyzed in MS-Excel. Once the data were entered, the actual surveys were kept in a locked file cabinet at the researcher's residence. After all the data were entered, and the study was carried out, the researcher shredded and recycled the original paper surveys.

Instrument

After a long search for an existing cross-sectional survey for this research study, it was found that research studies that closely match this area of study have been either qualitative or content analysis studies. Given the lack of quantitative research in this area, it made sense to design a new survey for this research study.

Design of survey instrument

A questionnaire was designed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (IRB#: 179-08-EX). The questionnaire contained three sections. The first section of the questionnaire was used to gather demographic information on the students. The second section gathered information on media use. The third section contained Likert scale statements on marriage displayed on TV.

Each participant was asked how much TV, and what types of programs he or she watched. Three separate studies have provided a solid foundation for questioning a student's TV use.

The first study indicated that for a large segment of the population, television is the most common source for ideas and actions related to marriage and intimate personal relationships (Gerbner, et al., 1986).

Second, it was found that people who watch more television tend to have stronger beliefs in the real-world frequency of the relationship behaviors which they see on television (Kunkel, et al., 2003).

A third study by Buerkel-Rothfuss and Mayes (1981) found that television has an effect on viewers' knowledge and beliefs surrounding relationships. These studies provide adequate evidence for asking participants the following questions on media use.

Participants were asked how many hours of TV he or she watched in a typical day. This was fill-in-the-blank. Next, the participant was asked to perform two rank-order styles of questioning. The participant's first rank-order task was to rank the types of TV programs he or she watched. There were 10 categories: *News, Daytime Drama, Drama, Comedy, Reality, Sports, TV Movies, Game Show, Educational,* and *Do It Yourself.*

The second rank-order the participant performed was to identify where he or she got the majority of his or her information about love and marriage. The participant was given eight categories to rank (one indicated the most amount of information and10 indicated the least amount of information): *Parents/Family, Friends, Partner, TV, Internet, Newspaper/Mag, School/Teachers,* and *Church/Social Organization.*

The last question in this section gave the participant a scale of one through 10 (one indicated negative and 10 indicated positive) and asked them to use the scale to answer the question: *How do you believe TV portrays marriage?*

The final section of the survey had five statements presented in a 5-point Likert format, with scale items ranging from *1: strongly agree to 5: strongly disagree.* These questions were designed to identify and tap into a student's opinions associated with marriage and how it's portrayed on TV.

Although marital expectations are likely shaped by interpersonal experiences, authors have, in fact, pointed to mass media influences as a significant source of romanticized and idealized views of marriage. For example, Jones and Nelson (1996) suggested that in the absence of salient role models; people are more likely to accept the view of marriage displayed in the media. Signorelli (1991) suggested that in portraying idealized images of marriage, the media may be cultivating unrealistic beliefs about what marriage should be like. Finally, research has supported the idea that adolescents use media to help define the world around them (Arnett, 1995). Given the results of these three studies, the Likert statements were developed.

- *It is likely I will be married someday.*
- *Although TV depicts marriage in a stylized manner I believe there is still something to learn from TV.*
- *As I prepare for marriage, I look to the media for ideas on what marriage is really like.*
- *I believe the media show me an accurate representation of what love and marriage is like.*
- *If TV was my only source for information on marriage, I would never get married.*

Survey pretest

A pretest of the survey instrument was run. Sixty undergraduates were surveyed to make sure the questions were worded in clear sentences, and that they understood the rank-order questioning. Participants were encouraged to write comments in the margin of the survey if he or she didn't understand a question or any instructions associated with the survey.

The 60 surveys were analyzed, looking for comments from the participant, and inspected to see if the rank-order questions were answered correctly. Overall, the pretest group found the survey to be clearly written and the researcher began to find trends in the data, so the survey was considered ready.

Results

Demographics and descriptives

Of the 178 participants, 47 percent were male (n=84) and 53 percent were female (n=94). The average age of the participants was 21 (SD=4.249, Range=40, Minimum=19, Maximum=59). Ninety-two percent of participants (n=165) listed single/never married as their marital status (92.7 percent, mean 1.08, SD=.290), Six percent were married (6.7 percent and one participant (.6 percent) marked separated/divorced as their marital status. Participants from all classes were represented, 33.1 percent were freshmen, 30.9 percent were sophomores, 21.9 were juniors, 12.9 were seniors and 1.1 percent were graduate students (class standing mean was 2.18, SD=1.069).

On average, participants watched 2.50 hours of TV each day (SD=1.423, Minimum=0, Maximum=8).

Types of TV programs watched

Participants were asked to rank the types of TV programs they watched. Participants were given 10 types to choose from. The types of programs that received the first ranking were: *Comedy* (n=55), *News* (n=31), and *Sports* (n=25). Table 1 shows how participants ranked this question; Figure 1 shows the frequency percent of the number one ranked programs.

Rank	News	Daytime Drama	Drama	Comedy	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Game Show	Educa.	Do it Yourself
1	31	2	17	55	17	25	11	1	13	7
2	16	4	19	40	18	21	22	6	18	10
3	14	4	26	26	17	10	35	13	15	15
4	24	6	16	14	15	14	28	15	26	16
5	26	3	15	14	17	14	19	25	21	20
6	24	4	17	11	17	13	17	31	13	25
7	17	8	18	4	18	16	21	36	14	22
8	13	6	18	4	33	14	12	30	22	19
9	7	25	23	3	15	34	9	13	23	22
10	3	106	5	3	7	13	0	4	9	18
Valid	175	168	174	174	174	174	174	174	174	174
Missing	3	10	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Total	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178

Table 1: Frequency results (N=178) *Rank the types of TV programs you watch most Q6*
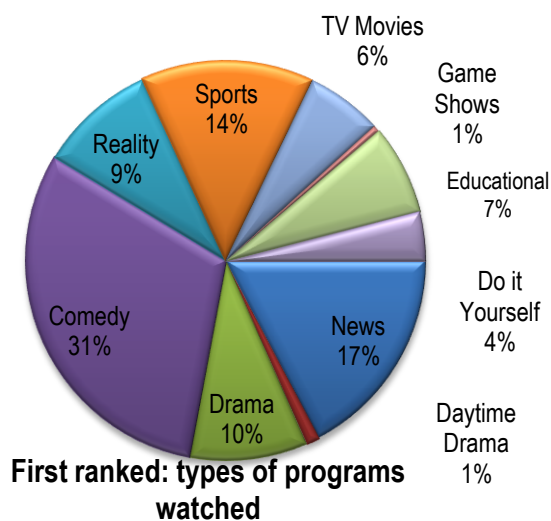
Figure 1: Frequency percent of #1 ranked data, *Q6*

Independent Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test on this rank-order question revealed only the *News* category contained a significant difference across the grouped age variable (Sig. .022). Table 2 shows at age 22, there was a shift in the rank-ordering and participants aged 22 and older, ranked the *News* category higher than 19 to 21 year olds.

News/Age	19	20	21	22	23+
Valid	73	36	19	22	25
Missing	1	1	1	0	3
Median	5.00	5.00	5.00	3.00	2.00

Table 2: Frequency results (N=178) *News category ranking by age, Q6*

Independent Samples Median Tests on this rank-order question revealed there were several categories across the gender variable were also significant. Those categories were *Drama* (Sig. .008), *Reality* (Sig. .000), *Sports* (Sig. .000), *TV Movies* (Sig. .007), and *Educational* (Sig. .000). Table 3 shows males ranked the *Sport, TV Movies, and Educational* categories higher than females; females ranked the *Drama* and *Reality* categories higher than males.

Program/Gender	Drama	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Educational
Valid	174	174	174	174	174
Missing	4	4	4	4	4
Median Males	6.00	7.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Median Females	4.00	5.00	7.00	5.00	6.00

Table 3: Frequency results (N=178) *Program ranking by gender, Q6*

Love and marriage information

The second rank-order question asked participants to rank where they get their information about love and marriage. Participants were given eight choices to rank. Ninety-five participants (n=95) gave *Parents or Family* the number one ranking with *Partner* (n=29) and *Friends* (n=25) also ranked as number one. Table 4 shows how all participants ranked this question; Figure 2 shows the frequency percent of the number one ranked sources.

Rank	Parents-Family	Friends	Partner	Television	Internet	Newspaper-Magazine	School - Teachers	Church-Social
1	95	25	29	6	2	2	2	14
2	30	63	41	6	5	4	4	20
3	26	50	36	15	8	8	13	20
4	6	18	27	37	14	20	29	23
5	9	14	15	39	24	28	27	17
6	5	2	6	29	50	41	26	14
7	0	3	8	20	38	48	48	8
8	4	0	12	22	32	22	24	57
Valid	175	175	174	174	173	173	173	173
Missing	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	5
Total	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178

Table 4: Frequency Results (N=178) *Where do you get your info on love & marriage? Q7*
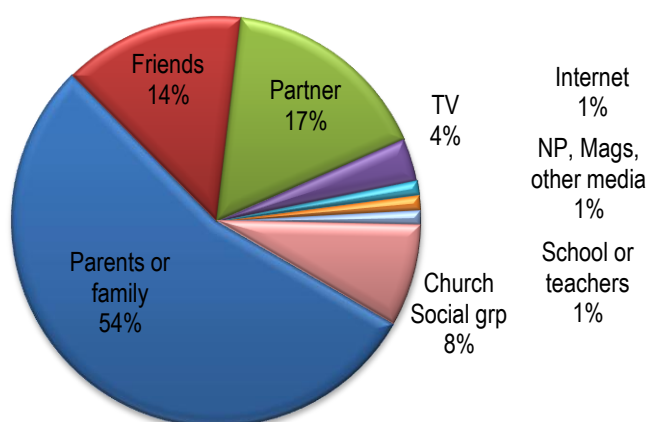
First ranked: gets information about love & marriage

Figure 2: Frequency percent of #1 ranked data, *Q7*

Independent Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test on this rank-order question found no significant gender differences. Thus, H$_1$ "Female students are more likely than male students to use TV programs for ideas on what marriage is really like," was not supported by these results.

There was a significance found across the grouped age variable (Sig. .028) in the *Partner* category. Table 5 shows the Independent Samples Median Test results, which reveal that 20 year olds ranked the *Partner* category as a source on love and marriage lower than all other age groups.

Partner/Age	19	20	21	22	23+
Valid	72	36	19	21	26
Missing	1	0	1	1	1
Median	3.00	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00

Table 5: Frequency results (N=178)
Partner ranking by age, Q7

There was also a significance found across the gender variable (Sig. .028) in the *Friends* category. Table 6 shows that females ranked their friends as a source on love and marriage higher than males.

Friends/Gender	Friends
Valid	175
Missing	3
Median Males	3.00
Median Females	2.00

Table 6: Frequency results (N=178)
Friend ranking by gender, Q7

TV portrayal of marriage

Participants were presented with a horizontal scale and asked them to circle the number that corresponded to how they felt TV portrayed marriage. Numbers 1 through 4 indicated a negative tone, numbers 5 and 6 were considered neutral, and numbers 7 through 10 indicated a positive tone.

Table 7 shows that 46 percent of participants felt that marriage was portrayed in a negative tone (n=82), 34 percent felt neutral (n=60) about the statement and 20 percent felt marriage was portrayed positively (n=35).

The Independent Samples Mann Whitney U-Test revealed there were no significant gender differences (Sig. .740). Thus, H_2 "Television has a greater influence over female students than male students with regard to their thoughts and behaviors about love and marriage," was not supported by these results.

Rank	Frequency	Percent
1	5	2.8
2	16	9.0
3	25	14.0
4	36	20.2
5	26	14.6
6	34	19.1
7	20	11.2
8	9	5.1
9	5	2.8
10	1	.6
Missing	1	.6
Total	178	100

Table 7: Frequency results (N=178)
How does TV portray marriage? Q8
1-4=Negative; 5-6=Neutral; 7-10=Positive

Likert scale items on television's influence

Factor analysis of the five Likert scale items was run to determine if the five items could be summed to form a scale. Results revealed no clear factor structure among the items. Thus the decision was made to analyze each of the five items separately.

Independent Samples t-Tests were run on the items grouped by the gender variable. No gender differences were found in any of the five Likert questions (see Appendix F).

Likelihood of marriage

For the first Likert statement, 69 percent of participants strongly agreed they would likely be married someday which is a good indication participant's had no adversity to the idea of marriage. Twenty-four percent agreed, 5 percent were neutral and 2 percent disagreed. There were no participants who strongly disagreed with the statement (see Fig. 3). It's important to note that 94 percent of all participants agreed with this statement. Separately, that was 92 percent of males and 94 percent of females.
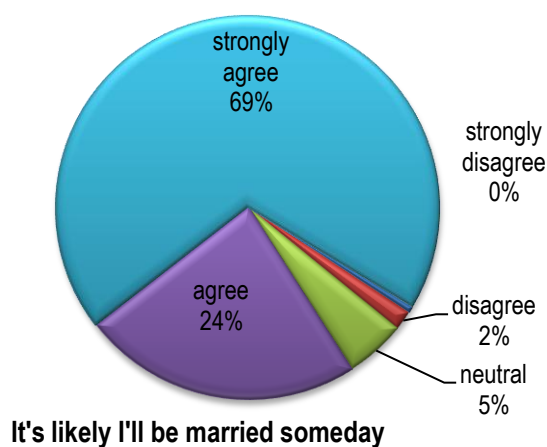
Figure 3: Frequency percent of Likert *Q9*

Influence of television

The remaining four Likert items (questionnaire numbers 10 through 13) all related to television's influence with regard to love and marriage. Question 10 reported three percent strongly agreed that although TV depicts marriage in a stylized manner, there was still something to learn. Three percent strongly agreed, 43 percent agreed, 36 percent were neutral, 14 percent disagreed and 4 percent strongly disagreed with the statement (see Fig. 4).

Again, there was no significant difference based on gender. A combined 46 percent of participants felt there was still something to learn from a TV marriage.
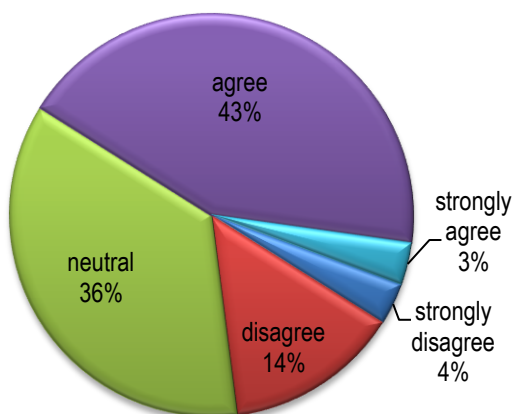
There is still something to learn from TV

Figure 4: Frequency percent of Likert *Q10*

For question 11, only a small percentage reported that they would look to the media for ideas on what marriage is like (Fig. 5). One percent strongly agreed while 3 percent agreed. Most participants disagreed (48%) and strongly disagreed (33%) with the statement. The remaining 15 percent were neutral about the statement.

On this question, it's important to note that 75 percent of males and 85 percent of females disagreed with this statement; this was a combined 81 percent of participants. In the above question 10, *Still something to learn* (Fig. 4), participants felt there was something to learn from a TV marriage, but as they indicated in question 11 (Fig. 5), they don't plan to look to the media for ideas on what marriage is like.
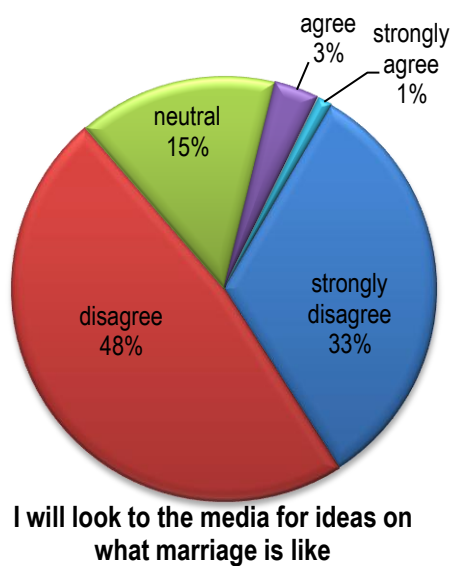
Figure 5: Frequency percent of Likert *Q11*

The fourth statement, question 12, showed consistent results when compared to the previous question 11 (Fig. 5). Only a small percent agreed that TV shows an accurate representation of what love and marriage is like (Fig. 6). Three percent agreed and 1 percent strongly agreed. The majority of participants disagreed (47%) with the statement and 27 percent strongly disagreed. The remaining 18 percent felt neutral about the statement. Nearly three-fourths of participants think what is broadcast on TV is not an accurate representation of love and marriage. Participants answered this statement much like the previous question 11 (Fig. 5) because 74 percent of participants disagreed with the statement in question 12.

It is clear to see now that participants don't plan to look to the media for ideas on what marriage is like because they don't see the TV marriage as an accurate representation of a real-life marriage.
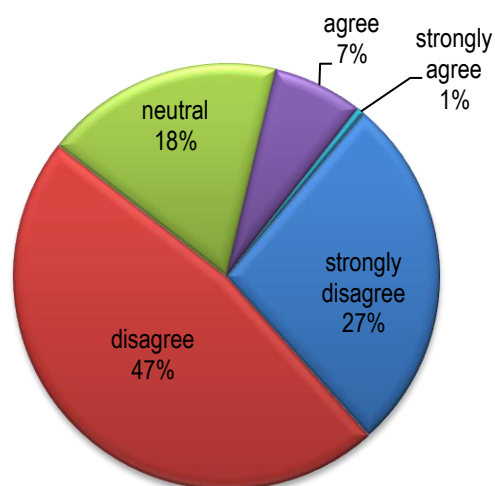
**TV shows an accurate rep of what love
& marriage is like**

Figure 6: Frequency percent of Likert *Q12*

The final statement, question 13, (Fig. 7) twenty-five percent of participants agreed that if TV were their only source on marriage, they would not get married. Six percent strongly agreed. On the other hand, slightly more disagreed (31%) and strongly disagreed (5%). The final third were participants who felt neutral (33%) about the statement. Slightly more participants disagreed (36%) and still would get married if TV was their only source, while 33 percent were neutral and 31 percent agreed.
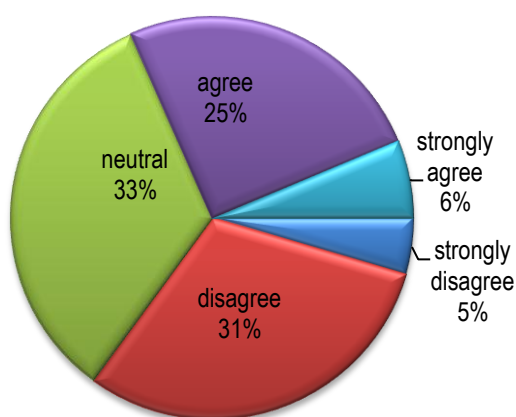
If TV was my only source, I would never get married

Figure 7: Frequency percent of Likert *Q13*

In summary, no gender differences were found on any of the four Likert items which related to television's influence with regard to love and marriage. These Likert items relate to Q8 (pg. 27) on the survey and provide more support data for H_2. Thus, H_2 "Television has a greater influence over female students than male students with regard to their thoughts and behaviors about love and marriage," was not supported by these results.

Discussion

Real life is less scripted than TV and everyday problems aren't typically solved quickly and easily with humor. Life on TV is not real, but we somehow validate the stereotyped actor and are influenced by them. A lot of what we see we blindly accept without realizing it. We laugh at the jokes on *Friends* but if the situation were happening in real life, it might not be so funny. Currently, the longest running, most positive marriage on a TV sitcom is that of Homer and Marge Simpson (*The Simpsons*).

One statement from this research received an overwhelming agreement between both males and females. Ninety-four percent of participants reported they will likely be married someday. The committed relationships about marriage on TV seem to be short-lived, and a happy marriage portrayed on TV is rare, but this study shows that doesn't matter. Participants reported they felt TV didn't display accurate information about love and marriage. According to this research, college students today believe the definition of a true-to-life marriage occurs before them, in their own families and among their friends.

Participants, in general, watched a low amount of TV—58 percent of participants watched between zero and 2 hours of TV per day. The participants who were surveyed for this study do seem to have the ability to separate reality from fantasy and the low amount of TV watched could contribute to this.

This research supports the theoretical findings on the sexual script theory cited. According to the sexual script theory (Simon & Gagnon, 1986), we learn sexual scripts through socialization and our own unique experiences. This theory closely matches how participants answered the rank-order question, *Where do you get your information on*

love and marriage? Participants chose to rank the social categories higher and the less social categories lower (see Table 4).

This research could lend support and new understanding of the multifactor sociocultural theory as well. According to this theory (Shibley-Hyde & Durik, 2000), educated females have power in a relationship. This study surveyed an exclusive group: educated females. Females surveyed watched slightly more TV than males, yet females didn't believe TV showed an accurate representation of what a real-life marriage was like. Educated females, as the theory implies, could be exposed to new information.

Males and females were found to respond the questionnaire with consistent answers, and the results provided answers to the hypotheses. Although this study was not able to find support for the research hypotheses and get the anticipated results, the results are important.

Suggestions for further study

This study has moved us forward and has provided some answers which could warrant further study. According to much of the research cited, adolescents do rely on the media for ideas on what marriage is like, but by the time they reach college-age, according to these findings, their viewpoints have changed—they no longer believe television demonstrates an accurate representation. Further research could survey 16 to 18 year olds and see if there are gender or age differences in this age group.

Limitations

Given the increasing popularity of the Internet and social media websites like MySpace, Facebook, YouTube and Twitter, this research could have expanded into these media and asked participants about their activity and usage. Another popular trend is gaming. Young adults appear to spend a lot of time with game systems rather than watching TV.

The age of participants could have been a limitation. Although a lot of the research was based on teens, this sample was taken from an older age group. The mean age of participants was 21. The young adult in college has had more life experiences and also more experience as a contributing member of society.

The education level of participants may have also been a limitation. Educated men and women have access to more information and have the potential to learn more and experience more in college than non-collegiate men and women. The college student may have also had an opportunity to take college level marriage and family courses which could help debunk gender stereotypes found on TV and in the media.

Conclusion

This research concludes with a new understanding of how the fictional TV marriage influences a young adult's own perceptions of marriage. There were several findings that resulted from this research study.

H1: Female students are more likely than male students to use TV programs for ideas on what marriage is really like.

H2: Television has a greater influence over female students than male students with regard to their thoughts and behaviors about love and marriage.

The average time spent watching TV each day was about 2.5 hours. When participants were asked about which types of TV programs they watched, participants selected the *Comedy* program most often as their first choice. The research revealed on this question of the survey that participants age 22 and older reported to watch more TV news than 19 to 21 year olds. Gender differences were found in the way males and females ranked the types of programs they watch. Females ranked *Drama* and *Reality* programs higher than males. Males ranked *Sports*, *TV movies* and *Educational* programs higher than females.

Participants reported to give their *Parents and Family* the first ranking as their source for love and marriage information. This question reported a difference with 20 year olds. According to the data, 20 year olds ranked the *Partner* category lower than all other age groups. The *Friends* category reported a gender difference because females ranked their *Friends* as a source on love and marriage higher than males.

The remainder of the survey found no other age or gender differences.

Males and females surveyed want to be married someday but they reported that TV wasn't their source for what a real-life marriage was like, because they didn't believe it was an accurate representation of marriage. Participants felt however, there was still something to learn from watching a fictional TV marriage.

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Appendix A: Survey Instrument

Part 1

1. How old are you?_____
2. Gender:
   - ○ Male
   - ○ Female
3. Mark your current marital status
   - ○ Single/Never Married
   - ○ Married
   - ○ Separated or Divorced
   - ○ Widowed
4. What is your class standing?
   - ○ Freshman
   - ○ Sophomore
   - ○ Junior
   - ○ Senior
   - ○ Graduate student

Part 2

5. On a typical day, how many hours of TV do you watch ?_____

6. Rank in order the following types of TV programs you watch the most: Rank numbers 1 through 10.
   (1= types of shows you watch the most, 10= types of shows you watch the least)
   - ___News
   - ___Daytime Drama (soap operas)
   - ___Drama (ER, Law & Order)
   - ___Comedy (Two & a Half Men, Family Guy, Simpsons)
   - ___Reality (American Idol, Biggest Loser)
   - ___Sports
   - ___TV Movies
   - ___Game Shows (Deal or No Deal, The Price is Right)
   - ___Educational (History channel, documentaries)
   - ___Do it Yourself, How-to (Food network, HGTV)
   - ___Other, please specify_____

7. Where do you get your information about love and marriage? Rank numbers 1 through 8 (1=most amount of information 8=least amount of information).

___Parents/family members

___Friends

___Partner/boyfriend/girlfriend

___TV

___Internet

___Newspapers/magazines/other media

___School/teachers

___Church/social organizations

8. Use the scale below and circle your answer to the following question:
    In general, how do you believe TV portrays marriage?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
negative				neutral					positive

Indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following five statements:

9. It is likely that I will be married someday.

    ○ strongly agree

    ○ agree

    ○ neutral

    ○ disagree

    ○ strongly disagree

10. Although TV depicts marriage in a stylized manner I believe there is still something to learn from TV.

    ○ strongly agree

    ○ agree

    ○ neutral

    ○ disagree

    ○ strongly disagree

11. When I prepare for marriage, I will look to the media for ideas on what marriage is really like.

    ○ strongly agree

    ○ agree

    ○ neutral

    ○ disagree

    ○ strongly disagree

12. I believe TV shows me an accurate representation of what love and marriage is like.

   ○　　　strongly agree

   ○　　　agree

   ○　　　neutral

   ○　　　disagree

   ○　　　strongly disagree

13. If TV was my only source for information on marriage, I would never get married.

   ○　strongly agree

   ○　agree

   ○　neutral

   ○　disagree

   ○　strongly disagree

Appendix B: Frequency Tests on Survey Questions 1-5

Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	19	73	41.0	41.0	41.0
	20	36	20.2	20.2	61.2
	21	20	11.2	11.2	72.5
	22	22	12.4	12.4	84.8
	23	6	3.4	3.4	88.2
	24	5	2.8	2.8	91.0
	25	4	2.2	2.2	93.3
	26	1	.6	.6	93.8
	27	2	1.1	1.1	94.9
	28	1	.6	.6	95.5
	29	1	.6	.6	96.1
	30	3	1.7	1.7	97.8
	31	1	.6	.6	98.3
	33	1	.6	.6	98.9
	45	1	.6	.6	99.4
	59	1	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	male	84	47.2	47.2	47.2
	female	94	52.8	52.8	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

Marital Status

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Single/Never Married	165	92.7	92.7	92.7
	Married	12	6.7	6.7	99.4
	Separated or divorced	1	.6	.6	100.0

Class standing

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Freshman	59	33.1	33.1	33.1
	Sophomore	55	30.9	30.9	64.0
	Junior	39	21.9	21.9	86.0
	Senior	23	12.9	12.9	98.9
	Graduate Student	2	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

Hours TV watched

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	6	3.4	3.4	3.4
	1	36	20.2	20.2	23.6
	2	62	34.8	34.8	58.4
	3	1	.6	.6	59.0
	3	34	19.1	19.1	78.1
	4	23	12.9	12.9	91.0
	5	11	6.2	6.2	97.2
	6	2	1.1	1.1	98.3
	7	2	1.1	1.1	99.4
	8	1	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

Appendix C: Tests on Survey Question 6

Nonparametric Tests Independent Samples

Hypothesis Test Summary

	Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
1	The medians of News are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.207	Retain the null hypothesis.
2	The medians of Daytime Drama are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.315	Retain the null hypothesis.
3	The medians of Drama are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.008	Reject the null hypothesis.
4	The medians of Comedy are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.397	Retain the null hypothesis.
5	The medians of Reality are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.000	Reject the null hypothesis.
6	The medians of Sports are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.000	Reject the null hypothesis.
7	The medians of TV Movies are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.007	Reject the null hypothesis.
8	The medians of Game Shows are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.846	Retain the null hypothesis.
9	The medians of Educational are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.000	Reject the null hypothesis.
10	The medians of Do it Yourself are the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Median Test	.191	Retain the null hypothesis.

Asymptotic significances are displayed. The significance level is .05.

Q6: Frequency Tables on All Participants

	News	Daytime Drama	Drama	Comedy	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Game Show	Educa.	Do it Yourself
1	31	2	17	55	17	25	11	1	13	7
2	16	4	19	40	18	21	22	6	18	10
3	14	4	26	26	17	10	35	13	15	15
4	24	6	16	14	15	14	28	15	26	16
5	26	3	15	14	17	14	19	25	21	20
6	24	4	17	11	17	13	17	31	13	25
7	17	8	18	4	18	16	21	36	14	22
8	13	6	18	4	33	14	12	30	22	19
9	7	25	23	3	15	34	9	13	23	22
10	3	106	5	3	7	13	0	4	9	18
Valid	175	168	174	174	174	174	174	174	174	174
Missing	3	10	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Total	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178

Q6: Frequency Tables on Females

Females, Statistics

		Drama	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Educational
N	Valid	93	93	93	93	93
	Missing	1	1	1	1	1
Median		4.00	5.00	7.00	5.00	6.00

Females, Drama

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	14	14.9	15.1	15.1
	2	13	13.8	14.0	29.0
	3	16	17.0	17.2	46.2
	4	11	11.7	11.8	58.1
	5	5	5.3	5.4	63.4
	6	6	6.4	6.5	69.9
	7	7	7.4	7.5	77.4
	8	9	9.6	9.7	87.1
	9	11	11.7	11.8	98.9
	10	1	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	93	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.1		
Total		94	100.0		

Females, Reality

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	11	11.7	11.8	11.8
	2	13	13.8	14.0	25.8
	3	10	10.6	10.8	36.6
	4	11	11.7	11.8	48.4
	5	14	14.9	15.1	63.4
	6	11	11.7	11.8	75.3
	7	5	5.3	5.4	80.6
	8	14	14.9	15.1	95.7
	9	2	2.1	2.2	97.8
	10	2	2.1	2.2	100.0
	Total	93	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.1		
Total		94	100.0		

Females, Sports

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1.1	1.1	1.1
	1	4	4.3	4.3	5.4
	2	11	11.7	11.8	17.2
	3	4	4.3	4.3	21.5
	4	6	6.4	6.5	28.0
	5	5	5.3	5.4	33.3
	6	8	8.5	8.6	41.9
	7	9	9.6	9.7	51.6
	8	8	8.5	8.6	60.2
	9	26	27.7	28.0	88.2
	10	11	11.7	11.8	100.0
	Total	93	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.1		
Total		94	100.0		

Females, TV Movies

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	6	6.4	6.5	6.5
	2	8	8.5	8.6	15.1
	3	17	18.1	18.3	33.3
	4	12	12.8	12.9	46.2
	5	11	11.7	11.8	58.1
	6	12	12.8	12.9	71.0
	7	14	14.9	15.1	86.0
	8	7	7.4	7.5	93.5
	9	6	6.4	6.5	100.0
	Total	93	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.1		
Total		94	100.0		

Females, Educational

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1.1	1.1	1.1
	1	4	4.3	4.3	5.4
	2	9	9.6	9.7	15.1
	3	6	6.4	6.5	21.5
	4	10	10.6	10.8	32.3
	5	8	8.5	8.6	40.9
	6	9	9.6	9.7	50.5
	7	10	10.6	10.8	61.3
	8	16	17.0	17.2	78.5
	9	15	16.0	16.1	94.6
	10	5	5.3	5.4	100.0
	Total	93	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.1		
Total		94	100.0		

Females, Statistics on all 10 Categories

		News	Daytime Drama	Drama	Comedy	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Game Shows	Educational	Do it Yourself
N	Valid	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
	Missing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Median		5.00	10.00	4.00	2.00	5.00	7.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Range		9	93	9	9	9	10	8	9	10	9
Minimum		1	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
Maximum		10	95	10	10	10	10	9	10	10	10

Q6: Frequency Tables on Males

Males, Statistics

		Drama	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Educational
N	Valid	81	81	81	81	81
	Missing	3	3	3	3	3
Median		6.00	7.00	4.00	4.00	4.00

Males, Drama

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1.2	1.2	1.2
	1	3	3.6	3.7	4.9
	2	6	7.1	7.4	12.3
	3	10	11.9	12.3	24.7
	4	5	6.0	6.2	30.9
	5	10	11.9	12.3	43.2
	6	11	13.1	13.6	56.8
	7	11	13.1	13.6	70.4
	8	9	10.7	11.1	81.5
	9	12	14.3	14.8	96.3
	10	3	3.6	3.7	100.0
	Total	81	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.6		
Total		84	100.0		

Males, Reality

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	6	7.1	7.4	7.4
	2	5	6.0	6.2	13.6
	3	7	8.3	8.6	22.2
	4	4	4.8	4.9	27.2
	5	3	3.6	3.7	30.9
	6	6	7.1	7.4	38.3
	7	13	15.5	16.0	54.3
	8	19	22.6	23.5	77.8
	9	13	15.5	16.0	93.8
	10	5	6.0	6.2	100.0
	Total	81	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.6		
Total		84	100.0		

Males, Sports

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1.2	1.2	1.2
	1	21	25.0	25.9	27.2
	2	10	11.9	12.3	39.5
	3	6	7.1	7.4	46.9
	4	8	9.5	9.9	56.8
	5	9	10.7	11.1	67.9
	6	5	6.0	6.2	74.1
	7	7	8.3	8.6	82.7
	8	6	7.1	7.4	90.1
	9	6	7.1	7.4	97.5
	10	2	2.4	2.5	100.0
	Total	81	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.6		
Total		84	100.0		

Males, TV Movies

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	1	1.2	1.2	1.2
	1	5	6.0	6.2	7.4
	2	14	16.7	17.3	24.7
	3	18	21.4	22.2	46.9
	4	16	19.0	19.8	66.7
	5	8	9.5	9.9	76.5
	6	5	6.0	6.2	82.7
	7	6	7.1	7.4	90.1
	8	5	6.0	6.2	96.3
	9	3	3.6	3.7	100.0
	Total	81	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.6		
Total		84	100.0		

Males, Educational

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	9	10.7	11.1	11.1
	2	9	10.7	11.1	22.2
	3	9	10.7	11.1	33.3
	4	15	17.9	18.5	51.9
	5	13	15.5	16.0	67.9
	6	4	4.8	4.9	72.8
	7	4	4.8	4.9	77.8
	8	6	7.1	7.4	85.2
	9	8	9.5	9.9	95.1
	10	4	4.8	4.9	100.0
	Total	81	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	3	3.6		
Total		84	100.0		

Males, Statistics on all 10 Categories

		News	Daytime Drama	Drama	Comedy	Reality	Sports	TV Movies	Game Shows	Educational	Do it Yourself
N	Valid	82	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81
	Missing	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Median		5.00	10.00	6.00	2.00	7.00	4.00	4.00	6.00	4.00	7.00
Range		9	88	10	9	9	10	9	6	9	9
Minimum		1	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	1	1
Maximum		10	89	10	10	10	10	9	9	10	10

Appendix D: Tests on Rank-Order Survey Question 7

Q7: Nonparametric Tests Independent Samples: Age

Hypothesis Test Summary

	Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
1	The distribution of Parent/family is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.178	Retain the null hypothesis.
2	The distribution of Friends is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.399	Retain the null hypothesis.
3	The distribution of Partner is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.028	Reject the null hypothesis.
4	The distribution of TV is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.159	Retain the null hypothesis.
5	The distribution of Internet is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.495	Retain the null hypothesis.
6	The distribution of Newspapers/Mag/Other Media is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.509	Retain the null hypothesis.
7	The distribution of School/teachers is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.563	Retain the null hypothesis.
8	The distribution of Church/social orgs is the same across categories of Age.	Independent-Samples Kruskal-Wallis Test	.629	Retain the null hypothesis.

Asymptotic significances are displayed. The significance level is .05.

Frequencies, All Participants Question 7

Rank	Parents-Family	Friends	Partner	Television	Internet	Newspaper-Magazine	School -Teachers	Church-Social
1	95	25	29	6	2	2	2	14
2	30	63	41	6	5	4	4	20
3	26	50	36	15	8	8	13	20
4	6	18	27	37	14	20	29	23
5	9	14	15	39	24	28	27	17
6	5	2	6	29	50	41	26	14
7	0	3	8	20	38	48	48	8
8	4	0	12	22	32	22	24	57
Valid	175	175	174	174	173	173	173	173
Missing	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	5
Total	178	178	178	178	178	178	178	178

All Ages, Statistics

		Parent/family	Friends	Partner	TV	Internet	Newspapers/Mag/Other Media	School/teachers	Church/social orgs
N	Valid	175	175	174	174	173	173	173	173
	Missing	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	5
Median		1.00	2.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.00
Range		7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Minimum		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum		8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8

Frequency Table

Partner

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	29	16.3	16.7	16.7
	2	41	23.0	23.6	40.2
	3	36	20.2	20.7	60.9
	4	27	15.2	15.5	76.4
	5	15	8.4	8.6	85.1
	6	6	3.4	3.4	88.5
	7	8	4.5	4.6	93.1
	8	12	6.7	6.9	100.0
	Total	174	97.8	100.0	
Missing	System	4	2.2		
Total		178	100.0		

Age 19 Frequencies

Age 19, Statistics

		Parent/family	Friends	Partner	TV	Internet	Newspapers/ Mag/Other Media	School /teachers	Church /social orgs
N	Valid	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
	Missing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Median		1.00	3.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Range		5	6	7	7	6	6	6	7
Minimum		1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1
Maximum		6	7	8	8	8	8	8	8

Frequency Table

Partner

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	13	17.8	17.8	17.8
	2	23	31.5	31.5	49.3
	3	17	23.3	23.3	72.6
	4	10	13.7	13.7	86.3
	5	2	2.7	2.7	89.0
	6	3	4.1	4.1	93.2
	7	2	2.7	2.7	95.9
	8	3	4.1	4.1	100.0
	Total	73	100.0	100.0	

Age 20 Frequencies

Age 20, Statistics

		Parent/family	Friends	Partner	TV	Internet	Newspapers/ Mag/Other Media	School /teacher	Church /social orgs
N	Valid	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Median		1.00	3.00	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	5.50
Range		7	4	7	6	7	6	6	7
Minimum		1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
Maximum		8	5	8	8	8	8	8	8

Frequency Table

Partner

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	7	19.4	19.4	19.4
	2	4	11.1	11.1	30.6
	3	5	13.9	13.9	44.4
	4	7	19.4	19.4	63.9
	5	6	16.7	16.7	80.6
	7	3	8.3	8.3	88.9
	8	4	11.1	11.1	100.0
	Total	36	100.0	100.0	

Age 21 Frequencies

Age 21, Statistics

		Parent/family	Friends	Partner	TV	Internet	Newspapers/ Mag/Other Media	School /teachers	Church /social orgs
N	Valid	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
	Missing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Median		1.00	2.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	4.50
Range		5	6	6	6	5	7	7	7
Minimum		1	1	2	2	3	1	1	1
Maximum		6	7	8	8	8	8	8	8

Frequency Table

Partner

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	2	5	25.0	25.0	25.0
	3	6	30.0	30.0	55.0
	4	4	20.0	20.0	75.0
	5	2	10.0	10.0	85.0
	6	1	5.0	5.0	90.0
	8	2	10.0	10.0	100.0
	Total	20	100.0	100.0	

Age 22 Frequencies

Age 22, Statistics

		Parent/family	Friends	Partner	TV	Internet	Newspapers/ Mag/Other Media	School /teachers	Church /social orgs
N	Valid	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
	Missing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Median		1.00	2.00	3.00	5.50	6.50	6.00	5.50	5.00
Range		7	3	7	7	6	5	5	7
Minimum		1	1	1	1	2	3	3	1
Maximum		8	4	8	8	8	8	8	8

Frequency Table

Partner

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	5	22.7	22.7	22.7
	2	4	18.2	18.2	40.9
	3	6	27.3	27.3	68.2
	4	5	22.7	22.7	90.9
	7	1	4.5	4.5	95.5
	8	1	4.5	4.5	100.0
	Total	22	100.0	100.0	

Age 23+ Frequencies

Age 23+ Statistics

		Parent/family	Friends	Partner	TV	Internet	Newspapers/ Mag/Other Media	School /teachers	Church /social orgs
N	Valid	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
	Missing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Median		1.00	2.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.00
Range		7	6	7	7	7	7	7	7
Minimum		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maximum		8	7	8	8	8	8	8	8

*Appendix E:Tests on Survey Question 7, Nonparametric Tests
Independent Samples: Gender*

Hypothesis Test Summary

	Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
1	The distribution of Parent/family is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.598	Retain the null hypothesis.
2	The distribution of Friends is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.028	Reject the null hypothesis.
3	The distribution of Partner is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.917	Retain the null hypothesis.
4	The distribution of TV is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.064	Retain the null hypothesis.
5	The distribution of Internet is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.695	Retain the null hypothesis.
6	The distribution of Newspapers/Mag/Other Media is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.676	Retain the null hypothesis.

Asymptotic significances are displayed. The significance level is .05.

Hypothesis Test Summary

	Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
7	The distribution of School/teachers is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.664	Retain the null hypothesis.
8	The distribution of Church/social orgs is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.773	Retain the null hypothesis.

Asymptotic significances are displayed. The significance level is .05.

Males, Statistics

Friends

N	Valid	82
	Missing	2
Mean		3.01
Std. Error of Mean		.165
Median		3.00
Mode		2
Std. Deviation		1.495
Variance		2.234
Range		6
Minimum		1
Maximum		7

Males, Friends

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	10	11.9	12.2	12.2
	2	27	32.1	32.9	45.1
	3	20	23.8	24.4	69.5
	4	9	10.7	11.0	80.5
	5	12	14.3	14.6	95.1
	6	1	1.2	1.2	96.3
	7	3	3.6	3.7	100.0
	Total	82	97.6	100.0	
Missing	System	2	2.4		
Total		84	100.0		

Females, Statistics

Friends

N	Valid	93
	Missing	1
Mean		2.46
Std. Error of Mean		.105
Median		2.00
Mode		2
Std. Deviation		1.017
Variance		1.034
Range		5
Minimum		1
Maximum		6

Females, Friends

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	15	16.0	16.1	16.1
	2	36	38.3	38.7	54.8
	3	30	31.9	32.3	87.1
	4	9	9.6	9.7	96.8
	5	2	2.1	2.2	98.9
	6	1	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	93	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	1	1.1		
Total		94	100.0		

Appendix E: Tests on Survey Question 8

Q8: Nonparametric Tests - Gender

Hypothesis Test Summary

	Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
1	The distribution of TV portrays marriage scale is the same across categories of Gender.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.740	Retain the null hypothesis.

Asymptotic significances are displayed. The significance level is .05.

TV portrays marriage scale, 1=negative 10=positive

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	5	2.8	2.8	2.8
	2	16	9.0	9.0	11.9
	3	25	14.0	14.1	26.0
	4	36	20.2	20.3	46.3
	5	26	14.6	14.7	61.0
	6	34	19.1	19.2	80.2
	7	20	11.2	11.3	91.5
	8	9	5.1	5.1	96.6
	9	5	2.8	2.8	99.4
	10	1	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	177	99.4	100.0	
Missing	System	1	.6		
Total		178	100.0		

Appendix F: Tests on Survey Questions 9—11

Q9-11: Independent Samples t-Tests - Gender

Group Statistics

	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
married someday	male	84	4.51	.768	.084
	female	94	4.66	.665	.069
TV stylized manner	male	84	3.40	.838	.091
	female	94	3.19	.895	.092
look to media marriage is like	male	84	1.99	.857	.094
	female	94	1.87	.833	.086
accurate rep of marriage	male	84	2.13	.915	.100
	female	94	2.03	.873	.090
TV source, not married	male	84	2.99	1.047	.114
	female	94	2.98	.950	.098

Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test Equality of Means					95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	Lower	Upper
married someday	Equal variances assumed	2.719	.101	-1.375	176	.171	-.148	.107	-.360	.064
	Equal variances not assumed			-1.364	165.223	.175	-.148	.108	-.361	.066
TV stylized manner	Equal variances assumed	.129	.720	1.635	176	.104	.213	.130	-.044	.471
	Equal variances not assumed			1.641	175.620	.102	.213	.130	-.043	.470
look to media marriage is like	Equal variances assumed	.040	.841	.913	176	.362	.116	.127	-.134	.366
	Equal variances not assumed			.912	172.511	.363	.116	.127	-.135	.366
accurate rep of marriage	Equal variances assumed	.088	.767	.738	176	.461	.099	.134	-.166	.364
	Equal variances not assumed			.736	171.593	.462	.099	.134	-.166	.365
TV source, not married	Equal variances assumed	.299	.585	.063	176	.950	.009	.150	-.286	.305

Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances t-test Equality of Means								
						Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
		F	Sig.	t	df				Lower	Upper
married someday	Equal variances assumed	2.719	.101	-1.375	176	.171	-.148	.107	-.360	.064
	Equal variances not assumed			-1.364	165.223	.175	-.148	.108	-.361	.066
TV stylized manner	Equal variances assumed	.129	.720	1.635	176	.104	.213	.130	-.044	.471
	Equal variances not assumed			1.641	175.620	.102	.213	.130	-.043	.470
look to media marriage is like	Equal variances assumed	.040	.841	.913	176	.362	.116	.127	-.134	.366
	Equal variances not assumed			.912	172.511	.363	.116	.127	-.135	.366
accurate rep of marriage	Equal variances assumed	.088	.767	.738	176	.461	.099	.134	-.166	.364
	Equal variances not assumed			.736	171.593	.462	.099	.134	-.166	.365
TV source, not married	Equal variances assumed	.299	.585	.063	176	.950	.009	.150	-.286	.305
	Equal variances not assumed			.062	168.614	.950	.009	.151	-.288	.307

Q9-11: Crosstabs and Chi Square Tests - Gender

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
married someday * Gender	178	100.0%	0	.0%	178	100.0%
TV stylized manner * Gender	178	100.0%	0	.0%	178	100.0%
look to media marriage is like * Gender	178	100.0%	0	.0%	178	100.0%
accurate rep of marriage * Gender	178	100.0%	0	.0%	178	100.0%
TV source, not married * Gender	178	100.0%	0	.0%	178	100.0%

Q9: Married someday - Gender

Crosstab

Count

		Gender		Total
		male	female	
married someday	disagree	2	2	4
	neutral	5	4	9
	agree	77	88	165
Total		84	94	178

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)	Point Probability
Pearson Chi-Square	.284[a]	2	.868	.901		
Likelihood Ratio	.283	2	.868	.901		
Fisher's Exact Test	.456			.901		
Linear-by-Linear Association	.202[b]	1	.653	.725	.377	.094
N of Valid Cases	178					

Crosstab

Count

		Gender		
		male	female	Total
married someday	disagree	2	2	4
	neutral	5	4	9
	agree	77	88	165

a. 4 cells (66.7%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 1.89.

b. The standardized statistic is .450.

Q10: TV stylized manner - Gender

Crosstab

Count

		Gender		
		male	female	Total
TV stylized manner	disagree	11	20	31
	neutral	30	34	64
	agree	43	40	83
Total		84	94	178

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)	Point Probability
Pearson Chi-Square	2.417[a]	2	.299	.299		
Likelihood Ratio	2.447	2	.294	.293		
Fisher's Exact Test	2.393			.299		
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.952[b]	1	.162	.174	.091	.019
N of Valid Cases	178					

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 14.63.

b. The standardized statistic is -1.397.

Q11: Look to media marriage is like - Gender

Crosstab

Count

		Gender		Total
		male	female	
look to media marriage is like	disagree	63	80	143
	neutral	18	9	27
	agree	3	5	8
Total		84	94	178

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)	Point Probability
Pearson Chi-Square	4.975[a]	2	.083	.080		
Likelihood Ratio	5.027	2	.081	.089		
Fisher's Exact Test	4.930			.080		
Linear-by-Linear Association	.407[b]	1	.524	.591	.300	.070
N of Valid Cases	178					

a. 2 cells (33.3%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.78.

b. The standardized statistic is -.638.

Q12: Accurate rep of marriage - Gender

Crosstab

Count

		Gender		
		male	female	Total
accurate rep of marriage	disagree	62	69	131
	neutral	14	19	33
	agree	8	6	14
Total		84	94	178

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)	Point Probability
Pearson Chi-Square	.858[a]	2	.651	.690		
Likelihood Ratio	.859	2	.651	.690		
Fisher's Exact Test	.875			.690		
Linear-by-Linear Association	.213[b]	1	.645	.661	.355	.063
N of Valid Cases	178					

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 6.61.

b. The standardized statistic is -.461.

Q13: TV source, not married - Gender

Crosstab

Count

		Gender		
		male	female	Total
TV source, not married	disagree	28	34	62
	neutral	29	31	60
	agree	27	29	56
Total		84	94	178

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)	Point Probability
Pearson Chi-Square	.157[a]	2	.924	.946		
Likelihood Ratio	.158	2	.924	.946		
Fisher's Exact Test	.178			.946		
Linear-by-Linear Association	.085[b]	1	.771	.809	.409	.046
N of Valid Cases	178					

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 26.43.

b. The standardized statistic is -.291.

Statistics

		TV stylized manner	look to media marriage is like	accurate rep of marriage	TV source, not married
N	Valid	178	178	178	178
	Missing	0	0	0	0
Mean		3.29	1.93	2.08	2.98
Std. Error of Mean		.065	.063	.067	.075
Median		3.00	2.00	2.00	3.00
Mode		4	2	2	3
Std. Deviation		.873	.844	.892	.994
Variance		.762	.712	.796	.988
Skewness		-.607	.938	.665	.139
Std. Error of Skewness		.182	.182	.182	.182
Kurtosis		.033	1.187	.073	-.633
Std. Error of Kurtosis		.362	.362	.362	.362
Range		4	4	4	4
Minimum		1	1	1	1
Maximum		5	5	5	5
Sum		586	343	370	531

married someday, question 9

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly disagree	1	.6	.6	.6
	disagree	3	1.7	1.7	2.2
	neutral	9	5.1	5.1	7.3
	agree	42	23.6	23.6	30.9
	strongly agree	123	69.1	69.1	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

TV stylized manner, question 10

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly disagree	6	3.4	3.4	3.4
	disagree	25	14.0	14.0	17.4
	neutral	64	36.0	36.0	53.4
	agree	77	43.3	43.3	96.6
	strongly agree	6	3.4	3.4	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

look to media marriage is like, question 11

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly disagree	58	32.6	32.6	32.6
	disagree	85	47.8	47.8	80.3
	neutral	27	15.2	15.2	95.5
	agree	6	3.4	3.4	98.9
	strongly agree	2	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

accurate rep of marriage, question 12

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly disagree	48	27.0	27.0	27.0
	disagree	83	46.6	46.6	73.6
	neutral	33	18.5	18.5	92.1
	agree	13	7.3	7.3	99.4
	strongly agree	1	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	

TV source, not married, question 13

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	strongly disagree	8	4.5	4.5	4.5
	disagree	54	30.3	30.3	34.8
	neutral	60	33.7	33.7	68.5
	agree	45	25.3	25.3	93.8
	strongly agree	11	6.2	6.2	100.0
	Total	178	100.0	100.0	