

## Chapter 01

### Multiple Choice

1. Each of the following is considered the business of social welfare except:

- a. telling people how to live their lives.
- b. ending all types of discrimination and oppression.
- c. providing child-care services for parents who work outside the home.
- d. rehabilitating people who are addicted to alcohol or drugs.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

2. All of the following are considered the business of social welfare except:

- a. providing recreational and leisure-time services to all age groups.
- b. rehabilitating juveniles and adults who have committed criminal offenses.
- c. acting as missionaries for all faiths and bringing more spirituality into people's lives.
- d. fulfilling the health and legal exigencies of those in financial need.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

3. \_\_\_\_ is the study of human social behavior, especially the study of the origins, organizations, institutions, and development of human society.

- a. Social welfare
- b. Sociology
- c. Social work
- d. Cultural anthropology

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

4. Social welfare overlaps with sociology and psychology on a:

- a. knowledge-base level.
- b. functional level.
- c. practice level.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c

5. Psychiatry is the study of:

- a. the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental illness.
- b. human social behavior, especially the study of the origins, organizations, institutions, and development of human society.
- c. mental processes and behavior of the brain.
- d. the processes, principles, and structure of government and political institutions.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

6. Which of the following statements is consistent with the residual view of social welfare?

- a. Recipients are viewed as being entitled to social services and financial help.
- b. Social services and financial help should be provided to an individual on a short-term basis, primarily during emergencies.

- c. It is associated with the belief that an individual's difficulties are due to causes largely beyond his or her control.
- d. There is no stigma attached to receiving funds or services. In this view, when difficulties arise, causes are sought in the society, and efforts are focused on improving the social institutions within which the individual functions.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

7. Which of the following is consistent with an institutional view of social welfare?

- a. Social services and financial aid should be provided only when other measures or efforts have been exhausted.
- b. Causes for client's difficulties are sought in the society.
- c. Clients are to blame for their predicaments because of personal inadequacies.
- d. Recipients are required to perform certain low-grade work assignments to receive financial aid.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

8. The political philosophy of conservatism generally advocates that:

- a. a moderate change in society is desirable.
- b. a free-market economy needs regulation to ensure fair competition among various interests.
- c. a residual approach to social welfare programs should be used.
- d. government action should frequently be used to remedy social deficiencies and to improve human welfare.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

The \_\_\_\_ of social welfare advocates social interventions that contribute positively to economic development. It focuses on integrating economic and social development for the benefit of all members of society.

9. \_\_\_\_ advocates social interventions that contribute positively to economic development. It thus promotes harmony between economic and social institutions.

- a. liberal perspective
- b. conservative perspective
- c. developmental perspective
- d. strengths perspective

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

10. The Elizabethan Poor Law of 1601 established three categories of relief recipients:

- a. the insane, the poor, and the disabled.
- b. the insane, dependent children, and the poor.
- c. the able-bodied poor, the impotent poor, and dependent children.
- d. the disabled, wives of prisoners, and the poor.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

11. Which of the following views asserted that the economy and society in general would

best prosper if businesses and industries were permitted to do whatever they desired to make a profit?

- a. Social Darwinism
- b. The laissez-faire economic theory
- c. Protestant ethic
- d. Compassionate conservatism

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

12. Private social welfare agencies:

- a. were the only social service agencies in the early 1900s where services were provided by professionally-trained volunteers from the upper socioeconomic groups.
- b. were primarily established to meet the needs of people living in rural areas.
- c. provided most of the funds and services to the needy until the 1930s due to the lack of development of public social services.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c

13. Before 1930 social services and financial assistance for people in need were provided primarily by \_\_\_\_.

- a. churches and voluntary organizations
- b. federal and state institutions
- c. richer European countries
- d. the military

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

14. According to Linda Gordon, which of the following is a reason for the large-scale stigmatization of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program in the 1950s and 1960s?

- a. It advocated social interventions that negatively affected the economic development.
- b. The harmony between economic and social institutions was disrupted as a result of AFDC program.
- c. It was in direct opposition to the residual approach, which advocates that the government should seek to minimize its role in the provision of social welfare programs.
- d. The role of women began to be redefined, and it began to be expected that women would work outside the home.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

15. President Clinton and the Republican-controlled Congress abolished Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) in 1996 and replaced it with:

- a. Welfare Services for Single Mothers.
- b. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.
- c. Conditional Aid to Single Parents.
- d. Assistance for Poor Families.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

16. Aspects of the English Poor Laws that have been incorporated into our public

assistance programs include all of the following except:

- a. benefits being viewed as "charity."
- b. residence requirements.
- c. use of a means test.
- d. recipients being considered entitled to aid.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

17. In the context of public health and welfare services, President Franklin Roosevelt asserted that:

- a. financial security, including public assistance, is a matter of charity.
- b. every individual has a right to a minimum standard of living in a civilized society.
- c. liberty and security are mutually exclusive in a democratic society.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c

18. Which of the following is a welfare benefit received by corporations?

- a. Survivors insurance
- b. Training subsidies through educational institutions
- c. Low-cost government insurance for Oceanside homes
- d. Reduced capital gains taxes

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

19. Dr. Cecil Jacobson was well known for all of the following except for:

- a. defrauding patients by artificially inseminating them with his own sperm while claiming to use other donors.
- b. having introduced amniocentesis in the United States for diagnosing defects in unborn babies.
- c. tricking his patients into believing they were pregnant when they were not.
- d. developing the technology that can enable men to give birth.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

20. Which of the following statements is true?

- a. Technological advances foster changes in our lifestyles; these changes affect changes in our future social and financial, health, and recreational needs; and these determine what changes will be demanded in social service programs.
- b. Changes in our future social, financial, health, and recreational needs affect technological advances to foster lifestyle changes, and these determine what changes will be demanded in social service programs.
- c. With increasing technological breakthroughs and changes in social welfare programs, adjusting psychologically to rapid lifestyle changes has become easier.
- d. Changes in social service programs affect technological advances that foster lifestyle changes, and these changes affect changes in our future social, financial, health, and recreational needs.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

21. Which of the following is a screening approach that involves the surgical insertion of a

hollow needle through the abdominal wall and uterus of a pregnant female to obtain amniotic fluid for the determination of chromosomal abnormality?

- a. Amniocentesis
- b. Chorionic villus sampling
- c. Cloning
- d. Microcephaly

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

22. \_\_\_\_ are adult cells that have been genetically reprogrammed to a state similar to that of an embryonic stem cell by being forced to express genes and factors characteristic of embryonic stem cells.

- a. Embryonic stem cells
- b. Basophils
- c. Induced pluripotent stem cells
- d. Lymphocytes

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

23. Identify the new family forms in the current social structure of society.

- a. Serial or contract marriages
- b. Childless couples
- c. Group marriages
- d. All of these are correct.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

24. Which of the following concepts is embodied in an open marriage?

- a. Possession or ownership of mate
- b. Stifling of self for the marriage
- c. Flexible roles in meeting financial responsibilities
- d. Doing everything together with one's spouse during leisure time

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

25. Stinnet and Walters reviewed the research literature on stepparenthood and came to the conclusion that:

- a. integration tends to be easier in families that have been split by death rather than by divorce.
- b. adolescents have greater difficulty accepting a stepparent than do young children.
- c. children tend to see a stepparent of the same sex as playing favorites with them.
- d. female children tend more readily to accept a stepparent, particularly if the new parent is a male.

**ANSWER:** a, b, c, d

### **True / False**

26. One of the businesses of social welfare is to provide adequate housing for the homeless.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

27. Social welfare programs and social service organizations are sometimes referred to as social welfare institutions.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

28. Sociology is the study of human culture based on archeological, ethnographic, linguistic, social, and psychological data and methods of analysis.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

29. In the past, social welfare has been more of a pure science than an applied science.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

30. The residual view of social welfare generally attaches a stigma to receiving services and funds.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

31. Blaming social welfare clients for their predicaments is consistent with the institutional view of social welfare.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

32. Associated with the institutional view of social welfare is the belief that the causes of an individual's difficulties are rooted in his or her own malfunctioning.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

33. The Protestant ethic emphasized individualism, the view that one is the master of one's own fate.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

34. Herbert Hoover strongly believed that only government programs should meet the needs of the unemployed.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

35. A major push for expansion of social welfare programs came in the 1960s, when President Lyndon Johnson declared a War on Poverty and sought to create what he called a "Great Society."

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

36. In 1935, when the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program was enacted, it was thought best for single mothers to stay at home to raise their children.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

37. Children today in this country are more of an economic asset than a financial liability.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

38. The technology now exists to enable men to give birth to babies.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

39. The development of birth control devices has been an important factor in leading to an increase in premarital sexual relationships.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

40. Embryo transfer is a technique in which an egg taken from a woman's reproductive system is externally artificially impregnated with partner's sperm and then implanted in her uterus to complete the normal process of pregnancy.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

41. An egg can be taken from one woman's reproductive system, externally fertilized, and then implanted in another woman's uterus.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

42. Cloning refers to the process in which a new organism is reproduced from the nucleus of a single cell.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

43. The genome is the full set of chromosomes that carries all of the inherited traits of an organism.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

44. In some states, deceiving one's spouse before marriage about the desire to have children is grounds for annulment of the marriage.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

45. Open marriage embodies concepts such as ownership of mate and denial or stifling of self for the benefit of the marriage.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

46. Same-sex marriages are strictly prohibited in all the states in the United States.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

47. One major concern among same-sex couples is that they never get any opportunities to become parents.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

48. Comarital sex refers to mate swapping and other organized extramarital relations in which both spouses agree to participate.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

49. Generally, in blended families, as soon as the members become joined as a family there is instant love for one another.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

50. It is unlikely that the family of tomorrow will be significantly affected by technological changes.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

### **Essay**

51. Explain the goal of social welfare in the United States.

**ANSWER:** The goal of social welfare is to fulfill the social, financial, health, and recreational requirements of all individuals in a society. Social welfare seeks to enhance the social functioning of all age groups, both rich and poor. When other institutions in society, such as the market economy and the family, fail at times to meet the basic needs of individuals or groups of people, then social services are needed and demanded.

52. Describe how social work and human services are individually related to social welfare.

**ANSWER:** Social welfare is a more comprehensive term than social work; social welfare encompasses social work. Social welfare and social work are primarily related at the level of practice. Almost all social workers are working in the field of social welfare. There are, however, many other professional and occupational groups that may be working in this field. Professional people providing social welfare services include attorneys who offer legal services to the poor, urban planners in social planning agencies, and physicians in public health agencies. Human services may be defined as those systems of services and allied occupations and professions that concentrate on improving or maintaining the physical and mental health and general well-being of individuals, groups, or communities in our society. There is a tendency to use the term human services for what in the past has been called social welfare. Actually, human services is a broader term because it includes services (such as library services, law enforcement, housing-code enforcement, consumer protection, and fire prevention and firefighting) that are usually not considered social welfare services. The term social welfare is thus more limited because it focuses on conceptualizing and resolving social problems. Human services is a broader term that encompasses social welfare programs. The two terms relate at a program level.

53. Describe the residual and the institutional views of social welfare. Which do you believe is the better conception of social welfare, and why?

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. Currently, there are two conflicting views of the role of social welfare in our society. One of these roles has been termed residual—a gap-filling or first-aid role. This view holds that social welfare services should be provided only when an individual's needs are not properly met through other societal institutions, primarily the family and the market economy. According to the residual view, social services and financial aid should not be provided until all other measures or efforts have been exhausted, including the individual's and his or her family's resources. In addition, this view asserts that funds and services should be provided on a short-term basis (primarily during emergencies) and should be withdrawn when the individual or the family again becomes capable of being self-sufficient. The residual view has been characterized as "charity for unfortunates." Funds and services are seen not as a right (something that one is entitled to) but as a gift, with the receiver having certain obligations; for example, to receive financial aid, recipients may be required to perform certain low-grade work assignments. Associated with the residual view is the belief that the causes of clients' difficulties are rooted in their own malfunctioning—that is, clients are to blame for their predicaments because of personal inadequacies, ill-advised activities, or sins. Conservatives generally advocate a residual approach to social welfare programs. They believe that dependency is a result of personal failure and that it is natural for inequality to exist among humans. The opposing point of view, the institutional view, holds that social welfare programs are to be accepted as a proper, legitimate function of modern industrial society in helping individuals achieve self-fulfillment. Under this view, there is no stigma attached to receiving funds or services; recipients are viewed as being entitled to such help. Associated with this view is the belief that an individual's difficulties are due to causes largely beyond his or her control (for example, a person may be unemployed because of a lack of employment opportunities). When difficulties arise, causes are sought in the environment (society), and efforts are focused on improving the social institutions within which the individual functions. Liberals generally adhere to an institutional view of social welfare. They assert that because modern society has become so fragmented and complex and because traditional institutions have been unable to meet emerging human needs, few individuals can now function without the help of social services.

54. Describe the two prominent political philosophies in the United States: liberalism and conservatism. Also describe each philosophy's views about the provision of social welfare services.

**ANSWER:** The two prominent political philosophies in the United States are liberalism and conservatism. Conservatives tend to resist change. They emphasize tradition and believe that rapid change usually results in more negative than positive consequences. In economic matters, conservatives feel that government should not interfere with the workings of the marketplace. They encourage the government to support (for example, through tax incentives), rather than regulate, business and industry in society. A free-market economy is thought to be the best way to ensure prosperity and fulfillment of individual needs. Conservatives embrace the old adage "that government governs best which governs least." They believe that most government activities constitute grave threats to individual liberty and to the smooth functioning of the free market.

Conservatives generally view individuals as autonomous. Regardless of what a person's situation is, or what his or her problems are, each person is thought to be responsible for his or her own behavior. People are thought to choose whatever they are doing, and they therefore are viewed as responsible for whatever gains or losses result from their choices. People are thought to possess free will, and thus can choose to engage in behaviors such as hard work that help them get ahead or activities such as excessive leisure that contribute to failure. Poverty and other personal problems are seen as the result of laziness, irresponsibility, or lack of self-control. Conservatives believe that social welfare programs force hardworking, productive citizens to pay for the consequences of the irresponsible behavior of recipients of social welfare services. Conservatives generally advocate a residual approach to social welfare programs. They believe that dependency is a result of personal failure and that it is natural for inequality to exist among humans. They assert that the family, the church, and gainful employment should be the primary defenses against dependency. Social welfare should be only a temporary function that is used sparingly; prolonged social welfare assistance will lead recipients to become permanently dependent. Conservatives also believe that charity is a moral virtue and that the "fortunate" are obligated to help the "less fortunate" become productive, contributing citizens in a society. If government funds are provided for health and social welfare services, conservatives advocate that such funding should go to private organizations, which are thought to be more effective and efficient than public agencies in providing services. Conservatives revere the "traditional" nuclear family and try to devise policies to preserve it. They see the family as a source of strength for individuals and as the primary unit of society. They generally oppose abortion, sex education in schools, equal rights for gays and lesbians, public funding of daycare centers, birth control counseling for minors, and other measures that might undermine parental authority or support alternative family forms such as single parenthood. In contrast, liberals believe that change is generally good, as it usually brings progress. Moderate change is best. They view society as needing regulation to ensure fair competition among various interests. In particular, a free-market economy is viewed as needing regulation to ensure fairness. Government programs, including social welfare programs, are necessary to help meet basic human needs. Liberals advocate government action to remedy social deficiencies and to improve human welfare. They feel that government regulation and intervention are often required to safeguard human rights, to control the excesses of capitalism, and to provide equal chances for success. They emphasize egalitarianism and the rights of minorities. Liberals generally adhere to an institutional view of social welfare. They assert that because modern society has become so fragmented and complex and because traditional institutions have been unable to meet emerging human needs, few individuals can now function without the help of social services (including work training, job placement services, child care, health care, and counseling). Liberals believe that the personal problems encountered by someone are generally due to causes beyond that person's control. Causes are generally sought in the person's environment. For example, a child with a learning disability is thought to be at risk only if he or she is not receiving appropriate educational services to accommodate the disability. In such a situation, liberals would seek to develop educational services to meet the child's learning needs. Liberals view the family as an evolving institution and therefore are willing to support programs that assist emerging family forms such as single-parent families and same-sex marriages.

55. Describe the developmental view of social welfare. Indicate why both liberals and

conservatives are apt to support this approach.

**ANSWER:** The developmental view offers an alternative approach to residual and institutional views that appears to appeal to liberals, conservatives, and the general public. This approach is defined as a process of planned social change designed to promote the well-being of the population as a whole in conjunction with a dynamic process of economic development. The developmental approach advocates social interventions that contribute positively to economic development. It thus promotes harmony between economic and social institutions. The approach regards economic progress as a vital component of social progress. It promotes the active role of the government in economic and social planning. This is in direct opposition to the residual approach, which advocates that the government should seek to minimize its role in the provision of social welfare programs. Finally, the developmental approach focuses on integrating economic and social development for the benefit of all members of society. This perspective appeals to liberals because it supports the development and expansion of needed social welfare programs. The perspective appeals to conservatives because it asserts that the development of certain social welfare programs will have a positive impact on the economy. In the past, conservative politicians have opposed the development of many social welfare programs because they claimed such programs would have a negative impact on economic development. The general public also would be apt to support the developmental perspective. Many voters oppose welfarism because they believe it causes economic problems (for example, recipients choosing to be on the government dole rather than contributing to society by working). Asserting, and documenting, that certain proposed social welfare programs will directly benefit the economy is attractive to voters.

56. What is the Tea Party movement? Do you believe it is the rebirth of social Darwinism? Explain your answer.

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. The Tea Party movement is a political movement that is generally recognized as conservative and libertarian. (The Libertarian Party is the third largest political party in the United States; it favors minimally regulated, laissez-faire markets; strong civil liberties; reduced government spending; minimally regulated migration across borders; the avoidance of foreign military or economic entanglements with other nations; and respect for freedom of travel to all foreign countries). The Tea Party movement endorses reduced government spending, opposition to many current taxation policies, and reduction of the federal budget deficit and the national debt. The name "Tea Party" is a reference to the Boston Tea Party, a protest by colonists who objected to a British tax on tea in 1773 and demonstrated by dumping British tea taken from docked ships into the harbor. Tea Party advocates want to sharply reduce spending on social welfare programs—including Social Security benefits, Medicare, Medicaid, The Affordable Care Act, and unemployment insurance. They also want to curtail the power of trade unions, and are against raising tax rates for millionaires. Robert Reich asserts that the Tea Party is the rebirth of social Darwinism. Social Darwinism was based on Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. Darwin theorized that higher forms of life evolved from lower forms by the process of survival of the fittest; he had seen in the animal world a fierce struggle for survival that destroyed the weak, rewarded the strong, and produced evolutionary change. Herbert Spencer extended this theory to humanity: Struggle, destruction, and survival of the fittest were thought to be essential to progress in human society as well. The theory stated in its most inhumane form that the strong (the wealthy) survived because they were superior, whereas the weak (the needy) deserved to perish;

it would be a mistake to help the weak survive. Social Darwinism was used by the wealthy and powerful to argue that the government should not spend money on social programs to help the lower and middle income classes. The federal government rejected social Darwinism around the early 1900s. A large variety of social and educational programs (such as the 1935 Social Security Act) were created to assist all Americans, higher income people were taxed (along with lower income people) to invest in social programs, public schools, public transportation, public universities, and public health—programs that made everyone better off. Social Darwinism was rejected.

57. How did the Great Depression of the 1930s shatter the belief of individualism and result in the Social Security Act?

**ANSWER:** The depression of the 1930s brought about profound changes in social welfare. Until that time, the belief in individualism was still widely held—that is, the belief that one is the master of one's fate. The depression shattered this myth. It became clear that situations and events beyond individual control can cause deprivation, misery, and poverty. It also became clear that the federal government must play a role in providing financial assistance and social services. The experience with emergency relief and work programs during the Great Depression demonstrated the need for more permanent federal efforts in dealing with some of the critical problems of unemployment, aging, disability, illness, and dependent children. As a result, in 1935 the Social Security Act was passed, which forms the basis of most of our current public social welfare programs, and federal legislation for the following three major categories of programs was enacted: social insurance, public assistance, and public health and welfare services.

58. What is the relationship between technological breakthroughs and changes in social welfare programs?

**ANSWER:** The relationship between technological breakthroughs and changes in social welfare programs generally follows this format: Technological advances foster changes in our lifestyles; lifestyle changes affect changes in our future social, financial, health, and recreational needs; and the latter changes largely determine what changes will be demanded in social service programs. Predicting what technological breakthroughs will occur and how these advances will affect our lifestyles is highly speculative. Numerous advances are being predicted: space travel to other planets, computers capable of thinking, chip-enhanced brains to increase intelligence, the end of aging, vaccines that will prevent most forms of cancer, artificial hearts and kidneys, vaccines to prevent HIV infection, robots that perform heart (and other) surgeries, tiny jolts of electricity to the brain to treat depression and seizures, and weather and climate control. Because there are more scientists involved in technological research and development now than at any other time in the history of civilization, future technological breakthroughs are likely to occur even more rapidly than in the past. Adjusting psychologically to rapid lifestyle changes is currently a major problem and will continue to be one of the most difficult adjustments people will have to make in future years.

59. What are some of the technological changes that are likely to influence the future of the family? How do you believe the family will be influenced by these changes?

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. In the future, the family is likely to be substantially affected by technological breakthroughs in biology and medicine. A few developments in

these areas are the following:

**Artificial Insemination:** Thousands of babies are born annually in the United States through the process of artificial insemination, with the usage expected to continue to increase in the future.

**Surrogate Motherhood:** Thousands of married couples who want children but are unable to reproduce because the wife is infertile have turned to surrogate motherhood. With this type of motherhood, a surrogate gives birth to a baby conceived by artificial insemination using the husband's sperm. At birth the surrogate mother terminates her parental rights, and the child is then legally adopted by the sperm donor and his wife.

**Test-Tube Babies:** In England, on July 24, 1978, Lesley Brown gave birth to the first "test-tube baby." An egg taken from her reproductive system had been externally artificially impregnated using AIH (artificial insemination—husband) and then implanted in her uterus to complete the normal process of pregnancy. The technique, called embryo transfer, was developed for women whose fallopian tubes are so damaged that the fertilized egg cannot pass through the tubes to the womb as is necessary for it to develop and grow until birth. Following the announcement of this birth, there was a surge of applications from thousands of childless couples asking fertility experts for similar implants.

**Genetic Screening:** Practically all states now require mandatory genetic screening programs for various disorders. There are about 2,000 human disorders caused by defective genes, and it is estimated that each of us carries two or three of them. Mass genetic screening could eliminate some of these disorders. More and more pregnant women are being encouraged to terminate pregnancy if a fetus will be (or is at a high risk of being) genetically inferior. In addition, some genetic disorders can be corrected if diagnosed in time.

**Cloning:** Cloning refers to the process whereby a new organism is reproduced from the nucleus of a single cell. The resultant new organism has the same genetic characteristics of the organism that contributes the nucleus. In effect, it is now possible to make biological copies of humans from a single cell. Biologically, each cell is a blueprint containing all the genetic code information for the design of the organism. Cloning has already been used to reproduce frogs, mice, cattle, sheep, pigs, and other animals.

**Stem Cells:** Recent studies suggest that stem cells may hold the secret to treatment, or even cures, for some of our most baffling diseases and injuries, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, cancer, diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and other diseases. Stem cells have the remarkable potential to develop into many different cell types in the body. In addition, in many tissues they serve as a sort of internal repair system, dividing essentially without limit to replenish other cells. There are currently three types of stem cells: embryonic stem cells, adult stem cells, and induced pluripotent stem cells.

60. Would you want to be tested at an early age to obtain information as to which inherited diseases you are likely to have as you go through life? Why or why not?

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. Practically all states now require mandatory genetic screening programs for various disorders. There are about 2,000 human disorders caused by defective genes, and it is estimated that each of us carries two or three of them. Mass genetic screening could eliminate some of these disorders. More and more pregnant women are being encouraged to terminate pregnancy if a fetus will be (or is at a high risk of being) genetically inferior. In addition, some genetic disorders can be corrected if diagnosed in time. Genetic screening programs raise serious questions. Which fetuses should be allowed to continue to grow and which should be aborted? Who shall be allowed to have children? Who shall make such decisions? Is this a direction our country ought to take? Genetic screening during pregnancy can be used to detect a wide variety of inherited disorders. For example, Huntington's chorea is an inherited disease in which the principal symptoms are involuntary movements—either rapid, forcible, and jerky or

smooth and sinuous. This disorder is often associated with loss of intellectual abilities. Its onset is usually evidenced during middle age. If a fetus is diagnosed as having the gene for this disorder, which usually results in serious mental and physical deterioration in midlife, the pregnant woman and her partner would then be faced with the heart-wrenching decision of whether it would be best to terminate the pregnancy. The eugenics (scientific breeding) movement was proposed late in the 19th century and embraced by many scientists and government officials. Similar to today, eugenics was designed to improve humanity or individual races by encouraging procreation by those deemed "most desirable" and discouraging it in those judged "deficient."

61. Do you believe it is desirable to clone humans? Why or why not?

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. Cloning refers to the process whereby a new organism is reproduced from the nucleus of a single cell. The resultant new organism has the same genetic characteristics of the organism that contributes the nucleus. The possibilities are as fantastic as they are repulsive. In 1993 a university researcher in the state of Washington cloned human embryos using a technique that already was widely used to clone animal embryos. The process involves taking a single human embryo and splitting it into identical twins. Because human embryos can be frozen and gestated at a later date, it is now possible for parents to have a child and then, years later, use a frozen cloned embryo to give birth to an identical twin. It is also possible for parents to save identical copies of embryos so that if a child ever needed an organ transplant, the mother could give birth to the child's identical twin, who would be a perfect match for organ donation. In 2001 biologists at Advanced Cell Technology in Worcester, Massachusetts, announced they had created human embryos through cloning. They removed DNA from a female human egg, and replaced it with the DNA from a body cell. (The embryos died at a very early stage.) The technique used at Advanced Cell Technology was similar to that used to clone the sheep Dolly in 1997. Their goal is not to create cloned humans but to grow so-called stem cells for medical purposes. Such cells may be used to find cures for diseases like Parkinson's, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), diabetes, paralysis, and other thus far incurable conditions. In 2008 Dr. Samuel Wood and Dr. Andrew French announced that they had successfully created the first five mature human embryos using DNA from adult skin cells. (Their objective was to provide a less controversial source of viable embryonic stem cells.) The DNA from adult skin cells was transferred to human cells. It is not clear if the embryos produced would have been capable of further development. All the cloned embryos were later destroyed. Cloning could, among other things, be used to resolve the ancient controversy of heredity versus environment. But there are grave dangers and perhaps undreamed-of complications. Will cloning fuel the population explosion? What legal rights will clones be accorded (regarding inheritance, for example)? Will religions recognize clones as having a "soul"? Who will decide which individuals can make clones of themselves? Couples may face the choice of having children naturally or raising children who are copies of themselves. In the relatively near future, we will progress from cloning human embryonic cells to cloning a human.

62. Are you supportive of, or opposed to, an expansion of stem cell research? Why?

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. Recent studies suggest that stem cells may hold the secret to treatment, or even cures, for some of our most baffling diseases and injuries, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, cancer, diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and other diseases. Stem cells have the remarkable potential to develop into many different cell

types in the body. In addition, in many tissues they serve as a sort of internal repair system, dividing essentially without limit to replenish other cells. There are currently three types of stem cells: embryonic stem cells, adult stem cells, and induced pluripotent stem cells. Embryonic stem cells are controversial. They come from the inner cell mass of a blastocyst, the term for a fertilized egg 4 days after conception. (Pro-life advocates argue that using the cells for research or treating diseases is the equivalent of taking a life.) Human stem cells can be used to test the effectiveness, and side effects, of new drugs. Human stem cells can be useful in helping scientists better understand the complex events that occur during human development—for example, to identify how undifferentiated stem cells become the differentiated cells that form tissues and organs. Also, the most important potential application of human cells is the generation of cells and tissues that could be used for cell-based therapies to treat a multitude of diseases and medical conditions (including Alzheimer's disease, cancer, spinal cord injuries, burns, heart disease, osteoarthritis, and rheumatoid arthritis).

63. Outline some of the marriage and family patterns that are causing us to redefine our notion of family, and indicate your reactions to these forms.

**ANSWER:** Students' answers will vary. Technology has had profound effects on the family. The following are some changes in the social structure of our society that are also causing us to redefine our notion of what a family is: Childless Couples: Perhaps in the future the myth of procreation will be shattered by the concern about overpopulation and by the high cost of raising children; the average cost of raising a child from birth to age 18 for a two-parent family is estimated to be \$245,000. The expenses are for food, shelter, and other necessities. Postponement of Parenthood until Middle Age or Later: Biological innovations, such as embryo transfers, are now making it possible for women in their 50s and even their 60s to give birth. As a result, couples have more leeway in deciding at what age they wish to raise children. Young couples today are often torn in their time commitments between their children and their careers. In our society, most couples now have children at the busiest time of their lives. Deferring raising children until later in life provides substantial activity and meaning in later adulthood. Professional Parents: Alvin Toffler predicted that our society will develop a system of professional, trained, and licensed parents to whom a number of natural parents (bioparents) will turn to raise their children. The natural parents would, of course, be permitted frequent visits, telephone contacts, and time to care for the children whenever they desired. Many parents already hire part-time professional parents in the form of nannies and daycare center workers. In our society, there is currently a belief system that bioparents should care for their children, even if they find the responsibility unrewarding. Only a tiny fraction of bioparents currently terminate their parental rights. Serial and Contract Marriages: With the high rates of divorce and remarriage, some sociologists have pointed out that a small proportion of our population is entering (perhaps unintentionally) into serial marriages—that is, a pattern of successive, temporary marriages. Serial marriages among celebrities have been widely publicized for a number of years. Viewing marriage as temporary in nature may help reduce some of the embarrassment and pain still associated with divorce and perhaps result in an increase in the number of unhappily married people who will seek a divorce. If marriage is increasingly viewed as temporary in nature, divorce may become even more frequent and result in an expansion of related social services. Several sociologists have proposed that the concept of marriage as temporary be legally institutionalized through a contract marriage. A closely related type of contract is the prenuptial agreement, in which a couple prior to marriage specify how

their financial assets will be divided if they divorce. Another arrangement embodying the temporary concept is “trial marriage,” which is increasingly being tested out by young people. They live together on a day-by-day basis and share expenses. Closely related—and perhaps more common—is the arrangement in which the two maintain separate addresses and domiciles but for several days a month actually live together. Acceptance of trial marriage is currently being advocated by some religious philosophers, and many states no longer define cohabitation as illegal.

**Open Marriages:** An open marriage offers freedom to pursue individual interests, flexible roles in meeting financial responsibilities, shared domestic tasks, and expansion and growth through openness. In an open marriage, the partners are free to have extramarital relationships or sex without betraying one another. Such a marriage is based on communication, trust, and respect, and it is expected that one partner’s growth will facilitate the other partner’s development. Marriage counselors increasingly report that couples have serious interaction difficulties because one spouse has a traditional orientation whereas the other has an open-marriage orientation.

**Group Marriages:** Group marriage provides insurance against isolation. In the 1960s and 1970s, communes of young people flourished. In the later 1970s and in the 1980s, most communes disbanded. The goals, as well as the structure, of these communes varied widely, involving diverse social, political, religious, sexual, or recreational objectives. Interestingly, geriatric communes (which have many of the characteristics and obligations of group marriages) are being advocated by a number of sociologists. Such arrangements may be a solution to a number of social problems of older people. They may provide companionship, new meaning, and interest to the participants’ lives, as well as an arrangement in which older adults with reduced functioning capacities can be of mutual assistance to one another. Older adults can thereby band together, pool resources, hire nursing or domestic help if needed, and feel that “life begins at 60.” In nursing homes, retirement communities, group homes for older persons, and assisted-living residences, some of the older adults are presently developing relationships that are similar to group marriages.

**Same-Sex Marriages:** The number of same-sex marriages is on the rise in the United States. Over the past few decades an increasing number of states in the United States have recognized same-sex marriages as being legal. Fifteen years ago a majority of citizens in the United States disapproved of same-sex marriages. This sentiment has gradually changed. A majority of citizens now approve of same-sex marriages. In a landmark decision in June of 2015 the U.S. Supreme court declared, on a 5–4 vote, that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marriage. The decision means that all 50 states must perform and recognize gay marriage.

**Transracial Adoptions:** Asian and Native American children have been adopted by White parents for more than six decades. About 50 years ago, some White couples began adopting African American children. Transracial adoptions were found to be as satisfying as inracial adoptions. In addition, transracial adoptive children were found to have been accepted by relatives, friends, neighbors, and the general community following placement. The transracial adoptive parents reported that substantially fewer problems had arisen due to the race of the child than even they anticipated before the adoption. They also indicated that they had parental feelings that the child was really their own.

**Comarital Sex:** The term comarital sex refers to mate swapping and other organized extramarital relations in which both spouses agree to participate. Comarital sex is distinctly different from a traditional extramarital affair, which is usually clandestine, with the straying spouse trying to hide the relationship.

**Single Parenthood:** Although in many people’s minds marriage and parenthood go together, single parenthood is emerging as a prominent form in our society. In many states, it is possible for unmarried people to adopt a child. In addition, an unmarried pregnant woman can refuse to marry

and yet keep her child after it is born. Some unmarried fathers have been successful in obtaining custody of their children. Blended Families: Many terms have been used to describe two families joined by the marriage of one parent to another: stepfamilies, blended families, reconstituted families, and nontraditional families.

64. List the suggestions offered by Berman and Visser and Visser to parents in blended families for increasing the chances of positive relationships between adults and children. **ANSWER:** Berman and Visser and Visser offered the following suggestions to parents in blended families for increasing the chances of positive relationships between adults and children. 1. Maintain a courteous relationship with the former spouse or spouses. Children adjust best after a divorce when there is a harmonious relationship between former spouses. Problems are intensified when former spouses continue to insult each other and when the children are used as weapons by angry former spouses to hurt each other. 2. Understand the emotions of children. Although the newlyweds in a recently blended family may be fairly euphoric about their relationship, they need to be perceptive and responsive to the fears, concerns, and resentments of their children. 3. Allow time for loving relationships to develop between stepparents and stepchildren. Stepparents need to be aware that their stepchildren will probably have emotional ties to their absent biological parent and that the stepchildren may resent the breakup of the marriage between their biological parents. Some children may even feel responsible for their biological parents' separation. Others may try to make life difficult for the stepparent so that he or she will leave, with the hope that the biological parents will then reunite. Stepparents need to be perceptive and understanding of such feelings and patiently allow the stepchildren to work out their concerns. Stepparents should take time in bonding with their stepchildren. 4. New rituals, traditions, and ways of doing things need to be developed that seem right and enjoyable for all members of the blended family. Sometimes it is helpful to move to a new residence that does not hold memories of the past. Leisure time should be structured so that the children spend time alone with the biological parent, with the stepparent, with both, and with the absent parent or parents. In addition, the new spouses need to spend some time alone with each other. New rituals should be developed for holidays, birthdays, and other special days. 5. Seek social support. Parents in blended families should seek to share their concerns, feelings, frustrations, experiences, coping strategies, and triumphs with other stepparents and stepchildren. Such sharing allows them to view their own situations more realistically and to learn from the experiences of others. 6. Provide organization for the family. Children need to have their limits defined and consistently upheld. One of the difficulties is that children are faced with a new stepparent attempting to gain control when they have not as yet enjoyed many supportive and positive experiences with their new stepparent. Therefore, it is important for this new stepparent to provide nurturance and positive feedback to stepchildren in addition to making rules and maintaining control.