



Program and Abstracts

The Compassionate Love Conference

May 30—June 2, 2003

The Chateau

Bloomington/Normal, IL USA



Sponsored by:

The International Association for Relationship Research
The Fetzer Institute
Illinois State University

THE FIRST SPECIAL TOPICS CONFERENCE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RELATIONSHIP RESEARCH

Co-sponsored also by The Fetzer Institute and
Illinois State University

Conference Planning Committee:

Susan Sprecher, Chair & Local Arrangements
Kathleen McKinney, Local Arrangements
Maria Schmeeckle, Local Arrangements
Dawn O. Braithwaite
Beverley Fehr
Frank Keefe
Pat Noller
Terri L. Orbuch

A Note of Acknowledgements from the Organizer:

I would like to thank the above committee members for their warm support and assistance in planning the conference. I also wish to thank the following people who assisted the planning committee in reviewing submissions: Ximena Arriaga, William Cupach, Julie Fitness, Omri Gillath, Ben Karney, Lisa Neff, Leanne Knobloch, Rachel Nitzberg, Dory Schachner, Phil Shaver, and Paul Wright. Special recognition goes to the Fetzer Institute, particularly Lynn Underwood, Wayne Ramsey, Heidi Matteo, and Frank Keefe, for supporting this conference and scientific research on compassionate love. I also want to thank many others who played a role in making this conference a success: Clyde Hendrick, Susan Hendrick, Ben Karney, Mario Mikulincer, Phil Shaver, and Lynn Underwood (the keynote speakers); Ann Weber and Brian Spitzberg for providing memories of a previous Normal conference; Rachel Koeller and Kathryn Doyle for clerical assistance in the months before the conference; Mickey McCombs and Doris Jennings for budget assistance; Tracy Sherman and her staff for processing the registrations; Tiffany Michaels and her staff at The Chateau for their professionalism; and my family and friends for their support, assistance, and patience. Finally, I want to note that I have dedicated my time as the organizer of this conference in the memory of my mother (Shirley Sprecher) who passed away in early June of last year. I found instigating and organizing a *compassionate love* conference to be a meaningful outlet for my grief during the past year. Thank you for attending and making this all worthwhile.

Susan Sprecher, Illinois State University



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PROGRAM

Conference Schedule at a Glance

Friday, May 30

3:00 – **Registration Check-In**
7:00 pm *Galleria*

4:30 – **Opening Social Reception with Cash Bar**
6:00 pm *Bonaparte I*

6:00 – **Dinner**
7:30 pm *Bonaparte II & III*

7:30 –	Opening Remarks
7:45 pm	<i>Bonaparte II & III</i>

7:45 – Invited Address: Phillip R. Shaver and Mario Mikulincer
8:45 pm “Attachment and Altruism”
Introduction by Art Aron
Bonaparte II & III

**9:00 – Warm-up Social Interaction for Graduate Students and Other
10:00 pm Newcomers to IARR**
Organizer: Maria Schmeeckle
Port of Entry

9:30 pm – **Late Evening Social Interaction**
late **Organizers:** Dawn O. Braithwaite and Sandra Petronio
Lounge & Library Area

Saturday, May 31

8:00 am – **Registration Check-in**
4:00 pm *Galleria*

7:30 – **Continental Breakfast**
8:45 am *Galleria*

9:00 – **Invited Address: Benjamin Karney**
10:00 am ***"Knowing and Adoring: A Cognitive/Motivational Model of
Compassionate Love"***
Introduction by Terri Orbuch
Jesse Smart Auditorium

10:00 – **Break**
10:30 am *Galleria*

10:30 – **Paper Session 1: Theoretical Approaches to Compassionate Love,
Empathy, and Altruism**
11:45 am *Jesse Smart Auditorium*

Roundtables - A
Bonaparte II

12:00 – **Lunch**
1:30 pm *Bonaparte II & III*

1:30 – **Paper Session 2: Compassionate Love, Social Support, and Mental
and Physical Health**
2:45 pm *Jesse Smart Auditorium*

Paper Session 3: Multidimensional Models of Love
Clemenceau/Tallyrand

Saturday, May 31 - continued

2:45 – **Break**
3:15 pm *Galleria*

3:15 – **Invited Address: Susan S. Hendrick and Clyde Hendrick**
4:15 pm ***"Keeping the Passion in Compassionate Love"***
Introduction by John Harvey
Jesse Smart Auditorium

4:30 – **Book Exhibit**
5:30 pm *Lafayette*
Meeting of IARR Award Committee
Clemenceau
Other IARR Interest Groups, Chairs, and Officers
Tallyrand

6:00 – **Open Evening (Dinner in Near-by Restaurants)**
8:30 pm

8:30 pm – **Late Evening Social Interaction**
late **Organizers: Dawn O. Braithwaite and Terri Orbuch**
Lounge, Library Area, and Port of Entry

Sunday, June 1

7:30 – **Continental Breakfast**
9:00 am *Galleria*

8:15 – **A Morning Meditation for Compassionate Love**
9:00 am **Facilitator: Lynn Underwood**
Jesse Smart Auditorium

Sunday, June 1 - continued

9:15 – **Paper Session 4: Compassionate Love, Social Support, and Affective**
10:30 am **Affirmation in Marriage**
Jesse Smart Auditorium

Paper Session 5: Compassionate Love, Aging, and the Dying Process
Clemenceau/Tallyrand

10:30 – **Break**
11:00 am

11:00 – **Invited Address: Lynn Underwood**
12:00 noon **"Compassionate Love Research – An Adventure?"**
Introduction by Frank Keefe
Jesse Smart Auditorium

12:00 – **Lunch**
1:30 pm *Bonaparte II & III*

1:30 – **Paper Session 6: Compassionate Love for Strangers and Outgroup**
2:45 pm **Members**
Jesse Smart Auditorium

Roundtables – B
Bonaparte I

2:45 – **Break**
3:15 pm *Galleria*

3:15 – **Paper Session 7: Agape and Other Love Styles**
4:30 *Jesse Smart Auditorium*

Paper Session 8: Social Support and Helping in Various Contexts
Clemenceau/Tallyrand

Sunday, June 1 – continued

4:30 – **Posters and Refreshments**
5:30 pm *Bonaparte I*

Book Exhibit
Lafayette

6:00 pm **Cash Bar**

6:15 – **Dinner and Acknowledgements/Awards**
8:30 pm *Bonaparte I, II, & III*

8:30 pm – **Sockhop**
1:00 am *Bonaparte I, II, & III*

Monday, June 2

7:30 – **Continental Breakfast**
8:45 am *Galleria*

9:00 – **Paper Session 9: Pro-Partner Feelings: Trust, Commitment, and**
10:15 am **Forgiveness**
Jesse Smart Auditorium

Paper Session 10: Compassionate Love and Social Support in a
Family Context
Clemenceau/Tallyrand

10:15 – **Brief Break**
10:30 am

Monday, June 2 - continued

10:30 – **Paper Session 11: Communication Issues and Compassionate Love**
11:45 am *Jesse Smart Auditorium*

Roundtables C
Bonaparte I

12:00 – **Sack Lunch and Poster Sessions**
1:00 pm *Bonaparte I & II*

1:00 – **Conference Closing Remarks and Panel Discussion of Conference**
2:00 pm **Themes and Future Research Directions**
Facilitator: Dawn O. Braithwaite
Other Participants: Art Aron, Jim Carson, Steve Duck, Barry Fallon, William Graziano, and Audience members
Recorders: Leah Bryant and Maria Schmeeckle
Audience Participation Encouraged!
Jesse Smart Auditorium

Paper Sessions

Paper Session 1: Theoretical Approaches to Compassionate Love, Empathy, and Altruism

(Saturday, 10:30 – 11:45 am; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Marion Willetts

Aesthetic Love: Building Selves in Close Relationships

Tim Dun, Leslie Baxter, & Knute Horwitz

A Prototype Analysis of Compassionate Love

Beverley Fehr & Susan Sprecher

Love and Emotion: The Role of Empathy in the Experience of Altruistic Love

John K. Rempel & Christopher T. Burris

Empathy and Altruism: A Bonding Systems Perspective

Warren B. Miller

Paper Session 2: Compassionate Love, Social Support, and Mental and Physical Health

(Saturday, 1:30 – 2:45 pm; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Rod Cate

Correlates of Forgiveness Among Low Back Pain Patients

James W. Carson & Francis J. Keefe

Enhanced Compassion, Mental Health, and Efficacy from a Social Cognitive Spiritual Training Program

Doug Oman, John Hedberg, & Carl E. Thoresen

Love and Longevity: An Internet Study

Roni Beth Tower, Vanessa Pesce, & Fiona Constain

Distinguishing Between Personality and Social Influences in Social Support Research

Lynn Neely, Jay Cohen, & Brian Lakey

Paper Session 3: Multidimensional Models of Love
(Saturday, 1:30 – 2:45 pm; Clemencau/Tallyrand)

Presider: Kathleen McKinney

Development of a New Measure of Intimacy, Passion, and Commitment
Carolyn Paige Nathan, Brian H. Spitzberg, & Scott Roesch

The Two Faces of Love: Caregiving and Attachment in Close Relationships
David C. Bell, Victoria Brown, & Cheryl Dayton-Shotts

A Vectorial Construct of Love and Hate and Sternberg's Triangular Model: Toward a Hexagonal Model of Love and Hate Processes and Their Conversions
Catalin Mamali

Passionate and Companionate Love: A Comparison Between Daters, Cohabitors, and Marrieds
Krystyna S. Aune, Robin E. Nussbaum, & Yen-Chi Le

Paper Session 4: Compassionate Love, Social Support, and Affective Affirmation in Marriage
(Sunday, 9:15 – 10:30 am; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Anita Barbee

Social Support in Context: When are Husbands and Wives Most Likely to Support Their Partners?
Lisa A. Neff & Benjamin R. Karney

Who Will Divorce Over 14-years of Marriage: The Effects of Love, Affirmation and Commitment
Terri L. Orbuch & Edna Brown

Soulmates: Deep Intimacy and Compassionate Love in Stable, Happy Marriages
Linda J. Roberts

Paper Session 5: Compassionate Love, Aging, and the Dying Process
(Sunday, 9:15 – 10:30 am; Clemenceau/Tallyrand)

Presider: Maria Schmeeckle

Love, Compassion, Communication, and Final Conversations
Maureen Keeley

Compassionate Love at the End of Life: Attachment and Terror Management Perspectives on Emotional and Behavioral Dynamics of Caregiving Among Dependent Parents and Their Adult Children

Deborah Davis & William C. Follette

Compassionate Love among Caregivers to Older Adults
Kathleen W. Piercy

Paper Session 6: Compassionate Love for Strangers and Outgroup Members
(Sunday, 1:30 – 2:45 pm; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Sally Lloyd

Other-Regarding Love for Individuals Outside One's Social Group
Arthur Aron, Tracy McLaughlin-Volpe, & Stephen Wright

Social Categorization, Personality, and Undermining Prosocial Behavior: "Who Are My Brothers and Sisters?"

Meara Habashi, Renee M. Tobin, William Graziano, & Brad Sheese

Attachment, Compassion, and Altruism
Omri Gillath, Mario Mikulincer, Phillip R. Shaver, & Rachel Nitzberg

Propensity to Experience Compassionate Love for Strangers/Humanity: Scale Development and an Examination of Correlates

Susan Sprecher & Beverley Fehr

Paper Session 7: Agape and Other Love Styles

(Sunday, 3:15 – 4:30 pm; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Susan S. Hendrick

Impact of Cultural Values on Love Styles in Heterosexual Relationships
Stanley O. Gaines Jr. & Deletha P. Hardin

Agape Within Couples: How is the Experience of the Relationship Related to the Partner's Agape?
Barry J. Fallon & Terry V. Bowles

Romantic Motives, Love Styles, and Compassionate Love: An Individual Difference Analysis

Michael Cunningham, Anita Barbee, Steven Shamblen, Lara Ault,
Randi Neuman, Debra Mudd, Jennifer Kessler, & Monique Green

Agape Love in Couple Relationships
Li-Wen Lin

Paper Session 8: Social Support and Helping in Various Contexts

(Sunday, 3:15 – 4:30 pm; Clemenceau/Tallyrand)

Presider: Glenn Reeder

Emotional Support, Conflict, Depression, and Relationship Satisfaction in a Romantic Partner
Duncan Cramer

Women's Perceptions of Social Support: Effects of Sustained Violence and Ethnicity
Rebecca Weston & Linda L. Marshall

Who Me? It's Not My Fault Is It? How Do Perceptions of Fault Impact Satisfaction of Support and Attributions?
Misty Skaff & Daniel Russell

Social Support, Personality and Values- A Comparative Study Among Indians, British Indians and British Whites
Urmila Pillay

Paper Session 9: Pro-Partner Feelings: Trust, Commitment, and Forgiveness
(Monday, 9:00 – 10:15 am; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Steve Duck

Pro-Relationship Behaviors: A Within-Couple Analysis of Trust and Commitment
Alexandra E. West & Barry J. Fallon

Insecure Attachment Makes the Grass Seem Greener On the Other Side of the Fence
Rowland S. Miller

Trust and Love and Conflict Resolution
Maureen Wang Erber & Ralph Erber

Predictors of Forgiveness Following a Relational Transgression: An Integrative Model
Sandra Metts & William Cupach

Paper Session 10: Compassionate Love and Social Support in a Family Context
(Monday, 9:00 – 10:15 am; Clemenceau/Tallyrand)

Presider: Deborah Gentry

Marital Love and Family Socialization Practices as Predictors of Young Children's Concern for Others
Brenda L. Volling, Alysia Blandon, Amy Rauer, Anne Lock, & Erin Birkam

Seasoned Family Child Care Providers and the Meaning of Care
Judith L. Francis

Parental/Adolescent Social Support and other Factors as Mediators of Pre-college Risk-taking Behaviors
Lisa A. Miczo & Michelle Johnson

Social Support, Anxiety, and Depression During the Postpartum Period
Erin N. Haugen, Melanie Goyette, & Amy Wenzel

Paper Session 11: Communication Issues and Compassionate Love

(Monday, 10:30 – 11:45 am; Jesse Smart Auditorium)

Presider: Nancy Eckstein

Changes of Heart From Start to Part: Romantic Relationships and Facework

Adrianne D. Kunkel, Steven R. Wilson, James Olufowote, Scott Robson, & Jordon Soliz

Measuring Conversational Equality at the Relationship Level of Messages

Leanne K. Knobloch & Denise Haunani Solomon

Social Penetration Theory and Taboo Topics: Does Closeness Mean Sharing Everything?

Katy E. Carpenter-Theune

Altruistic Lying: Perspective Differences in What Motivates Lie Telling Within Romantic Relationships

Anne K. Gordon & Mary E. Kaplar

Roundtable Sessions

Roundtables A – Saturday (10:30 – 11:45 am; Bonaparte II)

Table 1: *Question/Answer Period with Invited Speakers*

Phillip Shaver & Mario Mikulincer

Table 2: *Love and Privacy: Where the Twain Meet*

Sandra Petronio, Val Derlega, John Caughlin, Dawn O. Braithwaite,
& Mary Claire Morr

Table 3: *Animal Compassion: Exploring the Human-Animal Bond*

Ann L. Weber & Pamela Regan

Table 4: *Communication Patterns Between Victims and Transgressors:
Assessment of Forgiveness and Personal Relationship Growth*

Paul Yelsma

Roundtables B – Sunday (1:30 – 2:45 pm; Bonaparte I)

- Table 1: *Question/Answer Period with Invited Speaker*
Benjamin Karney
- Table 2: *Growing Love: Strengths and Challenges as Stepfamilies Become Families*
Dawn O. Braithwaite, Maria Schmeeckle, &
Leah Bryant
- Table 3: *Modern Fairy Tales in Reality Television: Fantasies of Love and Commitment in ABC's The Bachelor*
Carissa Englert, Katherine Frank, Danielle Greenberg, &
Jennifer Theiss

Roundtables C – Monday (10:30 – 11:45 am; Bonaparte I)

- Table 1: *Question/Answer Period with Invited Speakers*
Susan S. Hendrick & Clyde Hendrick
- Table 2: *Promoting Understanding and Social Support in Student/Teacher Relationships Both In and Out of the Classroom*
Cheri Simonds, Steve Hunt, Mark Comadena, Lance Lippert, &
Patrick O'Sullivan
- Table 3: *Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder: Long Distance Relationships*
Amber Roberts & M. Carole Pistole
- Table 4: *Message Reception and Compassionate Love: Theorizing Couples' Messages in Sickness and in Health*
Michael Searcy, Steve Duck, & Dusty Cline

Poster Sessions

Sunday Posters

- 1 - *Relationship Orientations, Love Attitudes, and Clothing Predispositions*
Nathan Miczo
- 2 - *General and Relationship-Specific Attachment Styles and Their Influence on Automatically Elicited Behavioral Responses to Attachment-Relevant Stimuli*
Angela Rowe
- 3 - *On Days That We Love Our Partner, Do We Run "Hot," "Warm," and "Cold?": A Look at Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love Using Daily Measures*
Dawn M. Collins, Amy L. Busboom, Carl A. Ridley, Rodney M. Cate, Shevaun Neupert, James Hunt, Sean Banks, Brian Ellexson, Brian Ogolsky, & Christine O'Neal
- 4 - *September 11th and Dating Relationships*
Sean R. Banks, Carl A. Ridley, Rodney M. Cate, Amy Busboom, Dawn Collins, James E. Hunt, & Brian Ellexson
- 5 - *The Functions of Supportive Messages: A Qualitative Study of Interpersonal Communication among Mothers of Multiples Within the Framework of a Multiples Support Network*
Kim Gatz
- 6 - *Juxtaposing Theoretical Perspectives on Close Relationship Phenomena: Applications to Sexual Intimacy, Power, and Self-Disclosure*
A set of posters organized by Denise Solomon
- 6a - *Four Theoretical Approaches to Understanding Sexual Intimacy as a Relational Phenomenon*
Jennifer Theiss
- 6b - *Power in Romantic Relationships: An Explication of Four Theoretical Perspectives*
Danielle R. Greenberg
- 6c - *Self-Disclosure in Romantic Relationships: An Explication and Review of the Literature*
Carissa A. Englert

7 – *Social Support, Passion, Power, and Satisfaction in Mexican Couples*

Sofia Rivera-Aragon, Rolando Diaz-Loving, Rozzana Sanchez-Aragon & Cinthia Cruz del Castillo

8 – *Predictors of Emotional, Instrumental and Companionship Support in Passionate Love Stage: The Case of Mexico*

Rozzana Sanchez Aragon

Monday Posters

1 - *Measuring Love Across 47 Cultures: The Social and Ecological Correlates of Human Compassion*

David P. Schmitt, Robert Fowler, Jennifer Zeligson, & Kara Kepple

2 - *Adult State of Mind Regarding Attachment, Attachment Orientations, and Positive Conflict Management Behavior: Predicting What People "Say" About Affection Versus What They "Show"*

Gary Creasey

3 - *Beyond Consent: Young Women's Definitions and Experiences of Desired Sexual Interaction*

Laurel B. Crown

4 - *Using the Theory of Reasoned Action to Explain "His" and "Her" Divorce Attitudes*

Carolyn A. Kapinus

5 - *Love as a Predictor of Romantic Partner Conflict*

Marla Reese-Weber & Jennifer F. Marchand

6 - *Factors on Interpersonal Attractions in CMC*

Shuangyue Zhang

7 - *Another Look at Teacher Disposition: Recognizing "Compassionate Love for Teaching" in Teachers*

Eunjoo Jung

8 – *Managing the Balance Between Compassionate Love and Unwanted Disclosures: A Study of Reluctant Confidants in Close Friendships*

M. Chad McBride & Karla M. Bergen

9 – *Who Do You Turn To?: Religion's Effect on Coping Within the Interpersonal Communication Framework of American Society*

William A. Robinson

10 – *Conceptual Definitions of Prosocial, Altruistic, and Altruistically Loving Behavior for a Content Analysis of TV*

Stacy L. Smith, Sandi W. Smith, Katherine Pieper, Edward Downs, & Jina Yoo

11 – *Measuring Unlimited Love: The Feelings for Others Scale (FFOS)*

Francis J. Keefe, Sandra J. Waters, & John C. Lefebvre

ABSTRACTS

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Attachment and Altruism
Friday night Invited Address
Phillip R. Shaver & Mario Mikulincer

Attachment theory proposes that attachment security provides a foundation for the proper operation of non-attachment behavioral systems such as exploration and caregiving. In line with that proposition, empirical studies show that both dispositional and experimentally induced senses of attachment security influence a person's caregiving behavior, openness to new information, tolerance of outgroup members, empathy, altruism, community volunteering, motives for volunteering, humane personal values, and constructive coping with mortality salience. Thus, research evidence suggests that increasing people's sense of security is one way to move them in the direction of tolerance, generosity, and altruism.

Knowing and Adoring: A Cognitive/Motivational Model of Compassionate Love
Saturday morning Invited Address
Benjamin Karney

How can we define compassionate love, and how can we distinguish it from other kinds of love? This talk addresses these questions by presenting a model of love that distinguishes between global and specific perceptions of a partner. Compassionate love is then defined as love that accurately perceives a partner's specific traits and characteristics, while at the same time accepting and adoring the partner at the level of global evaluation. This operationalization has implications for fostering compassionate love and for distinguishing between compassionate love and other kinds of love.

Keeping the Passion in Compassionate Love
Saturday afternoon Invited Address
Susan S. Hendrick & Clyde Hendrick

Compassionate love, broadly construed, refers to love which exhibits concerns for the beloved as well as willingness to intervene actively to help the beloved, sometimes perhaps at the expense of the self. Although compassion is sometimes contrasted with passion, with the latter viewed as stronger, more sweeping type of love, both passion and compassion come from the same root words in Latin connoting suffering or presumably the willingness to suffer for another. Compassionate love's emphasis on empathy and sympathy can seem lacking in emotive strength, yet we propose that compassionate love is one of the strongest and most potent manifestations of love in general, and romantic love in particular. One example of compassionate love drawn from the burgeoning literature on close relationships is that of "Agape," one of the six major love styles developed by Lee (1973). We propose that Agape – as a proxy for compassionate love – is an important construct in close, romantic relationships and is even more significant as an ingredient of ongoing love relationships of all kinds.

Compassionate Love Research – An Adventure?

Sunday morning Invited Address

Lynn G. Underwood

Scientific research on the topic of Compassionate Love was jump-started by an interdisciplinary meeting on the topic at MIT in 1999, followed by an edited text and an RFP issued by the Fetzer Institute in 2001 that funded 26 projects. The rationale and motivation behind the structure of these initiatives will be discussed. Paving the way for that work has been the work of basic social scientists in a variety of specialties, work done by the WHO and qualitative research. To set up an integrative research focus on this topic, clear definitions and research models have helped to provide springboards for subsequent work. Opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration have had to be encouraged. The background research as well as currently funded research will be discussed in this context. Other funders, both federal and private, are already involved in future research in this area, and others closely related to it. There is exciting potential for the application of this work in the future.

PAPERS

Aesthetic Love: Building Selves in Close Relationships

Paper Session 1 – Saturday a.m.

Tim Dun, Leslie Baxter, & Knute Horowitz

Scholars have long appreciated that "love" is a concept with multiple meanings. With Bakhtin's (1990) notion of aesthetic love, a beloved person is a like a work of art, to be responded to with several qualities, including answerability (and two others). Answerability is the moral and ethical responsibility that individuals bear to "author" or construct the other's self. We explored the concept of aesthetic love, describing how it is that parties perceive that they are somehow changed by interaction with a relational partner. We gathered self-reported data from parties in romantic relationships and friendships on how they perceive that they are aesthetically loved, that is, constructed by interaction with their relationship partner. Data were inductively analyzed and coded for primary themes. Results suggest three ways in which self is constructed through interaction with a relational partner. The paper elaborates on these ways of loving and explores the three areas of the self that participants felt had been affected by their partner's love. We also discuss the implications of the study's findings.

A Prototype Analysis of Compassionate Love

Paper Session 1 – Saturday a.m.

Beverley Fehr & Susan Sprecher

A prototype analysis of the concept of compassionate love was conducted. In a first study, participants generated features of compassionate love. These features were coded and a final list of 64 attributes (listed by more than one person) was derived. Features such as caring, helping, and trust were most frequently listed. In the next step, prototypicality ratings of a subset of these attributes were obtained. The prototype structure of compassionate love was verified in additional studies, including a study of logical inferences, a reaction time study, and a memory study. It is concluded that compassionate love is amenable to a prototype conceptualization.

Love and Emotion: The Role of Empathy in the Experience of Altruistic Love

Paper Session 1 – Saturday a.m.

John K. Rempel & Christopher T. Burris

Love is a complex, multidimensional constellation of experiences that often means different things to different people. That is, there are many types of experiences that get classified as "love", from the intense, sometimes obsessive throes of passion, to the sense of dependence and security engendered by a close bond of attachment, to the feelings of warmth, tenderness, and compassion that typify altruistic love. Of these, we think that the latter – altruistic love – is unique in its selfless focus on the other person and, as such, may play an especially important role in the formation and maintenance of close relationships. In addition, it may also be particularly relevant in the aftermath of those relationships that do not successfully weather the challenges and changes that life with an intimate partner can provide.

Empathy and Altruism: A Bonding Systems Perspective

Paper Session 1 – Saturday a.m.

Warren B. Miller

In this paper I will try to disentangle the core meanings of empathy and altruism, using a bio-psycho-dyadic framework. This framework is neurally based and functionally organized into seven components: an input component (perception), an output component (behavior), and five central processing components. Together these seven components create a schema of the partner in the central nervous system and mind of the individual. Such schemas guide interactions with bonded others. Two especially relevant central processing components are the cognitive capacity known as theory of mind (ToM) and the affects/motivations that make bonds highly valued. Empathy appears to be ToM-based. Altruism may be understood in terms of a conflict between the domain of bonding and other behavioral domains that are self-directed. The bonding framework resolves the empathy-altruism relationship into one between theory of mind capacity and cross-domain conflicts. The difficulty in analyzing that relationship is that effects move in both directions. Each cell of a 2 X 2 cross-tabulation between empathy and altruism illustrates this bidirectionality.

Correlates of Forgiveness among Low Back Pain Patients

Paper Session 2 – Saturday p.m.

James W. Carson & Francis J. Keefe

This presentation will present data on baseline correlates of forgiveness among patients with persistent low back pain who are enrolled in a novel treatment study. Chronic pain is a medical condition which is particularly relevant to the investigation of forgiveness. Anger and resentment—about an offender perceived as causing or aggravating their condition, or related to the chronicity of their condition—are emotions that are very salient features of many persons' chronic pain experience. Anger can be a major complicating factor in the treatment of persistent pain, and also negatively impact patients' interactions with family members, co-workers, and health care providers. Preliminary findings on the relationship of forgiveness to pain, disability, anger, coping, spirituality, and other variables will be reported from approximately 40-50 randomized patients. Potential implications of our preliminary findings will be discussed, along with methodological issues in the study of forgiveness among medical patients.

Enhanced Compassion, Mental Health, and Efficacy From a Social Cognitive Spiritual Training Program
Paper Session 2 – Saturday p.m.

Doug Oman, John Hedberg, & Carl E. Thoresen

BACKGROUND: Spiritual and religious involvement has long been known to be associated with altruism, empathy, and other prosocial qualities, yet very little experimental research has been conducted on spirituality and religion.

OBJECTIVE: Experimentally evaluate a social cognitively oriented spiritual intervention that is nonsectarian, yet appears especially suitable for helping participants to draw upon spiritual and religious traditions, exemplars, and practices.

METHODS: Health professionals (N=61) completed questionnaire assessments and were randomly assigned to a intervention group (n=30) or a wait-list comparison group (n=31), and received posttests after an 8-week, 2 hour per week training in a program adapted from Easwaran (1991/1978).

RESULTS: Positive treatment effects were observed for sense of compassion ($p<0.05$), forgiveness of others ($p<0.01$), forgiveness of self ($p<0.01$), altruism ($p<0.10$), mental health ($p<0.10$), stress-reduction ($p<0.05$), caregiving self-efficacy ($p<0.05$), and self-reported spirituality ($p<0.05$).

CONCLUSION: Evidence suggests this program enhances compassionate love and several other human and professional strengths.

Love and Longevity: An Internet Study

Paper Session 2 – Saturday p.m.

Roni Beth Tower, Vanessa Pesce, & Fiona Constain

This presentation describes the development and implementation of a multi-cultural internet study designed to address questions raised by Dr. Tower's previous research documenting influences of marital closeness on health and longevity.

_In what ways and to what extent does relational closeness vary across age, marital status and cultural background?

_What are the mental and physical health and well-being correlates of the closeness variables?

_Are these correlations moderated by (a) age, (b) sex of respondent, (c) marital status, (d) parenthood status, and (e) cultural factors?

To what extent is being named as a confidant, source of emotional support, or closest person more predictive of health and well-being than satisfaction with the relationship to the person whom one names? In other words, is being important to someone else more salutogenic than having someone else available to meet one's needs? Does this vary by gender?

**Distinguishing Between Personality and Social Influences
in Social Support Research**

Paper Session 2 – Saturday p.m.

Lynn C. Neely, Jay L. Cohen, & Brian Lakey

Although perceived social support has important links to good mental health, empirical and conceptual problems remain. Typical research methods confound the personality characteristics of support recipients with actual social influences. This paper presents a conceptual approach and empirical research that distinguishes between personality and social influence in the links between support and affect. Our framework, derived from generalizability theory (Cronbach, et al., 1972), differentiates between effects due to (a) *recipient personality*, reflected in differences among recipients in their support perceptions, (b) objectively-supportive properties of *providers* as reflected in agreement among recipients as to the supportiveness of providers, and (c) *relationship effects*, or systematic differences among recipients in how they perceive the same support providers. Studies will be presented to substantiate the following conclusions: 1) perceived support and affect are influenced by both personality and social influences and 2) support and affect are correlated at both the level of personality and social influence. Implications for theory and intervention will be discussed.

Development of a New Measure Of Intimacy, Passion, and Commitment

Paper Session 3 – Saturday p.m.

Carolyn Paige Nathan, Brian H. Spitzberg, & Scott Roesch

One of the most prominent approaches to love is Sternberg's triangular theory, which claims love is comprised of three fundamental dimensions: intimacy, passion, and commitment. The Triangular Theory of Love Scale that was developed to test the theory has exhibited several significant validity and reliability problems. In response to these problems, a new Dimensions of Love Scale (DLS) was developed to measure the constructs of intimacy, passion, and commitment. Two pilot studies for measure refinement led to a third study in nine specific hypotheses pertaining to relational satisfaction were tested. CFA indicated the DLS was statistically sound after minor adjustment. The new measure exhibited acceptable psychometric properties and appears to be a preferable alternative to Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love Scale. Implications of the scale development process and findings regarding the three dimensions of love and satisfaction in non-married relationships are discussed.

The Two Faces of Love: Caregiving and Attachment in Close Relationships

Paper Session 3 – Saturday p.m.

David C. Bell, Victoria Brown, & Cheryl Dayton-Shotts

In this paper, we conceptualize love in terms of two biologically based dyadic motivations (Bowlby, 1969/1982): caregiving (love as giving to a special partner) and attachment (love as reward from a special partner). We constructed an instrument to measure reactive emotions (fear and anger), self-interest motivations (lust, power, and exchange), and relationship motivations (caregiving and attachment). We administered this instrument to a sample of 156 persons living in low income, high drug use neighborhoods. Respondents who were high on caregiving were more likely to describe their relationships as "close," irrespective of the level of attachment in the relationship. We found that caregiving in relationships was positively associated with contact, lust, power, and also anger. Power tactics were often used to meet the partner's needs, but anger tended to result from excessive caregiving. Overall, caregiving appeared to be more central to the meaning of close relationships than attachment.

A Vectorial Construct of Love and Hate and Sternberg's Triangular Model: Toward a Hexagonal Model of Love and Hate Processes and their Conversions.

Paper Session 3 – Saturday p.m.

Catalin Mamali

How is it possible to represent at the theoretical level the dynamic nature of love, which could be directed with different strength in a more or less specific mode toward a variety of objects/areas such as persons, communities, values, nature, transcendental realms? How could one explain within one and the same theoretical framework the transformation from hate to love and from love to hate in different human relations and situations. The model assumes that love has a holistic and dialectic nature and that it has motivational functions. The model develops a *vectorial representation* of love that departs from Sternberg's geometrical and metaphorical model of love (1986, 1987, 1997). The vectorial model measures the "*direction*" and the "*length*" (strength) of the love vector that results from the combination of its components (*intimacy, passion, commitment*). The vectorial model leads to the construction of three opposite dimensions (*concealing, rejective passion, separation*), which are considered to be specific for hate. As a logical result the new model might take a *hexagonal* form, which is able to grasp love and hate at the same time and to generate predictions about mixed types (types that combine love and hate dimensions). Based upon a *dialectical perspective* (Gergen, 1982; Baxter and Montgomery, 1996; Hinde, 1997), the vectorial representation of love is extended in order to account for the possible *transformation of love relationships into hate relationships, and of hate relationships into love relationships*.

Passionate and Compassionate Love: A Comparison Between Daters, Cohabitors, and Marrieds

Paper Session 3 – Saturday p.m.

Krystyna S. Aune, Robin E. Nussbaum, & Yen-Chi Le

Premarital cohabitation is an increasingly popular choice of couples today. However research has generally shown that cohabitation is associated with poorer relationship outcomes. This counter-intuitive phenomenon has been dubbed the 'cohabitation effect.' One factor which may influence relational communication and stability is the degree and quality of affect experienced by the partners. Specifically, this proposed study examines the degree of passionate and companionate love experienced by cohabiting partners, compared to daters and married individuals. The influence of ethnicity and length of relationship will also be explored.

Social Support in Context: When are Husbands and Wives Most Likely to Support Their Partners?

Paper Session 4 – Sunday a.m.

Lisa A. Neff & Benjamin R. Karney

Receiving support from a spouse during stressful times may buffer marital well-being from the deleterious effects of negative stressors. However, research on this association has primarily been cross-sectional, examining the support spouses provide a partner following a particular problem. To be effective in supporting a partner, spouses should be sensitive to the changing needs of their partners over time. Thus the current study asks: do spouses alter their support behaviors according to their partners' changing stress levels? Two studies of married couples using both actual and perceived measures of support revealed that support provision is contingent on a partner's stress level. However, an important gender difference emerged. As husbands experienced more stress, wives seemed to adjust their support behaviors to meet their husbands' needs. On the contrary, as wives experienced more stress, their husbands seemed to become less supportive.

Who Will Divorce Over 14-Years of Marriage: The Effects of Love, Affirmation and Commitment

Paper Session 4 – Sunday a.m.

Terri L. Orbuch & Edna Brown

There has been a growing interest in discovering what leads to marital stability and happiness. The present longitudinal study examines the early development of marriage for a representative sample of urban White couples and Black couples. Respondents are 199 White couples and 174 Black couples. The results indicate that affective affirmation, love and commitment are significant predictors of both marital happiness and the risk of divorce over 14-years of marriage, but the effects of these factors are different for African American and White couples. Given differences in marital cultures and in the contexts of marriage in the Black and White communities, the models of early marital development may be different among Blacks and Whites.

Soulmates: Deep Intimacy and Compassionate Love in Stable Happy Marriages

Paper Session 4 – Sunday a.m.

Linda J. Roberts

Previous research suggests that marital satisfaction may be largely a function of the absence of negative communication patterns. However, factors that differentiate miserable marriages from satisfactory marriages may not be the same as those that differentiate satisfactory relationships from optimal relationships. Using data from a community sample of maritally satisfied couples, three types of factors were hypothesized to characterize marriages that were experienced not only as stable and satisfying but as deeply intimate. Consistent with predictions, the endorsement of a couple identity and perceptions of partners' emotional openness and emotional involvement were found to be robust correlates of the couples' levels of emotional intimacy. Support for the third factor, a dispositional propensity for compassionate love, was mixed. Implications for understanding the nature of optimal intimate relationships are discussed.

Love, Compassion, Communication, and Final Conversations

Paper Session 5 – Sunday a.m.

Maureen Keeley

Communication at the end-of-life is an interaction context that often requires compassion because the conversations frequently takes place during the physical/emotional suffering of the loved one and the emotional anguish of the survivor. What are the messages and the meaning of those messages for the survivors? This paper reports on one major aspect, the theme of love, discovered within the findings from a project exploring "final conversations" (FC). FC refers to any and all conversations and/or interactions that a person had with a loved one following his/her confirmation of a terminal illness (both parties knew that the loved one was dying). Messages pertaining to love were identified in 97% of the FC interviews (N = 45). The verbal and nonverbal messages of love expressed during the compassionate context of FC are explored.

Compassionate Love at The End of Life: Attachment and Terror Management Perspectives on Emotional and Behavioral Dynamics of Caregiving Among Dependent Parents and Their Adult Children
Paper Session 5 – Sunday a.m.

Deborah Davis & William C. Follette

Perhaps the greatest challenge to capacity for compassionate love is posed by others whose condition permits little potential for reciprocity/reward, but who have great needs that can be addressed only at great cost to those who care for them. This presentation addresses the situations of those caring for dying parents or spouses. We propose to identify those caretakers for whom the risk of abandonment, neglect, poor caretaking skills, and abuse is highest, and parents/spouses for whom the difficulty of occupying the dependent role will be greatest--- and to suggest methods for reducing the likelihood of these outcomes. Our analysis of end of life caregiving/receiving is based on two theoretical perspectives: Bowlby's attachment theory and Pyszczynski & Solomon's terror management theory. The end-of-life situation engages psychodynamic processes central to both perspectives, with implications for dysfunctional emotions and behaviors pertinent to caregiving/receiving, as well as mechanisms through which dysfunctional responses can be reduced

Compassionate Love among Caregivers to Older Adults

Paper Session 5 – Sunday a.m.

Kathleen W. Piercy

To date, most caregiver research has found that a feeling of obligation is the primary motive for providing care to aging relatives. Additionally, caregiver stress, burnout, and depression have been studied extensively. Less research has focused on the positive aspects of caregiving, such as personal growth and satisfaction derived from providing care. This paper presents qualitative data from two in-depth caregiver studies that suggest that some family caregivers to older adults are motivated by feelings of compassionate love in their care provision. Consistent with Underwood's (2002) conception, findings include both other-directed and self-oriented aspects of compassionate love. An improved understanding of compassionate love among caregivers to older adults can facilitate targeted service provision that is sensitive to both elder and caregiver needs, as well as their wishes.

Other-Regarding Love for Individuals Outside One's Social Group

Paper Session 6 – Sunday p.m.

Arthur Aron, Tracy McLaughlin-Volpe, & Stephen Wright

The lack of other-regarding love for people outside one's social group is one of the world's most grievous and seemingly intractable problems. However, an important hope stems from the idea is that close others and those in one's social groups function in a sense as part of oneself, so that the regard and caring that one usually experiences for oneself is extended to close others and those in ones social groups. Consistent with this model, previous research shows that having an outgroup friend or just knowing of an ingroup member with an outgroup friend can improve overall intergroup attitudes. Here, we report, for the first time, analyses that distinguish negative from positive intergroup attitudes. Using multi-level methods (in which participants report on friendships and attitudes for each of three different ethnic outgroups), both direct and indirect friendships with particular outgroups were associated with more positive attitudes, but not with less negative attitudes, towards those outgroups.

**Social Categorization, Personality and Undermining Pro-Social Behavior:
"Who Are My Brothers and Sisters?"**

Paper Session 6 – Sunday p.m.

Meara M. Habashi, Renee M. Tobin, William G. Graziano, & Brad E. Sheese

This study examined the impact of social categorization, the personality characteristic of agreeableness, and its link to empathy and pro-social behavior. In a replication and extension of Batson's Katie Banks paradigm (Batson et. al, 1988), undergraduate participants ($N=89$) were categorized as high or low in Agreeableness. Participants were then randomly assigned to one of two listening perspectives (Emotional: focus on the emotions of the individual; or Technical: focus on the technical devices used in the recording). Participants were also randomly assigned to either an In-group or Out-group Victim condition. After listening to the broadcast story of a student victim in need, participants were given the opportunity to help. We found that persons high in Agreeableness offered more help than persons low in Agreeableness, regardless of in-/out-group status. Further analysis revealed participants in the emotional condition were more likely to help when the victim was an in-group member.

Attachment, Compassion, and Altruism

Paper Session 6 – Sunday p.m.

Omri Gillath, Mario Mikulincer, Phil Shaver, & Rachel Nitzberg

Two studies, each run in both Israel and the United States, examined the contribution of a person's chronic sense of attachment security (scores on the attachment anxiety and avoidance dimensions) to (a) his or her willingness to volunteer to help philanthropic organizations and (b) the motivations underlying volunteerism. These studies also examined the discriminant validity of attachment theory as a framework for understanding volunteerism. Specifically, we asked whether the contribution of attachment patterns to volunteerism can be explained by psychological factors identified by related, alternative theoretical perspectives (representations of self and others, interpersonal functioning) or whether attachment patterns are a more direct, unique contributor to volunteerism than these other factors.

**Propensity to Experience Compassionate Love for Strangers/Humanity:
Scale Development and an Examination of Correlates**

Paper Session 6 – Sunday p.m.

Susan Sprecher & Beverley Fehr

Although love has been the focus of considerable prior research (for a review, see Hendrick & Hendrick, 2000) and several love scales now exist in the literature, almost no research has focused on compassionate or altruistic love. The purpose of our research is to develop a valid and reliable scale that measures the experience of compassionate love. Several sources were used to help identify features of compassionate love, including Underwood's (2002) preliminary research on compassionate love and our own research on prototype analyses of compassionate love (Fehr & Sprecher, in progress). Four studies were conducted with university students in order to develop and pre-test the *Propensity to Experience Compassionate Love Scale*. Evidence is presented for its reliability and validity. Preliminary findings are presented in regard to experiences of compassionate love, both to close others and to strangers (humanity).

Impact of Cultural Values on Love Styles in Heterosexual Relationships

Paper Session 7 – Sunday p.m.

Stanley O. Gaines Jr & Deletha P. Hardin

In this study, we examined cultural values as predictors of love styles in heterosexual relationships. Ninety individuals (28 men, 62 women) participated in the study. Consistent with predictions, cultural values explained significant/marginal variance in all six love styles. Also, consistent with predictions, (1) individualism was a significant positive predictor of ludus; (2) collectivism was a marginal positive predictor of storge; (3) familism was a significant positive predictor of pragma; (4) romanticism was a significant positive predictor of eros; and (5) romanticism was a significant positive predictor of mania. Contrary to predictions, spiritualism was neither a significant/marginal nor positive predictor of agape. Finally (and unexpectedly), romanticism was a significant positive predictor of agape and a significant negative predictor of ludus.

Agape Within Couples: How is the Experience of the Relationship Related to the Partner's Agape?

Paper Session 7 – Sunday p.m.

Barry J. Fallon & Terry V. Bowles

Data from 118 heterosexual couples ranging in age from 18 years through 86 years formed the basis for analysis of the associations between agape, eros, and storge love styles, affective relationship variables, and the more general variables of psychological distress and general well-being. While many of the associations followed previous research, there were different patterns of results for males and females. For the three love styles there were more significant associations for the males than for the females. However when examining the associations between partners there were more significant associations between the female's agape scores and the partner's variables than there were for the male's agape scores. The research highlights the importance of analyzing couple data appropriately. It also suggests that males may be responding more to their partner's agape than are females.

Romantic Motives, Love Styles, and Compassionate Love: An Individual Difference Analysis

Paper Session 7 – Sunday p.m.

**Michael Cunningham, Anita Barbee, Steven Shamblen, Lara Ault,
Randi Neuman, Debra Mudd, Jennifer Kessler, & Monique Green**

This study examined compassionate love in terms of the relation between the Romantic Motives of Partner, Player, Parasite and Predator; love styles, including the selfless love style of Agape; and romantic relationship behaviors, including providing emotional support. The two long-term motives, Partner and Parasite, were found to independently predicted Agape in a large sample (n=895). The Partner Romantic Motive was positively related, and the Predator motive was negatively related to the willingness to provide emotional support, warmth and care. Agape also predicted the willingness to provide emotional support, but not as strongly as did the Romantic Motives.

Agape Love in Couple Relationships

Paper Session 7 - Sunday p.m.

Li-Wen Lin

The purpose of this study was to investigate *Agape* love in couple relationships in a randomly-sampled, telephone-surveyed population. *Agape* love is other-centered, altruistic love which is one of the six styles of love from John Lee's theory of love styles. This study, using Hendrick and Hendrick's Love Attitude Scale, found that people who are older or married (vs. divorced or never married) tend to show a higher level of *Agape* love in couple relationships. Other results suggested that the longer the relationship, the more altruistic love the person shows to the partner. Relationship satisfaction was also found to positively correlate with *Agape* love. College educated people showed higher *Agape* love scores than high school graduates. Males were found to show a higher level of *Agape* love than females. Women showed higher religiosity than men. Further research will be needed to study *Agape* love in couple relationships in a religious context and include participants other than college students.

Emotional Support, Conflict, Depression and Relationship Satisfaction in a Romantic Partner

Paper Session 8 - Sunday p.m.

Duncan Cramer

This study had two major aims. The first was to determine the relative contribution of partner conflict and support to satisfaction with a romantic relationship when conflict and support were measured in terms of the same characteristics. The second was to ascertain whether support was directly associated with relationship satisfaction as well as indirectly through lower conflict and depression as suggested by Cutrona (1996). The Relationship Assessment Scale (S. S. Hendrick, 1988), the Revised SCL-90 Depression Subscale (L. R. Derogatis, 1983), a conflict and a support scale were completed by 76 female and 35 male college students. Relationship satisfaction was solely explained by support. Support was directly associated with relationship satisfaction as well as indirectly through depression but not conflict. The results suggest that a better understanding of satisfaction with a romantic relationship may be obtained through the study of support than conflict.

Women's Perceptions of Social Support: Effects of Sustained Violence and Ethnicity

Paper Session 8 - Sunday p.m.

Rebecca Weston & Linda L. Marshall

The impact of partners' violence and women's ethnicity on perceived social support was examined in a longitudinal sample of low income community women. Data were from four waves of the Project HOW: Health Outcomes of Women study. Analyses revealed women who had sustained at least one act of severe, potentially life threatening violence tended to have smaller networks, were less satisfied with their networks and perceived network members more negatively (e.g., criticizing, causing tension) than women sustaining moderate or no violence in their relationships. Results for ethnicity showed African Americans had larger networks and were more satisfied with them than were Euro-Americans or Mexican Americans, contradicting previous research. The general absence of interactions between violence and ethnicity indicated ethnicity did not moderate the effects of violence on women's perceptions of support. Implications of these results will be discussed.

Who Me? It's Not My Fault Is It?
How do Perceptions of Fault Impact Satisfaction of Support and Attributions?
Paper Session 8 – Sunday p.m.
Misty Skaff & Daniel Russell

A sample of undergraduate students read vignettes that presented hypothetical problems for which the participant was or was not responsible. Participants rated the likelihood of receiving help from a stranger, acquaintance, or close friend, and indicated how supported they would feel if helped. When participants were not responsible for the problem, they were less likely to expect help, although their expectations varied by relationship with the supporter. Participants' attributions for help varied by relationship with the supporter and responsibility level of the participant. When participants were responsible for the problem, they attributed receiving help to internal characteristics of the supporter. Likewise, participants made more attributions to internal characteristics of the supporter if the supporter was an acquaintance, followed by a stranger and close friend. Finally, participants indicated higher support satisfaction if helped by a close friend with a problem for which the participant was not responsible.

Social Support, Personality and Values-
A Comparative Study Among Indians, British Indians, and British Whites
Paper Session 8 – Sunday p.m.
Urmila Pillay

The relationships among social support, personality and cultural values were examined in 72 Indians, 39 British Indians and 43 British Whites drawn randomly from the community, in U.K. as well as in India. In addition to the demographic data, information was collected on the following measures: International Personality Item Pool (IPIP), Antonucci's (1985) method of three concentric circles in order to tap the network, Interpersonal Support Evaluation list (ISEL), Inventory of Socially Supportive Behaviours (ISSB), Portrait Value Questionnaire (PVQ) and Satisfaction With Life Scale (SWLS). Analysis of results were done using correlation in order to find out the degree of relation between the different variables. Predictors of perceived support and received support were determined by using regression analyses. Significant differences emerged among the three groups in terms of their perceived support, personality and values. In general, perception of support was found to significantly correlate with various personality dimensions, whereas receipt of support was not. Extraversion, values of benevolence and hedonism emerged as predictors of perception of support. Values of conformity and stimulation predicted receipt of support.

Pro-Relationship Behaviors: A Within-Couples Analysis of Trust and Commitment
Paper Session 9 – Monday a.m.
Alexandra E. West & Barry J. Fallon

Trust and commitment play a central role in the development and maintenance of long-term intimate relationships, with pro-relationship behaviors being reciprocal in nature. The present research combined the multi-dimensional constructs of trust and commitment in order to investigate their relationship within heterosexual romantic relationships. Data from both couple members of 71 heterosexual couples formed the basis for analysis. Hierarchical regressions indicated that commitment significantly predicted trust for both male and female partners, with both one's own and one's partner's commitment contributing to trust levels. There were some differences however, in which components were significant predictors of trust for female partners and male partners. This research highlights not only the interdependence and reciprocal nature of pro-relationship variables, but also that despite such reciprocity, differences still exist between males and females. The present research however, was unable to elucidate what other factors may contribute to such differences.

Insecure Attachment Makes the Grass Seem Greener on the Other Side of the Fence

Paper Session 9 – Monday a.m.

Rowland S. Miller

Some people continually monitor the romantic options available to them with more interest and attention than other people do. In the present study, both members of 68 premarital romantic couples described their attention to alternatives, attachment styles, love, satisfaction, commitment, and other feelings about their relationships. Comfort with closeness was negatively related to attention to alternatives. Moreover, attentiveness to other partners accounted for most of the link between comfort and commitment to one's partner. People who are comfortable with interdependent intimacy are evidently more committed to their lovers because they pay less heed to other potential partners. Dyadic analyses demonstrated that a man's comfort with closeness was linked to greater love and satisfaction in his female partner. A woman's comfort, however, had no effect on her man. Instead, men were less satisfied with women who were anxious over abandonment. Clingy, jealous possessiveness evidently made a woman, but not a man, harder to love.

Trust and Love and Conflict Resolution

Paper Session 9 – Monday a.m.

Maureen Wang Erber & Ralph Erber

This research examines the role of trust and love on conflict resolution. Although trust has generally been implicated in conflict resolution, love has not received as much empirical attention. 42 couples responded to the following: the Interpersonal Trust Scale (Rempel, Holmes, & Zanna, 1985), the Dyadic Adjustment scale (Spanier, 1976), the Relational Dimensions Instrument (Fitzpatrick & Indvik, 1982), the Interpersonal Conflict Resolution Assessment Instrument (adapted from Leung, Au, Fernandez-Dol, & Iwawaki, 1992), and four questions assessing perceptions of conflict outcomes. Two open-ended questions were also included. As expected, trust was negatively correlated with the use of destructive conflict strategies and mediated conflict outcome satisfaction. Love, on the other hand, correlated with the use of discussion (constructive) and mediated happiness and perceived conflict duration.

Predictors of Forgiveness Following a Relational Transgression: An Integrative Model

Paper Session 9 – Monday a.m.

Sandra Metts & William R. Cupach

Relational transgressions and forgiveness have historically been the concerns of theologians and religious inquiry. But in the recent decade, they have entered scholarly discourse and taken the attention of psychologists, sociologists, family therapists, and communication scholars. The purpose of the paper proposed here is to summarize and integrate several studies of transgressions and forgiveness in order to present a heuristic model of the factors that promote or inhibit forgiveness in close relationships following a transgression.

Marital Love and Family Socialization Practices as Predictors of Young Children's Concern for Others

Paper Session 10 – Monday a.m.

Brenda L. Volling, Alysia Blandon, Amy Rauer, Anne Lock, & Erin Birkam

The current research addresses the early origins of compassionate love by examining young children's concern for others. Compassionate love in early childhood is conceptualized as consisting of the young child's ability to help others, respond to another's distress, and to share and cooperate with another. Such early forms of compassionate love are most readily seen in the context of early family interaction and especially, in interaction with one's sibling. The participants for this research include the first 30 families of a study designed to examine compassionate love in early childhood and includes two-year-old children, their older siblings, and their parents. Siblings are observed in a laboratory-based distress simulation and their responses to the other's distress are coded according to whether they expressed overt concern, became distressed, or ignored the other's distress. Analyses examine (1) developmental differences in older and younger children's responses to distress and (2) the prediction of children's concern from marital love and family socialization factors.

Seasoned Family Child Care Providers and the Meaning of Care

Paper Session 10 – Monday a.m.

Judith L. Francis

While home-based child care has become increasingly professionalized, research indicates that providers continue to identify with a parental role even as they adopt professional language and practices. The literature focuses primarily on inadequacies of the parental role in complex business and emotional transactions. In a mixed method study of 40 experienced, state licensed providers, I explored their constructs of the parental role and of care. Persisting in describing themselves as parents, experienced providers claim authority within two different but not necessarily contradictory domains: 1) the 'modern' child development and parenting world with individual development language and literature; 2) the arena of family, with language and constructs that include love and reciprocity, continuity and connection, and learning as a mutual process. Individual development and relational domains are intertwined, as child oriented activities are carried out in the multi-age, multi-purpose home environment. Multiple meanings are implicit and imbedded in rituals, artifacts, and processes of family life. As professionalization brings pressure to adopt developmental language and group care practices, providers struggle with the core questions of practice, knowledge, and meaning seen in the highly professionalized caring professions and in academic theory.

Parental/Adolescent Social Support and Other Factors as Mediators of Pre-college Risk-Taking Behaviors

Paper Session 10 – Monday a.m.

Lisa A. Miczo & Michelle Johnson

Various studies have examined the impact of parent/adolescent communication and parent support on adolescent outcomes. However, these studies are generally narrow in focus, involving one or the other as independent variables and honing in on fairly singular outcomes (e.g., GPA, goal commitment). This study will examine relationships between parent/adolescent communication patterns, reported relational satisfaction with parents, family ritual activity, desired and received social support from parents, loneliness, depression, and overall stress, while exploring the effect these separate variables may have in mediating risk-taking behaviors engaged in by approximately 500 late adolescents (just entering college). This data was gathered during the fall semester of 2002 at two college campuses and will be the foundation for analysis and for the conference presentation.

Social Support, Anxiety, and Depression During the Postpartum Period

Paper Session 10 – Monday a.m.

Erin N. Haugen, Melanie Goyette, & Amy Wenzel

Although there is evidence that social support plays an influential role in the expression of depressive symptomatology following the birth of a child (e.g., Collins, Dunkel-Schetter, Lobel, & Scrimshaw, 1993; Cutrona, 1984), little research has comprehensively investigated the role that social support plays in the expression of anxious symptomatology during the postpartum period. In the present study, eighty postpartum women are being recruited for a study examining the role of various social support constructs in the development and maintenance of anxious and depressive symptomatology during the postpartum period. The women are completing a variety of self-report inventories assessing symptoms of anxiety and depression, number of individuals within their support network, received social support, perceived social support, negative support, and postpartum-specific social support. Based on the results obtained in the present study, a model of psychopathology, postpartum adjustment, and social support will be presented.

**Changes of Heart from Start to Part:
Romantic Relationships and Facework**

Paper Session 11 – Monday a.m.

Adrianne D. Kunkel, Steven R. Wilson, James Olufowote, Scott Robson & Jordan Soliz

Much extant research on the strategies employed by relationship partners seeking particular relational outcomes proceeds without theoretical explanation for why people use different strategies when pursuing different goals. It seems likely that people's strategic choices are guided and constrained by the face concerns that they infer. The current work examines the extent to which college-age women and men ($N =$ approximately 600) associate unique potential face threats with initiating, intensifying, or ending romantic relationships. Participants' reactions to hypothetical relational (re)definition scenarios are analyzed. In addition, participants' responses to a series of questions assessing the degree to which seeking to fulfill a particular relational goal had threatened the target's (or message source's) negative or positive face are analyzed. The extent to which participants' sex and/or attachment orientation moderate the effects of relational (re)definition goals is also explored.

Measuring Conversational Equality at the Relationship Level of Messages

Paper Session 11 – Monday a.m.

Leanne K. Knobloch & Denise Haunani Solomon

We define *conversational equality* as the extent to which people communicate similar degrees of control, power, and authority within interaction (Burgoon & Hale, 1984; Millar & Rogers, 1976; Watzlawick, Beavin, & Jackson, 1967). More specifically, we conceptualize conversational equality as an aspect of relational messages, as a product of a diverse array of cues, as an emerging feature of conversation between partners, and as the presence of equal status rather than the absence of dominance. We supplement our conceptual efforts by describing an observational rating scheme we developed to operationalize conversational equality. As evidence of the construct validity of our measure, we report associations between conversational equality and the emotions romantic partners experienced within an interaction. We also discuss recommendations for using our measure and avenues for future inquiry.

**Social Penetration Theory and Taboo Topics:
Does Closeness Mean Sharing Everything?**

Paper Session 11 – Monday a.m.

Katy E. Carpenter-Theune

Do taboo topics become more open to discussion and to discussion in more depth as relationships achieve higher levels of intimacy? To examine these questions, the present pilot study puts a contemporary spin on the social penetration theory (SPT) (Altman & Taylor, 1973) by examining how topic avoidance fits into the SPT framework. Specifically, the six taboo topics identified by Baxter and Wilmot (1985) (state of the relationship; extra-relationship activity; relationship norms; prior relationships; conflict-inducing topics; and negatively-valenced self-disclosure) are used to assess if, as SPT implies, in more intimate relationships there is more discussion of taboo topics, and if the discussion of taboo topics is more in-depth.

Altruistic Lying: Perspective Differences in what Motivates Lie Telling Within Romantic Relationships

Paper Session 11 – Monday a.m.

Anne K. Gordon & Mary E. Kaplar

We examined perspective differences regarding what motivates lies told within romantic relationships. Lie tellers often claim that their lies stem from caring and a desire to protect another person. We expected lie receivers to interpret lie tellers' motives less altruistically. Participants described an incident in which they lied to a significant other and one in which a significant other lied to them. Narratives were coded on a number of dimensions, including the motivation for the lie (altruistic or egoistic), the receiver's role in the incident and responses to the lie, and situational factors surrounding the lie. Questionnaire items measured similar dimensions. Results from the content analysis and questionnaire data indicated that lie tellers, more than lie receivers, viewed their lies as altruistically motivated and justified by features of the situation. Discussion highlights the value of multiple perspectives when studying and evaluating lies and how perspective differences may contribute to relationship conflict.

ROUNDTABLES

Question/Answer Period with Invited Speakers

Table 1 – Saturday a.m.

Phillip Shaver & Mario Mikulincer

Phillip Shaver and Mario Mikulincer (the keynote speakers for Friday night) will summarize briefly some of the major points of their invited talk and then open up to questions and comments from the roundtable participants. Participants are also encouraged to discuss their own related research.

Love and Privacy: Where the Twain Meet

Table 2 – Saturday a.m.

**Sandra Petronio, Val Derlega, John Caughlin, Dawn O. Braithwaite,
& Mary Claire Morr**

The connection between privacy and love is critical for relationships. However, the way these concepts interface has received less attention than warranted. We know the significance of disclosure for the development of love relationships and the part autonomy plays. This round table is geared to explore the different avenues privacy and love might take within love relationships.

Animal Compassion: Exploring the Human-Animal Bond

Table 3 – Saturday a.m.

Ann L. Weber & Pamela Regan

Most relationships research and teaching has been distinctly “anthropocentric,” focused only on human relationships. By excluding humans’ bonds with animals, we imply that these are not “real” relationships. But people who love companion animals insist that this *is* love. Such compassion and attachments are clearest with our companion animals. We offer dogs, cats, and other pets affection, food, and shelter; they give us protection, contact, health, and pleasure. Is this exchange “love”? In our roundtable, focusing on the person-pet bond, we encourage our colleagues to undertake research and teaching that examines our feelings for and relationships with. We examine the similarities between humans’ and nonhumans’ consciousness, emotional lives, and cognitive abilities. We recommend reading, viewing, and course materials. Relationship scholars stand to learn much by understanding compassion among different species.

**Communication Patterns Between Victims and Transgressors:
Assessment of Forgiveness and Personal Relationship Growth**

Table 4 – Saturday a.m.

Paul Yelsma

Although the importance of forgiveness in human relationships is well known, little is known about the constructive communicative patterns of forgiveness in close relationships. Thus, two goals are anticipated for this presentation. First, I will facilitate discussion on the theoretical perspectives pertaining to the measurement of the communicative patterns of forgiveness. Second, I will facilitate a discussion on design of a self-report instrument that hopefully will assess communication patterns of the forgiveness process. In the presentation below, various stages and levels of the communication patterns or strategies people report using during their forgiveness processes are presented.

Question/Answer Period with Invited Speaker

Table 1 – Sunday p.m.

Benjamin Karney

Benjamin Karney (the keynote speaker for Saturday morning) will summarize briefly some of the major points of his invited talk and then open up to questions and comments from the roundtable participants. Participants are also encouraged to discuss their own related research.

Growing Love: Strengths and Challenges as Stepfamilies Become Families

Table 2 – Sunday p.m.

Dawn O. Braithwaite, Maria Schmeeckle, & Leah Bryant

The increasing number of stepfamilies has created an explosion of scholarly interest across disciplines and challenging traditional ideologies of what constitutes a family and what family life should be. Scholars argue that stepfamilies should be avoid applying traditional family models to the stepfamily and that stepfamilies need time to develop unique ways of interacting and relating. Scholars caution stepfamilies to avoid the “myth of the instant family,” wherein stepfamilies members feel the need to immediately love and accept one another. The purpose of this roundtable will be to discuss the development and enactment of compassionate love among stepfamily members. The goal is to focus both on the challenges stepfamilies face as they become a family and also to look at family strengths and positive steps stepfamilies can take, raising questions for discussion on developing loving and healthy stepfamily relationships as the stepfamily members become a family. We will explore insights that the larger field of personal relationships can bring to understand stepfamilies.

Modern Fairy Tales in Reality Television: Fantasies of Love and Commitment in ABC's The Bachelor

Table 3 – Sunday p.m.

Carissa Englert, Katherine Frank, Danielle Greenberg, & Jennifer Theiss

Recently there has been an increase in reality television programs that focus on love and dating situations. After considering the popularity of these shows, this roundtable addresses several interrelated questions, such as, what underlies the appeal of reality programs about passionate love, sex, dating, and marriage, and how might we understand both the dynamics of the shows and their spectatorship by applying various theories of personal relationships? What does the vast appeal of these particular fantasy representations of love and commitment mean when juxtaposed with the realities of contemporary everyday relationships? Does a television show like 'The Bachelor' indicate that important social changes are occurring with regard to how people think about their relationships? If so, how might we respond to those changes as researchers? In this roundtable, we look to other relationship researchers for insight and opinions on this growing phenomenon of reality dating shows.

Question/Answer Period with Invited Speakers

Table 1 – Monday a.m.

Susan S. Hendrick & Clyde Hendrick

Susan Hendrick and Clyde Hendrick (the keynote speakers for Saturday afternoon) will summarize briefly some of the major points of their invited talk and then open up to questions and comments from the roundtable participants. Participants are also encouraged to discuss their own related research.

**Promoting Understanding and Social Support in Student/Teacher Relationships
Both In and Out of the Classroom**

Table 2 – Monday a.m.

Cheri Simonds, Steve Hunt, Mark Comadena, Lance Lippert & Patrick O'Sullivan

The communication literature is ripe with studies establishing the importance of framing the teacher-student relationship as an interpersonal relationship. For over twenty years, researchers have explored variables such as immediacy, affinity-seeking, humor, self-disclosure, and compliance-gaining in an attempt to better understand the dynamics of the teacher-student relationship. This research also firmly establishes that the nature and quality of teacher-student relationships is important in terms of student learning outcomes. This roundtable discussion will address research that promotes understanding and social support both in and out of the classroom. Issues of teacher immediacy, clarity, and credibility will be discussed as well as how these constructs relate to social support, caring, trust, and understanding. Time will also be provided for participant discussion and reactions.

Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder: Long Distance Relationships

Table 3 – Monday a.m.

Amber Roberts & M. Carol Pistole

Long distance romantic relationships (LDRs) have become increasingly visible and prevalent. The success of these relationships challenges beliefs that physical togetherness is a primary element for partners' intimacy. Although research indicates that LDRs do not differ from geographically close relationships on many important variables such as satisfaction, there is little theory or research about LDRs' processes, the effect of commuting on the partners, or the partners' personality characteristics. After an overview of information, discussion will focus on themes such as closeness and attachment, maintenance strategies, perceptions of investment, and college student population.

Message Reception and Compassionate Love: Theorizing Couples'

Messages in Sickness and in Health

Table 4 – Monday a.m.

Michael Searcy, Steve Duck, & Dusty Cline

Many theories of message processing are essentially cognitive and place the seat of thought or decision making within the individual person. In relationship research, however, we are all too aware that messages are often received, and need to be negotiated, through the coupling unit as well as by the individual partners within the unit itself. Our roundtable discussion topic attends to the social environment of discussion and decision making through the proposition of 1) a new model of an individual's personal message reception and then 2) consideration of that message's integration and reception into the coupling unit and family structures; 3) the use of imagery, metaphor, and themes in that whole process and; 4) the account of such message reception as it occurs within healthy and not so healthy close relationships.

POSTERS

Relationship Orientations, Love Attitudes, and Self-Presentation

Sunday Poster 1

Nathan Miczo

This investigation attempts to extend a gift exchange perspective advanced by Miczo (2002a,b). Research on gift-giving (Belk & Coon, 1993) has delineated two models: an agapic love model and an economic exchange model. Relationship orientations and love styles were employed as indicators of those models, while self-presentation was examined as a type of gift. Participants completed a survey assessing communal orientation, reciprocation ideology, love styles, perceived physical ability, importance placed on body, and clothing predispositions. Correlation analyses revealed that both creditor ideology and reciprocation wariness were negatively related to communal orientation and positively related to perceived physical ability; Ludus was positively related to perceived physical ability, body importance, clothing consciousness, and exhibitionism. Storge was negatively related to body importance and exhibitionism; Pragma was positively related to body importance and clothing consciousness; Mania was negatively related to perceived physical ability and positively with clothing consciousness. There were also differences based on sex and relationship status.

General and Relationship-Specific Attachment Styles and Their Influence on Automatically Elicited Behavioral Responses to Attachment-Relevant Stimuli

Sunday Poster 2

Angela Rowe

The present study examined the possibility that alongside cognitive and emotional information, general and relationship-specific attachment style schemas might also contain automatic behavioral predispositions to approach or avoid attachment stimuli. Participants responded to congruent trials by pulling a lever towards the self in response to positive attachment words and away from the self in response to negative attachment words, and to non-congruent trials by doing the opposite. As predicted, primed relationship-specific attachment styles were found to influence the speed with which participants responded to congruent and non-congruent trials. Primed secures showed faster reaction times on the congruent than on the non-congruent trials, as well as faster reaction times on the congruent trials than the other two primed style groups. Furthermore, primed avoidants were faster on the non-congruent than the congruent trials. No general attachment style effects were observed. These findings were interpreted in the light on recent social cognitive conceptualizations of attachment processes.

On Days That We Love Our Partner, Do We Run "Hot," "Warm," and "Cold?": A Look at Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love Using Daily Measures

Sunday Poster 3

**Dawn M. Collins, Amy L. Busboom, Carl A. Ridley, Rodney M. Cate,
Shevaun Neupert, James Hunt, Sean Banks, Brian Ellexson,
Brian Ogolsky, & Christine O'Neal**

The present study expanded upon previous research based upon Sternberg's triangular theory of love by examining the interrelationships among these variables on a daily basis. We examined daily reports of passion, intimacy and commitment and their association with daily reports of love in a sample of 78 dating couples. The impact of participants' thinking about their partners' evaluation of the relationship (Partner Thinking) was also examined as a moderator. The results of HLM analyses indicated that participants' daily reports of their feelings of passion, intimacy and commitment toward their partners predicted their own daily reports of love for their partners, with each component having unique predictive power when controlling for the others for females, although passion did not appear to predict unique variance for males. Partner Thinking did not moderate any of the relationships between the components for males or females.

September 11th and Dating Relationships

Sunday Poster 4

**Sean R. Banks, Carl A. Ridley, Rodney M. Cate,
Amy Busboom, Dawn Collins, James E. Hunt, & Brian Ellexson**

The effects of the tragic events of September 11th have been widespread, such as increases in visits to health clinics and higher symptoms of stress due to the event (Hoge et. al, 2002; Schuster, et. al, 2002). The present study investigates the effects of September 11th on dating couples. Participants were divided into three groups: pre, during, and post September 11th and these groups were compared on a number of individual and relational variables. One-way ANOVAs indicated female participants felt more anger and irritation during than post 9/11, and both males and females reported higher levels of sexual touching after September 11th. Finally, males' stress levels acted as a-moderator of the relationship between September 11th group and reported time spent with their partner. Before September 11th, males with low stress spent less time with their partner than those with high stress, however after September 11th the roles were reversed.

The Functions of Supportive Messages: A Qualitative Study of Interpersonal Communication Among Mothers of Multiples Within the Framework of a Multiples Support Network

Sunday Poster 5

Kim Gatz

This study examined the impact of supportive communication among mothers participating in a community-based support network for mothers of multiples. It was hypothesized that participation in this support group would result in positive outcomes in the emotional well-being of the mother. Participants were 24 mothers between the ages of 25 to 51 years old who had twins or triplets. A questionnaire consisting of demographic and retrospective in-depth interview questions was used to identify outcomes relating to their participation. Results showed that members received emotional, informational, instrumental and appraisal typologies of support resulting in positive outcomes and social capital.

**Juxtaposing Theoretical Perspectives on Close Relationship Phenomena:
Applications to Sexual Intimacy, Power, and Self-Disclosure**

Sunday Poster 6

Denise Solomon

Disciplinary foundations shape the kinds of questions researchers pursue, the form their answers take, and the theoretical implications they draw. A discipline's conventions provide direction and parameters as individuals develop their expertise in a program of inquiry. But while disciplinary lenses can sharpen our focus, they may also create blinders that prevent a more complete understanding of the phenomenon under study. The study of close relationships can be thought of as a mosaic to which scholars in different disciplines contribute unique and complementary pieces. To clarify this mosaic, I have developed a seminar that juxtaposes theoretical perspectives on close relationship phenomenon. This collection of posters presents the structure of that course and showcases three final papers completed as part of the seminar.

Four Theoretical Approaches to Understanding Sexual Intimacy as a Relational Phenomenon

Sunday Poster 6a

Jennifer A. Theiss

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the field of personal relationships, it is a useful exercise to explore and understand relational phenomena from a variety of perspectives. Sexual intimacy is a complex relational phenomenon, reflecting personal and social constructions of meaning for sexual behavior. Exploring this phenomenon from diverse theoretical perspectives provides important insight to the nature and function of sexual intimacy in relationships. In this paper, the phenomenon of sexual intimacy is analyzed through four different theoretical lenses. Evolutionary Theory, Theories of Relationship Development, Social Exchange Theory, and Theories of Dyadic Communication are all used to examine the phenomenon of sexual intimacy in relationships. Using these theoretical perspectives, a more thorough understanding of sexuality and relationships is achieved.

**Power in Romantic Relationships: An Explication and
Application of Four Theoretical Perspectives**

Sunday Poster - 6b

Danielle R. Greenberg

Because of its elusive and multifaceted nature, power is among many phenomena in the study of romantic relationships that benefit from a multidisciplinary effort. Power is best conceptualized by exploring its process, as well as its antecedents and consequences. This is best achieved by examining power through different theoretical and disciplinary lenses. In this paper, four theoretical positions, each focusing on a distinct aspect of power in romantic relationships, will be reviewed and compared. The four views are: an evolutionary perspective, a human development perspective, a dyadic interactions perspective, and a social exchange perspective. Each perspective provides a unique contribution to the study of power in romantic relationships; thus, integrating and synthesizing the contributions of each perspective will advance our understanding of power in romantic relationships.

Self-Disclosure in Romantic Relationships: An Explication and Review of the Literature

Sunday Poster -6c

Carissa A. Englert

Relationship research is made very rich with theoretical diversity. In order to understand intricate relational phenomena, it is desirable that they be studied from multiple theoretical perspectives. After first defining one such phenomenon—the construct of self-disclosure—in detail, this paper aims to explore self-disclosure within romantic relationships from four unique theoretical approaches: human development (attachment theory and sex differences), relationship development, relationship dialectics and social exchange theory. For each of the theories, important empirical studies relevant to the topic of self-disclosure are reviewed and attempts to compare, contrast and integrate the theoretical perspectives and vast bodies of literature are made. The goal is to illustrate how the field of personal relationships is enhanced by a multi-theory approach to the numerous phenomena that make human interaction and relationships inherently complex and fulfilling.

Social Support, Passion, Power, and Satisfaction in Mexican Couples

Sunday Poster - 7

Sofia Rivera-Aragon, Rolando Diaz-Loving, Rozzana Sanchez-Aragon, & Cinthia Cruz del Castillo

Social Support type and quality of the relationship are crucial processes in couple relationships (Dakof & Taylor, 1990; Sarason, Sarason, & Pierce, 1994). In the present study, the effect of love, power, passion, and marital satisfaction on perception and offering of support we studied. In order to assess the relationship between these variables, 301 heterosexual couples answered the Behavioral Styles Inventory (Sanchez, 2000), the Love Styles Inventory (Ojeda, 1998), the power Styles Scale (Rivera y Diaz Loving, 2000) and the Multiphase Marital Satisfaction Inventory (Cañetas, Rivera y Diaz Loving, 2000). Results show that higher levels of support are related to Marital Satisfaction, Positive Love and Power Styles and Passion. Results are discussed in relationship to the culture and the importance of close relationships.

**Predictors of Emotional, Instrumental, and Companionship Support in
Passionate Love Stage: The Case of Mexico**

Sunday Poster - 8

Rozzana Sanchez Aragon

Passion has been identified as an intense and temporal emotion. Research in Mexico (Sánchez-Aragón 2000) shows that a passionate relationship does not only represent infinite euphoria, but also an entity in which emotional, instrumental, romantic and maintenance exchanges are present. Thus, there is ample room to study the positive aspects of passion which relate to support, caring, caressing, taking care of and company. The present study identified the predictors of support, physical and affiliative, admiration and exclusivity behaviors present during the passion stage. Measures of attachment styles, coping, love and communication styles, historic-socio-cultural premises and personality traits, were applied to a group of 127 males and 102 females reported to be in the passion stage, were used to predict positive behaviors.

**Measuring Love Across 47 Cultures:
The Social and Ecological Correlates of Human Compassion
Monday Poster - 1**

David P. Schmitt, Robert Fowler, Jennifer Zeligson, & Kara Kepple

Over 16,000 participants across 47 countries described themselves using sexually-connotative adjectives, including the adjectives "Compassionate" and "Loving" as translated into 28 languages. This allowed for a crude index of compassionate love to be assessed across a large number of cultures. Using additional data from the United Nations and the World Health Organization, we were able to demonstrate that cultural levels of compassionate love were meaningfully associated with several social and ecological variables. Discussion focuses on the limitations and implications of compassionate love as viewed across cultures.

**Adult State of Mind Regarding Attachment, Attachment Orientations, and Positive Conflict
Management Behavior:**

Predicting What People "Say" About Affection Versus What They "Show"

Monday Poster - 2

Gary Creasey

In the present study, it was predicted that attachment processes might predict congruencies or discrepancies in what people "say" versus "show" in regards to loving and affectionate behavior during conflict interchanges with romantic partners. Young adults ($N = 138$) completed the Adult Attachment Interview (George et al., 1996), questionnaires regarding attachment orientations (Griffin & Bartholomew, 1994) and self-reported use of positive conflict tactics, and were observed during a 15-minute conflict encounter with their partner. Positive behaviors, such as affection, were subsequently coded. Secure participants showed high congruency between their reported and actual use of positive conflict tactics (e.g., affection), while their dismissing/avoidant counterparts displayed major incongruence. Implications for research and theory are discussed.

Beyond Consent: Young Women's Definitions and Experiences of Desired Sexual Interaction

Monday Poster - 3

Laurel B. Crown

Research on sexual interaction among unmarried, young adults has focused primarily on the development and timing of sexual initiation with a particular emphasis on the potential harms that may result. Understandings of the meanings young people ascribe to their positive sexual encounters and the effects these experiences have on individual and relational development are limited by a dearth of research investigating premarital "desired" sexual interaction. In this paper, I propose a conceptual model that integrates current theorizing on the conceptualization of premarital sexual violation with understandings of young adults' experiences of positive sexual interaction. I present preliminary results from a study in which I use in-depth interviewing techniques and qualitative analysis to explore (1) women's own conceptualizations of positive or desired sexual interaction; (2) the personal, behavioral, and contextual conditions that characterize desired sexual encounters; and (3) the meanings women ascribe to these experiences.

Using the Theory of Reasoned Action to Explain "His" and "Her" Divorce Attitudes

Monday Poster - 4

Carolyn A. Kapinus

Previous research indicates married women are more likely to have tolerant views of divorce than married men. The theory of reasoned action posits that attitudes toward a given behavior are influenced by the utility of the behavior for meeting personal goals. Using a national longitudinal data set, this paper seeks to explain gender differences in divorce attitudes by applying the theory of reasoned action.

Love as a Predictor of Romantic Partner Conflict

Monday Poster - 5

Marla Reese-Weber & Jennifer F. Marchand

The present study examined familial variables, individual variables, and romantic love as predictors of late adolescents' romantic partner conflict strategies. Questionnaires assessing parent-adolescent conflict strategies, adolescent-romantic partner conflict strategies, adolescent attachment dimensions, and romantic love were completed by 256 college students (198 females and 58 males). Using hierarchical regression analyses, parent-adolescent conflict and attachment anxiety explained significant portions of the variance in adolescent-romantic partner attack conflict strategy. For adolescent-romantic partner compromise conflict strategy, parent-adolescent conflict, attachment closeness, and romantic partner love were significant predictors. Findings highlight the differential role of attachment dimensions and romantic love in late adolescents' romantic relationship conflict.

Factors on Interpersonal Attraction in CMC

Monday Poster - 6

Shuangyue Zhang

Based on a framework of interpersonal attraction in face-to-face (FtF) settings, this paper investigates some possible factors that may account for interpersonal attraction in computer-mediated communication (CMC). Physical appearance, proximity, and similarity are three main factors in FtF. In CMC, similar and different mechanisms explain interpersonal attraction. Physical appearance is often not available, but is still considered as one important factor. Although CMC potentially helps people to get to know a person inside out, physical attractiveness has been proved to be relatively important to relationships initiated in CMC. Proximity does not mean geographical closeness but frequent interactions online. More frequent interaction online will potentially lead more liking. CMC facilitates people of similarities to meet. In addition, several other factors are discussed: anonymity, language (typing) style, and personal characteristics. It has been shown that people like a person better if they do not see the person visually. Anonymity also helps people exaggerate their imagination of the person online. Special language style in anonymous CMC adds to that imagination. Research questions, and future directions are also discussed.

**Another Look at Teacher Disposition:
Recognizing "Compassionate Love for Teaching" in Teachers**

Monday Poster - 7

Eunjoo Jung

The recent addition of dispositions to the skills and knowledge requirements for teacher candidates in teacher education programs has raised the consciousness of faculty and candidates in the area. It is not surprising to see that the faculty and the candidates in teacher education programs are working hard in developing and meeting the conceptual framework of highly desirable dispositions to teach. Even though identifying desirable dispositions in teachers might be necessary, no sum of those dispositions is sufficient to account for the depths of the nature of "teachers and teaching," since, to many teachers, teaching is not a job; rather, it is a calling. Truly desirable dispositions in teachers are, perhaps, compassionate love for self, others, and teaching, given that compassionate love would entail most of the dispositional assets in teachers. Thus, I suggest that we need to look at teacher dispositions in a much broader sense and in more holistic ways than we are today.

**Managing the Balance Between Compassionate Love and Unwanted Disclosures: A Study of
Reluctant Confidants in Close Friendships**

Monday Poster - 8

M. Chad McBride & Karla M. Bergen

Compassionate love, displayed through informational and emotional support, between friends is not without costs. While being a friend includes the expectation of giving support, the disclosure that comes along with the need for support may have its consequences. Petronio (2002), in her Communication Privacy Management theory, labeled the recipient of unwanted information as a reluctant confidant. The purpose of this study was to examine how close friends manage the expression of compassionate love (through listening and social support) with that of co-managing unwanted personal information (as a reluctant confidant). 500 participants were asked to recall an instance when they were a reluctant confidant in a close friendship. These questionnaires were analyzed for topics of the reluctant confidant conversations, the communication behaviors of the reluctant confidant, and the outcome on their relationship. Findings suggest that reluctant confidants exhibit compassionate love by using coping strategies that allow them to remain supportive to their friends.

**Who Do You Turn To?: Religion's Effect on Coping Within the Interpersonal Communication
Framework of American Society**

Monday Poster - 9

William A. Robinson

This study explores the relationships between religion and coping with stress within the framework of interpersonal and intrapersonal communication. A sample of 855 individuals took a modified RCOPE survey (Pargament, 1998) in order to measure positive and negative patterns of religious coping methods. The positive patterns consisted of religious forgiveness, seeking spiritual support, collaborative religious coping, spiritual connection, religious purification, and benevolent religious appraisal. The negative pattern was defined by spiritual discontent, punishing God reappraisals, interpersonal religious discontent, demonic reappraisal, and reappraisal of God's power. Results of the study revealed that individuals who have experienced some type of religious conversion made more use of the positive rather than the negative religious coping methods. However, converts utilized both positive and negative religious coping strategies, e.g., Talking to God, Support, Punishment, and Expectancy Violation.

**Conceptual Definitions of Prosocial, Altruistic, and
Altruistically Loving Behavior for a Content Analysis of TV**

Monday Poster - 10

Stacy L. Smith, Sandi W. Smith, Katherine Pieper, Edward Downs, & Jina Yoo

Prosocial behavior is "a voluntary intentional action, that independent of motive, 1) benefits others beyond simple sociability or duties associated with role or 2) exhibits regulation of negative behaviors by the self. It must be legal and socially appropriate." Altruistic behavior is: "1) A goal-directed, voluntary behavior 2) designed and enacted primarily to help, share with, or show affection 3) that is the product of empathy, 4) is motivated by high concern for the other and low concern for self, 5) offers relative benefit to the other while incurring a cost to the actor, and 6) the actor can escape both from self blame and the situation relatively easily." Altruistically loving behavior is: 1) a generous act that, 2) attempts to meet another's need, 3) shows devotion to a higher power/humanity, and 4) other-orientedness that is grounded in deep positive affect.

Measuring Unlimited Love: The Feelings for Others Scale (FFOS)

Monday Poster - 11

Francis J. Keefe, Sandra J. Waters, & John C. Lefebvre

Unlimited love – unwavering love toward others with no exceptions – is a concept that is receiving increasing attention. As Sorokin observed, people vary in their ability to experience an altruistic love without limits. The study's purpose was to design a measure that would capture the degree to which individuals feel unlimited love for others. The Feelings for Others Scale (FFOS) asked 127 college students (56% women; average age = 20.25 years [$SD \pm 4.62$]) to use a series of 0 - 100 ratings to rate love experienced for four categories of people: family, friends, strangers, and all other people in the world. For each category, students provided ratings designed to assess four dimensions of love derived from Sorokin's model of love: extensity, intensity, duration, and purity. A very good internal reliability of $\alpha = .85$ was found for the total scale. Most subscales had satisfactory reliability ratings. The results suggest the FFOS might be useful in ongoing studies of altruistic and compassionate love.