**Love & Attraction Theories**

1. Kerckhoff and Davis Filter Theory
2. Murstein’s Stimulus  Value . Role Theory of Attraction
3. Aron & Aron Love as Self Expansion
4. Sternberg’s Triangular Theory of Love

**Minds On**

How do you think we sort out who we might partner with?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Kerckhoff and Davis’ Filter Theory**



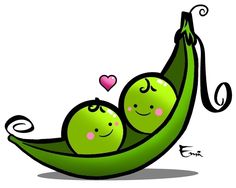


* We start off with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* We begin to filter people out based on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_which makes the pool of possibilities \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Then we filter people out by **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** which makes the pool smaller again
* Last we filter them out based on **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** which leaves us with fewer choices again

**Murstein’s Stimulus . Value . Role Theory of Attraction**

* Builds on **both** the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* the filter theory states that we go through a multi stage filtering process of elimination to find a mate as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we go there several stages or processes of elimination
* The social exchange theory states we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_based on costs   
  and benefits

1. **Stimulus Stage**

* first stage is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* partners start a partnership because of physical attraction, social compatibility and other factors that are screened for or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* if the rewards or benefits of the partnership are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ then the relationship can proceed to the next stage

1. **Value Stage**

* second filtering stage is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* get to know each other’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ etc.   
  the stronger the similarities (homogamy) the more compatible the pair

*We’re two peas in a pod*

* the more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ probably the higher the rewards so   
  onward and upward to the next stage

1. **Role Stage**

* third stage of the filter is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* the pair sees how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* the more interactions they have, the better idea they have of how marriage might be and the benefits or costs if the benefits appear to win out the couple may choose to stay together

**Checking In**

What three ingredients do you think are most  
important for a successful intimate relationship?



**Aron & Aron Theory of Love as an Expansion of Self**

* Aron & Aron believe that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a  
  motivator of behaviour - including the behaviour   
  of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* They agree with theorists that look at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  as a foundation for beginning a relationship   
  ex Kerkhoff & Davis filter theory and Murstein’s stimulus value role theory
* However they differ in that they allow for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  in the relationship…the whole idea of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + - Allows for us to continue in a relationship with someone we   
      differ from
* The idea is that we view this as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ … hence the title “self-expansion”
  + - Similarities don’t necessarily mean a lost opportunity for growth, but growing together would be necessary for the relationship to continue… the whole idea that you are sticking with the relationship for self-growth

intimacy

commitment

passion

**Sternberg’s Triangular Theory of Love**

* this theory is about a way of looking at a love relationship &  
  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or assessing it.
* It is based on a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ where the three sides are commitment,

intimacy and passion.

* the more commitment, intimacy and passion there is in a relationship   
  the larger the triangle

**Commitment**

* is both a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ commitment to love someone and a long term   
  commitment to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* it grows slowly as two people get to know each other, & eventually levels off
* it remains at a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but will decline if the relationship starts to deteriorate

**Intimacy**

* is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it includes…
* looking out for the partner’s welfare
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* holding them in high regard
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* understanding
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* giving and receiving emotional support
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* valuing partner’s company
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, it slows down as partners get to know each other and can level off, there can be some drifting apart or growing closer. A crisis can be a test

**Passion**

* **Passion** is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the triangle. It is the   
  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that brings them together.
* Early on in the relationship it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* but is often not long lived. Sternberg compares it to an addiction – you get used to and need more of to get excited than usual – if you part you may have withdrawal symptoms etc.

**Notes about the Triangle**

* The bigger the better – size does matter here - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The closer the triangle is to being an\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the better and more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Varying the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ produces different shapes that reflect \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ relationships
* Relationships actually have several triangles – the actual (how it is for them), the ideal (how they wish it was) and the perceived (how they think it is seen by partner) the more similar the three triangles are the better

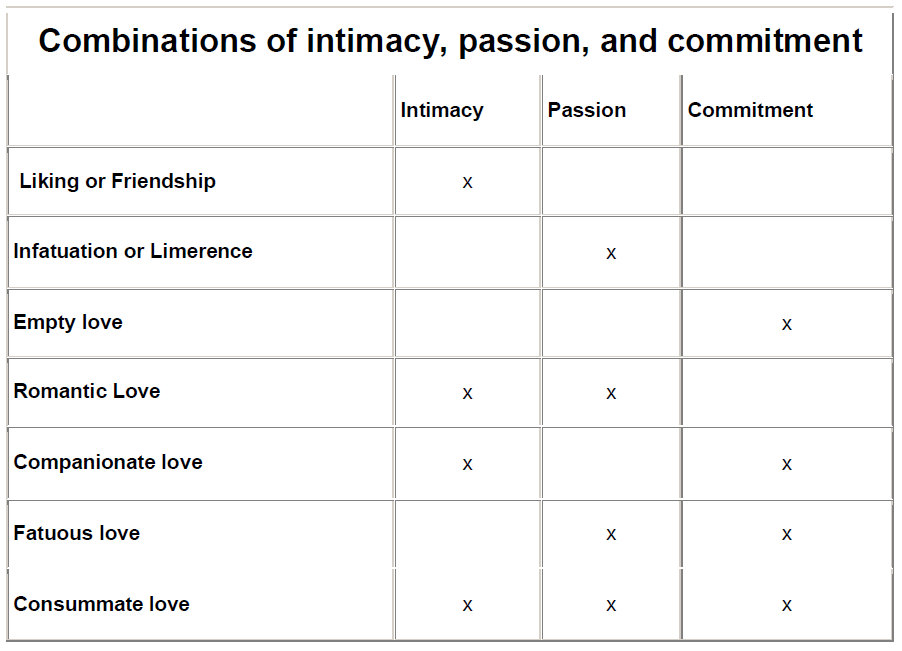
IDEAL  
how   
they wish   
it was

PERCEIVED  
how   
it is seen by partner

ACTUAL

how   
the person sees it

Some couples have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of the sides of the triangle covered, to a stronger or lesser degree, by looking at the ways that these are combined we can determine the type of love they have

******

1. ***Liking*** in this case is not used in a trivial sense. Sternberg says that this intimate liking characterizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, in which a person feels a bond, & a closeness with another but not intense passion or long-term commitment.
2. ***Infatuated love*** is often what is felt as "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_." But without the intimacy and the commitment components of love, infatuated love may disappear suddenly.
3. ***Empty love*** Sometimes love in which there is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and passion. In arranged marriages, relationships often begin as empty love.
4. ***Romantic love*** Romantic lovers are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (as in liking) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_arousal.
5. ***Companionate love*** is often found in marriages in which the passion has gone out of the relationship, but a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_remain. Companionate love is generally a personal relation you build with somebody you share your life with, but with no sexual or physical desire. It is stronger than friendship because of the extra element of commitment. The love ideally shared between family members is a form

of companionate love, as is the love between deep friends or those who spend a lot of time together in any asexual but friendly relationship.

1. ***Fatuous love*** can be exemplified by a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and marriage in which a commitment is motivated largely by passion, without the stabilizing influence of intimacy
2. ***Consummate love*** is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of love, representing the ideal relationship toward which many people strive but which apparently few achieve. Sternberg cautions that **maintaining a consummate love may be even harder than achieving it**. He stresses the importance of putting the sides of love into action. Consummate love may not last. If passion is lost over time, it may change into companionate love.

The   
balance   
among Sternberg’s   
three aspects of love   
is likely to shift through   
the course of a relationship.   
A strong dose of all three components   
**-found in consummate love-**typifies, for   
many of us, an ideal relationship. However   
time alone does not cause intimacy, passion, and   
commitment to occur and grow. Knowing about these   
components of love may help couples avoid pitfalls in their   
relationship, work on the areas that need improvement or help them   
recognize when it might be time for a relationship to come to an end.