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Q7(a)

How the study of variation in forms of marriage led to rethinking on the concepts of social reproduction, kinship and family?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Anthropology GS 1 · 20 marks · Family

2.4 Family: Definition and universality; Family, household and domestic groups; functions of family; Types of family (from the perspectives of structure, blood relation, marriage, residence and succession); Impact of urbanization, industrialization and feminist movements on family.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2025/how-the-study-of-variation-in-forms-of-marriage-led-to-rethinking-on-the-concepts-of-social-reproduction-kinship-and-family/>

Nuer woman-marriage

Evans-Pritchard described a Nuer practice in which a woman marries a wife and the children are socially hers through lineage rules.

David Schneider

He analysed American kinship as a cultural system of blood and law, undermining the idea that kinship is simply biology.

Marilyn Strathern

Her work on reproductive technologies showed that genetic, gestational and social parenthood can be separated and recombined.

Lévi-Strauss on alliance

He treated marriage as a relation between groups through the exchange of spouses, not as a private nuclear fact.

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