PSY 131: Psychology of Adjustment

Chapter 6 Love

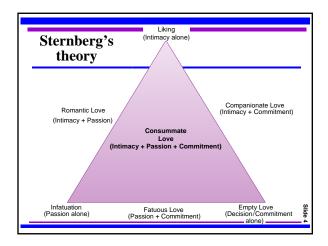
Outline/Overview

- Theories of love
 - Sternberg's Triangular Theory
- Myths and misconceptions about love
- Fears of Loving and Being Loved
- Characteristics of Inauthentic Love
- Meanings/ Characteristics of Authentic Love

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Theories of love

- O Rubin (1973) 3 Components of love
 - Attachment
 - Caring
 - Intimacy
- O Hatfield (1988) 2 types of love
 - Companionate
 - Passionate
- O Sternberg: Triangular Theory: 3 components
 - Passion
 - Intimacy
 - Commitment



Sternberg's seven forms of love O Liking Infatuation Empty love Romantic love Fatuous love Companionate love

Myths and misconceptions about love

O Love is eternal

Consummate love

- O Love implies constant closeness
- We fall in and out of love
- O Love is exclusive
- True love is selfless
- O Love and anger are incompatible

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Fears of Loving and Being Loved

- Fear of isolation
- Fear of being discovered
- Uncertainty of love
 - no guarantees
- Fear of repeating negative patterns

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Characteristics of Inauthentic Love

- O Pseudo-love may look like authentic love, but it stifles growth
- One whose love is inauthentic ---
 - Attaches strings to loving and loves conditionally
 - Is possessive
 - Depends on the other person to fill a void in life
 - Needs to be in charge and make decisions for the other person
 - Lacks commitment

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Meanings/ Characteristics of Authentic Love

- O Knowing the person
- O Caring about the person
- O Having a responsibility toward the person
- O Having respect and dignity for the person
- Accepting imperfection
- Growth for both people in the relationship

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