Context: 1 Female Personal Resources &Mate Preference

Structural Powerlessness Hypothesis:

Exclusion from Power and Resources:

Seek males with Status/Power/Access to Resources

Marry upward Socioeconomic Status

Men: (1) Do not value what they already have

          (2) Women do not possess such resources

Bakweri of Cameroon W.A.

Women have greater Personal and Economic Power

- Plantation Labor
- Casual Prostitution
- 2.36 Men per female (migrant plantation workers)

Women persist in preferring men with resources

- Most frequent citation for divorce: Lack of Support
- Change husbands for greater support, Bride-price
- **Phase-Lag**

Professional American Women

Sample:
- >$50,000, some >$100,000
- Well educated & Professional Degrees
- High Self –Esteem

Even higher preference for:
- Professional Degrees
- Social Status
- Intelligence
- Self-Confidence

American Professional ☞ cont.

Personal Income Correlations (Buss, '89):
- Mate Income, r = 0.31
- College Graduate, r = 0.29
- Professional Degree, r = 0.35 (even stronger)

Wiederman & Allgeier, '92:
- Positive correlation between expected post-college income
    And value of mates income
- Medical & Law students value mate income more

Townsend, '89: Low income Males do not value economic
    Resources more than High income Males

Text: "Directly Contradict" Structural Powerlessness Hypothesis

Phase-Lag: Female Income shouldn't matter for Ξ or X

Context 2: Temporal Context Long-Term vs. Short-Term

	Long-Term	Short-Term
Ambitious/Career Oriented	2.45	1.04
College Graduate	2.38	1.05
Creative	1.90	1.29
Devoted	2.80	0.90
Fond of Children	2.93	1.21
Kind	2.88	2.50
Understanding	2.93	2.10
Responsible	2.75	1.75
Cooperative	2.41	1.47

Long-Term vs. Short-Term cont.

Scheib, '97:
- Five pairs of pictures with descriptions
- Antagonized Looks & Character Traits
- Asked to Select (1) Short-term Sexual Partner or Husband
- Greater preference for Character Traits if selecting for a Husband
    4/5 of Choices
    Stronger effect if married or previously married

Regan, '98:
- Women have higher minimum short-term standard than men
    But **not** for Long-term Relationships (?)
- Women with high self-perceived mate-value had higher standards
    Not so for men

Actual Mating Behavior

Evolution of an **Adaptive Strategy** <u>Requires</u> Success

Does Mate Preference correspond to behavior?

Relationship **cannot** be perfect

Limited by:

1. Own **Mate Value**
2. Number of Desirable Mates
3. Kin mandates

Behavior: Response to Ads

Baize & Schroeder, '95:

Responses to 92 Males, mean age =37yrs
Number of Responses
Age, r = 0.43
Income, r = 0.30
Education, r = 0.37

Methodological Confounds?

Behavior: Response to Ads

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   Number of Responses
      Age, r = 0.43
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Methodological Confounds?
      Self-Selection
         92/120 Males responded to Questionnaire
         Are these Females more Machiavellian than
         General Population

Behavior: Opportunity

What do women do when they can get what they want?

Physical Attractiveness correlates with Finances and Status
    of Husband
        $r = 0.23 - 0.37$ across several studies

Elder, '69:
    Adolescent attractiveness ratings correlate with husbands'
    Occupational status a decade later!
        Working-class women: $r = 0.46$
        Middle-class women: $r = 0.35$
        All subjects: $r = 0.43$
            Vs. Class of Origin, $r = 0.27$ or I.Q., $r = 0.14$

Behavior: Age of Husband

Buss, '89:

    Women Preferred Husbands 3.42 years older on average

        Across 37 Cultures!

    Demographic Data from 27 of 37 Countries:

        Husbands 2.99 years older

            An example of: You can't always get what you want

                2.99yrs vs. 3.42yrs

        Husbands older in **Every** country!

            Range: 2.17yrs (Ireland) to 4.92yrs (Greece)

            Universality Implies an Inherited **Adaptive Strategy**

                Rather than a Cultural Influence