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MARRIAGE ROLE PERCEPTIONS OF HUSBANDS
AND WIVES SEPARATED BY
THE VIETNAM WAR

by

Ella Arlene Bentson

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree

of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

Marriage and Family Relations

Approved:

Major Professor

Committee Member

Committee Member

Dean of Graduate Studies

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
Logan, Utah
1969

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Child Study

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Ella Arlene Bentson

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ABSTRACT

Marriage Role Perceptions of Husbands
and Wives Separated by
the Vietnam War

by

Ella Arlene Bentson, Master of Science
Utah State University, 1969

Major Professor: Dr. Jay D. Schvaneveldt
Department: Family and Child Development

The purpose was to determine how husbands and wives who had been separated because of the war in Vietnam perceived each other during separation. Martial roles were used as the vehicle to convey perception.

A random sample of 31 couples was selected from among the married officers and enlisted men of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 225 which was based at DaNang, South Vietnam. A questionnaire designed to determine perception of spouse was sent to men in Vietnam and to their wives who resided in various parts of the United States.

The major findings are summarized as follows:

1. Correlation of roles ranked in order of importance before and after separation by respondents was significant at or beyond the .05 level for all roles except that of mother. This indicates that there was really very little change in the importance of roles during separation. The mother role was most variable.
2. Husbands were significantly more accurate than wives in duplicating the ranking of roles by spouse.

3. Both husbands and wives were significantly more accurate predicting the role ranking of the other before separation than they were in predicting how the other would rank his roles after separation.

4. Wives were more congruent than husbands in perception of the spouse in roles they ranked as being highly important for the spouse.

5. Men who had children tended to be congruent between thought patterns about their wives and the roles they ranked as important for them. They usually ranked the roles of wife and mother high and often thought of their wives in these roles. This congruency did not exist with the men who had no children.

6. There was significantly greater marital satisfaction before separation.

7. Perception of very high marital satisfaction after separation indicates that idealization or glossing of the absent situation and absent person occurred.

(83 pages)

INTRODUCTION

Marital roles and the behavior of people filling those roles are usually studied as normative patterns of who does what and when. This study was not designed to survey normative role patterns but rather to determine the perceptions that husbands and wives hold of each other in marital roles during a separation.

Literature concerning marital roles indicates that behavior of marriage partners is largely determined by their own role conceptions and the role perceptions they hold for their spouses. Although marriage roles form the general framework in which husbands and wives function, the role expectation of one spouse may not be congruent with the role enactment of the other. Each person in a family fills many different roles throughout the course of the day. Occasionally an extreme alteration will occur in the family arrangement which may cause a change in role expectations, role enactments, or even the particular roles that a person fills.

In his text dealing with social change, LaPiere (1965) described the modern American family as a system of interrelated roles composed of the roles of the father, the mother, and the child or children. Although no role is clearly defined, each is dependent upon the other. A man could not fulfill the role of father without someone in the role of the child. Likewise, he could not fulfill the role of husband without someone in the role of wife. LaPiere goes on to say that:

Social roles are not, however, equivalent to individuals: one man may fill many roles, and many individuals may occupy the same role. Father of a family, for example, is not a single role but a number of roles, each somewhat dependent on all the others and each dependent upon the roles of the

other members of the family--mother, children, indigent relatives, etc. . . . The life of the family as a unit of organization consists of the personal interrelations that are required by many such roles; and a change in any one of these roles will, to some extent, affect the operation of the entire complex, even as a change in one part of a mechanical device will modify, for good or ill, the functioning of all the others. (LePiere, 1965, p. 85)

Hurvitz (1961) described three basically different kinds of roles. Functional roles are those that link the individual to his family and the social structure. Symbolic roles are related to the developmental needs that husbands and wives satisfy for each other. Control roles pertain to the source and kind of authority exercised within the family. Hurvitz said that these roles are organized into role sets and become a part of the person's personality.

Roles thus serve as norms that guide the individual in his relationship with others, however, because each individual's experiences are unique, he may define his role components differently and may have idiosyncratic norms of performed and expected behavior, thus creating a strain upon his role partner. (Hurvitz, 1961, p. 301)

Tharp (1963) concurred with Hurvitz but arrived at his decision in a different manner. He stated that so many variables of marriage roles exist that it is impossible to consider them all separately. He used factor analysis to synthesize 98 raw variables of the marriage roles into five basic classes; each class describing a major area of marriage function. Tharp found that one possible area of conflict between husbands and wives arises from the discrepancy apparent between their different patterns of role expectations and role enactments. He said that the discrepancy was likely to be more notable for women than for men.

The foregoing discussion indicates the importance of roles in the marital relationship, both roles actually performed and those expected of one spouse by the other. Research has focused on husband's and wife's perception of their own and their spouse's roles and their behavior in

these roles in a face-to-face relationship. The question arises: what would happen to role performances and role expectations and the importance placed on each person's various role-sets if husband and wife were separated for a relatively long period of time, but with the expectation of being reunited? Will the husband perceive his roles of husband, companion, and father as important as the roles he is filling during the separation? The same or similar questions could be asked concerning each role normally performed by a husband or wife.

Statement of Problem

This study focused on a group of husbands and wives who had been separated by the Vietnam War. At the time of the study they had been separated approximately six months but will be apart a total of thirteen months before being reunited. Some of the couples will spend one week together in Hawaii during the thirteen-month separation. The questionnaire was answered by all respondents before meeting their spouses in Hawaii.

The problem as defined here is to determine in what ways husbands and wives who are separated think of each other. Since roles serve as norms that guide the individual in relationships with others, it follows that they might also be the norms that guide one person's thoughts of another during absence. A wife may think of her husband in terms of certain roles that he has filled or is currently filling, and the husband may think of his wife in the same way.

Literature concerning marital roles indicates that husbands and wives are not always congruent in their role expectations and role enactments. It may also be true that during a separation they are not congruent concerning the roles they think of each other filling or in these roles that each considers most important for himself and for his spouse.

It was not the intent of this study to explore normative role patterns of husbands and wives who are separated, but rather to determine their perception of each other using marital roles as the vehicle to convey perception.

Hypotheses

1. Husbands indicate a greater change in rank order of importance for roles following separation than wives.
2. Accuracy of role ranking as perceived by spouse is independent of sex.
3. There is no significant relationship between the roles in which spouses most often perceive each other and those they rank as being most important for each other.
4. There is no significant difference between the level of marital satisfaction expressed by husbands and wives during the separation as compared to their expressed marital satisfaction prior to separation.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Scope of Review

The task of this research was to determine how husbands and wives separated for a relatively long time span perceive each other. Marital roles which might have been performed by the spouses before separation were chosen as the vehicle to convey perception. To adequately survey the literature relative to this study, it has been necessary to separate the review into three distinct divisions: (1) marital roles; (2) separation; and (3) perception.

Marital Roles

A common way to approach the study of marital relations is the use of role theory. A description of role theory was presented by Dyer (1962). One factor that influences a person to behave a particular way in a role is his understanding of cultural norms. Husbands and wives may come from families with similar backgrounds, but there will always be non-shared experiences and different socialization plus pressure from each family of orientation to follow their family behavior patterns. These non-shared norms are often the source of misunderstanding and conflict unless adjustment is made.

In addition to non-shared norms, each person has certain expectations of how the other person should behave in his roles. If one person meets the role expectations of the other, positive sanctions in the form of rewards are forthcoming. If the role expectations are not met by a spouse,

negative sanctions in the form of punishments may result.

Proper role behavior in a modern urban society is largely a matter of adjustment since roles are not clearly defined. Latitude in acceptable role behavior presents freedom of choice, but also many ambiguities of expectation (Rapoport and Rosow, 1957).

Hurvitz (1965) used role theory to determine marital strain caused by role deviation among a random sample of 104 middle-class couples. His findings indicated no clear-cut association between kinds of control roles, marital strain, role deviation, and marital adjustment.

Couch (1958) presented a study of 30 student couples using variables of role, role consensus, evaluation of adequacy of role performance, and role-taking accuracy. He reported that the degree of consensus on roles and the accuracy of role taking seemed to increase with the length of marriage.

In a study using role theory approach to the study of the family and the mental health of its members, Mangus (1957) found that marital role conflicts subject the partners to emotional stresses and strains that have an impact on their mental health.

Another study of the effect of role conflict on mental health was done by Rapoport and Rosow (1957). Experience with patients in the Social Rehabilitation Unit of Belmont Hospital indicated that their behavior problems reflect faulty interpersonal relations with significant others in the patients' normal roles. Patients with similar emotional problems but with quite different family environments seemed to adjust differently after treatment.

Luckey (1961) is a representative of many studies of marital role performance and expectation between spouses. She used a sample of 81 couples dichotomized as satisfactorily and less satisfactorily married as

indicated by a marital adjustment scale. Each respondent was asked to mark the Interpersonal Check List five times: once each to describe the concepts of self, spouse, mother, father, and ideal self. Luckey found that the satisfied couples were more congruent on every scale tested whether the difference was statistically significant or not. This study indicated the importance of perceptual congruency and marital satisfaction which in some cases is related to the sex of the respondent. The discrepancy scores of satisfied and less satisfied husbands differed more sharply than for wives.

Another study on the relationship between role perception and marital satisfaction was done by Stuckert (1963). His final sample was a group of 50 newly married couples, married nine months or less and with no children. This study revealed that the degree of similarity between the views of newly married husbands and wives is related to the marital satisfaction of the husband but not of the wife. "The data in this study support the thesis that the husband's role definitions and expectations may be more important to the early success of a marriage than the wife's." (Stuckert, 1963, p. 419)

Dymond (1953) was another who attempted to determine if accuracy of perception of spouse is related to marital satisfaction. She followed the same general procedure as Luckey and Stuckert, dividing her sample of 15 married couples (married six months to 38 years) into happy and unhappy groups. Each respondent filled out two copies of a questionnaire composed of items from the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, one for himself and one as he predicted his spouse would answer. Results of the Dymond study revealed that the happy group made significantly fewer errors in predicting how the spouse would respond and a significantly higher degree of similarity of self-concepts. These results are in general

agreement with both Stuckart and Luckey.

Kragmen (1959) stated that role rights and obligations are not static but change with the life cycle of the family. The roles a person fills and is expected to fill change as the requirements of family living change over the life cycle.

A sample of 59 married student couples was used by Hobart and Klausner (1959) to study several aspects of empathy and communication in relation to marital role disagreement. They found that marital role empathy is not significantly related to marital adjustment. This finding differs from that of Luckey, Stuckert, and Dymond who reported that highly communicative marital relationship is significantly related to marital adjustment for both husbands and wives.

Kogan and Jackson (1964) cast some doubt on the validity of studies using the self and spouse perception technique. They noted that some contradictory findings have been reported about self and spouse perceptions and initiated a study to determine factors associated with the perceiver and with the instrument that might account for the contradictory findings. They asked their respondents to check the LaForge and Suzcik Interpersonal Check List for the concepts of ideal wife, what I am, what most husbands are, and what my husband is. They then compiled two correlations--a spouse correlation which measured the similarity between spouses and a stranger correlation which measured the similarity between non-married spouses who were paired at random. The results showed that the correlations between spouse pairs were not significantly different from the correlations between arbitrarily paired strangers.

The roles assumed in a decision-making process and the formulation of a power structure in marriage are topics which have been researched. Substantial agreement was found between working-class husbands and wives

(84 per cent) concerning who makes the final decision when they are in disagreement (Heer, 1962). The study only considered who makes the important decisions, not what decisions are considered to be important.

According to Blood and Wolfe, (1960) the balance of power is influenced by authority patterns and personal resources brought into marriage, with the aggregate balance of power weighted slightly in the husband's direction. Other factors influence the power structure in marriage. "Today the more successful the husband is in the eyes of the community, the more dominant his part in marital decision making." (Blood and Wolfe, 1960, p. 30) The occupation in which the husband is engaged is a sensitive index, but not as sensitive as his earnings. Educational level and organizational participation also influence the balance of power.

Kenkel and Hoffman (1956) surveyed the extent to which husbands and wives are able to recognize their roles in a family decision-making session. The couples were given a hypothetical \$300 and instructed to jointly decide how it should be spent. The results revealed that couples found it easier to judge who would do the most talking and who would contribute the most suggestions than they did to judge which of them would do the most to keep the session running smoothly.

Kenkel (1961) used a similar design to study three dimensions of family decision making--dominance, persistence, and self-confidence. Dominant men, and to a lesser degree dominant women, were more likely to have their way in decision making. Self-confident women outperformed their husbands in problem-solving attempts more frequently than other women.

Several writers have attempted to determine the conceptions children and adolescents have concerning marital roles. A study by Dunn (1960) was conducted among 436 high school seniors in rural and urban public high

schools in northern Louisiana. She found that traditional role expectations were more frequent for boys, rural youth, and working-class youth. Equalitarian ideas were more often found among the girls, city youth, and those in the higher social strata. Significantly more boys than girls had largely negative attitudes toward the wife working. They agreed that education is important for both the husband and wife and did not expect getting married to keep them from going to college. In regard to social participation, the mean proportion of the students favored equalitarian statements, but they still maintained traditional expectations in certain areas.

One surprising result was that on homemaking items and care of children, boys were more inclined to share tasks than were girls. They agreed that homemaking tasks should be shared if the wife worked. The area in which they expressed the greatest equalitarian conceptions was in the care of the children. This finding disagreed with that of Geiken (1964) who reported that high school students in her study expected the greatest equalitarian behavior in the area of authority patterns, and secondly in the area of child care. Concerning authority patterns, Dunn (1960) reported that many more of the students favored equalitarian patterns than traditional. More boys than girls, however, expressed a desire for traditional authority patterns.

Moser (1961) investigated six variables to determine if they contribute significantly to the formulation of roles in marriage. The variables were: (1) sex; (2) social status; (3) religious affiliation; (4) mental maturity; (5) number of siblings; and (6) sex of siblings. His subjects were 354 white twelfth-grade students in an urban high school in southwestern Florida.

Moser found that there was a significant relationship between marriage role expectations and the sex of the respondent. But in three of the seven sub-scales used, no significant association was found when the scores were correlated according to the total inventory. To put it in Moser's words:

This finding suggests that while young men and young women may appear to be agreed concerning marriage roles in a general way, they may actually have very serious disagreements in more specific areas of inquiry. (Moser, 1961, p. 43)

Attitudes among high school sophomores and seniors in a small mid-west community toward the role of women were assessed by Walters and Ojemann (1952). The subjects were presented a variety of situations in which they could place a sister or wife in a subordinant, superordinant, or partnership role. Both boys and girls most frequently selected the partnership role for both the wife and sister, but the total was lower for the wife. The partnership role was more popular with girls than with boys. Boys selected a subordinant role for women more often than did girls.

Sex-role concepts among eight-and eleven-year-old girls were studied by Hartley and Klein (1959). The ability of the subjects to sex-type certain behaviors in our culture showed that they could differentiate between what is expected of men and what is expected of women. Most of them indicated that they liked the prospect of doing the things they had assigned to women. The subjects maintained quite traditional concepts of sex-connected roles although the traditional sex-role behavior was not apparent in all of their families.

Many aspects of the roles filled by women in our culture are pursued in the literature. The marital roles of men receive much less attention. Weiss and Samelson (1958) discussed the extent of which the major social

roles available to women provide them with feelings of worth. The extent to which a role provides feelings of worth determines the success of the role in competition with other roles. Before marriage, a greater percentage of better educated women do not refer to housework as a role that makes them feel useful and important, but after marriage, education is not an element in determining if housework makes them feel useful or not. Housework in marriage seems to maintain value for the majority of women. The type of occupation in which employed women are engaged seems to be the most important factor in determining if the job provides feelings of worth. Women in professional-managerial positions are most likely to value their jobs, while women in semi-skilled jobs and private household work are least likely. A substantial number of older women indicate an absence of any basis for feelings of worth.

In an attempt to determine if the function of provider is being incorporated into the definition of the role of homemaker, Wise and Carter (1965) obtained a definition of the role of homemaker from married women and their mothers. Both groups were predominately traditional, defining the duties of homemaker in almost identical terms. It should be noted that this study was conducted in Weber County, Utah, an area that is tradition oriented.

An investigation by Empey (1958) tends to support the results of the Wise and Carter study. He found that both high school and college female subjects preferred marriage to a career and aspired to jobs traditionally held by women if a career were necessary. Empey reported that there seems to be a growing tendency for young women to view their role as a dual one, that of preparing for marriage and a productive occupation.

Laddis, (1962) in an examination of the role of father as an index of family integration, asked 3,000 college students to rate the closeness

or distance from each parent as it was remembered up to age fifteen and at present. The study found closeness of children to either the mother or father to be related to positive values, behavior, and self-evaluations. A father-close relationship, however, was more predictive of positive values than was a mother-close relationship. Strong support was found for the belief that how the child feels in relation to both parents is the most predictive of personal and family values.

A concise view of the importance of the husband-father role in the family for the several family members was presented by Lynn (1961). Once the basic needs of food and shelter are provided, the psychological importance of the man's contribution comes to the forefront. For the wife, he is the source of love, emotional support and companionship. The father becomes a representative of all men for the daughter, and from him she learns her expectations concerning men. The father is especially important in the development of a boy as he provides a male model for the boy to emulate.

The question of which spouse performs more instrumental roles in marriage and which one specializes in expressive roles has drawn the attention of several researchers. Another closely related consideration is whether the family is organized along dominant, equalitarian, or submissive lines.

Kotlar (1962) said that in American society the husband role is specialized more in instrumental roles (good provider, position in the community) while the wife role is specialized in the expressive-integrative aspect. She used the Interpersonal Check List to assess role perceptions and role expectations concerning these two marital role components. The sample of 100 middle-class couples was divided into adjusted and non-adjusted categories. Kotlar found no significant

difference between the adjusted and unadjusted husbands and wives on their self perception of instrumental role attitudes. There was a significant difference between the wives on expressive role attitudes, but no significant difference for the husbands, indicating that it is more important for the success of the marriage for the wife to view herself as supportive than for the husband.

A study by Lopata (1965) of 1,000 Chicago area wives substantiates the Kotlar finding that wives are more integrated into the expressive roles and husbands in the instrumental roles. Lopata found that 87 per cent of the women said the most important role of the husband was that of provider, and the role considered most important for wives was that of mother.

It is the contention of Dyer and Urban (1958) that the transition from a patriarchial family system to a system of democratic-equalitarian norms is being institutionalized. If this is the case, it would be expected that both single and married men and women would be in agreement upon the norm. Five areas--child-rearing, decision-making, finances, household tasks, and recreation--were considered. Three of the five areas (child-rearing, decision-making, and recreation) appear to have institutionalized norms of equality since similar responses were given by both married and single men and women. In the areas of finances and household tasks enough disparity in the answers exists to conclude that they are not institutionalized to a high degree.

Yi-Chung Lee (1953) studied the correlation between a person's dominant, equalitarian, or submissive role in marriage and the type of discipline he experienced in his home of orientation and his reaction to that discipline. He found no relationship between the kind of childhood discipline experienced by the husband and the kind of role he plays in his

marriage situation. A significantly larger proportion of wives who said they were allowed to have their own way in childhood were found in the wife dominant group. When both husbands and wives reported that they were satisfied with their home discipline, they were more likely to play equalitarian roles.

Two studies have dealt with the effect of various occupational roles on the definition of husband and wife roles. Himes (1960) gathered evidence from interviews with couples in a Negro middle-class neighborhood which suggests that the occupational experiences of these families have strongly influenced the definition of husband and wife roles.

Through a survey conducted among husbands of working and non-working wives in a small western community, Axelson (1963) discovered that husbands of working wives exhibit beliefs that are considered more democratic than husbands of non-working wives. There was some indication to support the belief that a lower marital adjustment exists for couples with working wives.

Ballweg (1967) discovered no serious problem in the resolution of marital role adjustment after retirement of the husband. There was a decreased activity in the home by the wife coupled with an increase by the husband, but the activities taken over by the husband were selective, being either masculine in nature or marginal and, therefore, not posing a threat to the wife.

Consideration of the division of responsibilities and duties in marriage usually focuses on tasks performed. Levinger (1964) used a sample of 62 middle-class couples to determine if there was specialization in tasks performed and in the social-emotional areas of marriage. On eight of the ten task items presented, there was significant specialization, but there was considerably less contrast between husbands' and wives'

activity in the social-emotional realm. It was also found that marital satisfaction was related far more to social-emotional than to task performance.

Low role segregation between middle-class, middle-aged couples is distinguished by two characteristics--the wife's employment outside the home and the wife's education (Udry and Hall, 1965). Low segregated wives are usually college educated, while high segregated wives tend to be high school educated. The husband's educational level is not related to role segregation. Low segregation of roles also exists if the wife works outside the home. Blood and Wolfe (1960) attribute this to the availability of one partner to perform certain tasks. They say that as long as one partner can as easily perform the task as another, division of labor usually follows traditional lines.

Geiken (1964) developed a Family Responsibility Scale which was concerned with three areas--authority patterns, child-care patterns and housekeeping tasks. She used the scale to determine the amount of sharing in a sample of 190 married college students. The general findings for the couples indicate that they most expected to share authority patterns, the next in order was child-care tasks, and the least shared was housekeeping.

Silverman and Hill (1967) arrived at essential agreement with Blood and Wolfe in a study of task allocation in the United States and Belgium. They advanced three theories; the availability theory, the traditionalism theory, and the family development theory to account for the differences.

The availability theory says that the more available a spouse is to perform household tasks, the more he performs. The family development theory, which most adequately explained the differences in task allocation

in families in both the United States and Belgium, puts the availability theory in time perspective over the couple's life cycle, proposing that task allocation changes as the structure of the family changes over the life cycle. The traditionalism theory, stating that families with traditionalistic orientation are more likely to have culturally prescribed task allocation than modernistically oriented families, did not adequately explain the difference in task allocation in either the United States or Belgium.

Summary

Research in the area of marital roles has revealed several major findings. They are summarized as follows:

1. Role theory is useful when explaining interaction of couples and their behavior in marriage.
2. Couples who are satisfied with their marriage hold a more accurate perception of their spouse than less satisfied couples.
3. The balance of power in marriage is influenced by the personal characteristics and abilities each brings into the marriage.
4. Young people remain quite traditional in their conceptualization of marriage roles, with girls expressing more equalitarian ideas than boys.
5. Although some duties and responsibilities in marriage are shared, household tasks are least likely to be shared.

Separation

Fear connected with thoughts of an impending separation constitutes the first crisis of the separation experience. This fear may affect the family balance before separation actually occurs (Clifton, 1943).

Separation is a marriage hazard, but it is believed it can be minimized with thought, care, and careful planning (Arlett, 1943). A sound marriage that is characterized by healthy, satisfying emotional relationships is in much less danger of disruption than a family that already has some problems at the time of separation (Rogers, 1943). As Brigadier-General Lewis B. Hershey said:

Separation is not necessarily disruption. Since family life began men have gone forth from their families; . . . The family carries on, often becoming more closely knit as it waits and plans for the return of its fathers, sons, and husbands. Such separations frequently are endured for lesser reasons than defense of country. (Gruenberg, 1942, p. 108)

Life in a family is conducted on a primary basis which separation shatters. Each person of a marriage partnership is engaging in new experiences, to the exclusion of the other (Schuetz, 1945). "Thus separation of married couples often means that mutualism is lost, at least temporarily, and regained perhaps with difficulty, or not at all." (McDonagh, 1946, p. 453)

Several writers, Clifton (1943), Burgess (1945), and Hill (1945), have reported that people react differently to separation. In addition to varying reactions to separation, separation may have different meaning for each family member. According to Hill (1945), some men may welcome separation, viewing it as legalized desertion. Others may enjoy the lack of responsibility. Hill states that:

The shorter the marriage, the fewer bonds that tie, the longer the father remains away, the wider the gulf that separates him from his family and loved ones. (Hill, 1945, p. 32)

Cuber (1943) found that a group of college students who went to war became acutely aware of the fact that they were living in a one-sex community and missed the contact with women. Much of the sexual deprivation was compensated for by frank and vulgar language.

Separation may mean something different for women. The wife or mother may become more dependent or self-sufficient as a result of separation (Hill, 1945). She may be forced to face several crises during the absence of her husband including missing the husband, financial problems, child discipline, maladjustment of children, living with in-laws, managing the home, having a baby, and lack of a social life (Hill, 1949).

Duvall (1945) reported that of all the problems faced by wives with husbands at war, loneliness is most often mentioned. She found that degrees of loneliness fall along a continuum ranging from those who experience extreme loneliness and severe tension to the other extreme women who felt little loneliness and feel adequate to meet the situation. In general, the more active wives were less lonely. Wives with children were lower in participation but scored no lower on the loneliness scale. In many cases, the children helped to combat loneliness. Some wives, however, reported that having children restricted their activities.

Hill (1949) reported that the families which made the most satisfactory adjustment to separation were those who partially closed ranks on the father, shifting his responsibilities and activities to other family members and thus continuing the family routine but maintaining close affectional ties through letters. Equalitarian families succeeded more in the face of the crisis of separation than those less well-balanced in power structure. The research by Hill supported his hypothesis that good marital adjustment is predictive of good adjustment to separation.

Communication serves as the contact between family members during separation. Of communication, Hill says:

. . . crises of separation and reunion may be cushioned and even used to strengthen the relationship if the processes of communication are adequate and the avenues kept open. (Hill, 1949, p. 141)

Arlett (1943) said that wives who have children can use information about the children in their letters to make the husband feel he is still a part of the family.

Hill (1945) found that communication can be made ineffective by: (1) inability to write; (2) fear of censorship; and (3) misinterpretation. Waller (1944) continued in the same cautionary tone by stating that communication between loved ones may continue on an apparently high level of understanding, but this may be delusive and unreal with misunderstanding becoming manifest when they are reunited.

One problem of separation noted by Waller (1944), Gregory (1944), and Cuber (1943) is that idealized conceptions of the absent one are built up and may lead to disillusionment upon the return of the service man. Gregory found a positive aspect of idealization. He said that it keeps before the individual an optimistic picture of life conditions.

The absence of the father from the home poses a problem for children. Those who were born during his absence grow up in a fatherless home and may accept their father rather conditionally upon his return (Hill, 1945). Stolz (1954) reported that a first child born during the absence of the father generally has a less satisfactory relationship with his father than children born after his return. The older child may experience strain similar to bereavement during the absence of his father (Hill, 1945).

An increase in maladjustment of children during the absence of the father has been reported. A review of cases from the Bureau of Child Welfare of the City of New York revealed that evidence from the cases supports the theory that children who exhibited problems which were reported to have occurred after the departure of the father were children who came from homes experiencing unstable family relations or where the

father was the more stable parent (Igel, 1945).

Elder (1949) conducted a survey among 32 Des Moines fathers. All were veterans of World War II and had children while serving. Of the 32, one reported that being in the service and away from home had an adverse effect on his current ability to be a good father. Five respondents said that the experience helped them to be better fathers. The other respondents made intermediate statements between the two extremes.

A more recent study by Crain and Stamm (1965) showed that intermittent absence of the father has no significant effect on how the child views him as a figure of authority or on the amount of love the child feels for him. The only significant result was that both boys and girls say that the mother is warmer when the father is not intermittently absent.

The only factor which proved very influential in adjustment to reunion was adjustment to separation (Hill, 1949). A great part of the readjustment between husband and wife is to . . . "re-establish the free flow of communication and emotional give and take." (Waller, 1944, p. 288)

Summary

In summary, it appears that separation is a marriage hazard that can be minimized if the marriage is sound at the time of separation and if lines of communication are kept open. Each family member faces different problems during separation. For women, loneliness appears to be paramount. The problems for children include missing father by the older child and failure of the young child to establish satisfactory father-child relations upon the father's return. Adequate adjustment to separation is most predictive of adjustment to reunion.

Person Perception

"Perception is the over-all activity of the organism that immediately follows or accompanies energistic impingements upon the sense organs." (Bartley, 1958, p. 22) In studying perception, the focus is on what the organism experiences, not what the physical world is or contains. Yet, to predict the behavior of an organism it is almost always necessary to have thorough knowledge about its immediate environment (Dember, 1960).

Perception is composed of input and output, both of which are observable. Perceiving is a cognitive process; a means of knowing, understanding, comprehending, and organizing.

It is to know and comprehend the nature of a stimulus; it is to know the nature of alternatives to a stimulus; and it is to know the structure and organization of sets of stimuli. (Garner, 1966, p. 19)

Person perception is a particular aspect of perception referring to the process by which man comes to know and to think about other persons, their characteristics, qualities, and inner states (Tagiuri, 1968). Person perception is more complex than object perception since it includes physical as well as non-physical attributes (Warr and Knapper, 1966).

As a perceptual object, a person differs from other perceptual stimuli because one perceives or infers primarily psychological properties through various cues. The inferences made are principally about intentions, attitudes, emotions, ideas, thoughts--events that are inside the person and strictly psychological. In the same vein, reference is made to certain psychological qualities of relationships between persons, such as friendship, love, power, and influence.

In addition, in person perception the similarity between the perceiver and the perceived object is greater than in any other case. This unique fact probably inclines and

enables the perceiver to make full use of his own experiences in perceiving, judging, or inferring another's states or intentions. (Tagiuri, 1968, p. 396)

Studies of the interaction situation in person perception were the focus of several writers. Perceptions acquired through a face-to-face interaction are direct perceptions. Person perception which occurs without direct interaction, which is mediated by an intervening communication, is indirect perception. In a study of indirect person perception, Warr and Knapper (1966) presented their British subjects with a nine point scale of polarities on which to indicate expectancies concerning Harold Wilson (then leader of the British Labour Party). Following this, one-half was given the context of a speech made by Wilson with reported crowd favorableness. The other half was given the same speech, but with a report of unfavorable crowd reaction. Their findings revealed that two types of variables, previously established expectancies concerning a person and information presented in an intervening communication, both influence indirect person perception.

In a study of the perception of non-verbal cues, Delaney and Heimann (1966) divided counselors in training who were their subjects into two groups. Each group was to make judgements on a semantic differential scale on the basis of what the concepts shown on a screen via silent motion pictures meant to them at the time of viewing. One group focused its study of non-verbal cues on the cues used by each member of the group. Results showed that the latter group changed in their perceptions of the emotions communicated by non-verbal means, while the former, which had been directed toward the emotional cues in others, changed in their perceptions of the persons communicating non-verbal cues.

Shapiro and Leiderman (1967) studied the arousal correlates of task role and group setting. Their subjects were divided into groups of three

people. Each person was told to guess the color that the experimenter would select. Their actual success or failure, however, was being manipulated so that two were five-sixths correct and one-sixth incorrect and one was five-sixths incorrect and one-sixth correct or vice-versa. Physiological arousal was judged by skin potential level and heart rate. Following the guessing session, each answered a questionnaire concerning how well he thought he did, how well he thought he did compared with how well he should have done, and how well he thought he did compared with how well others did.

The questionnaire showed that group or single status affected role perception. Paired subjects were less extreme in their reports than subjects in single roles. One was more likely to regard his performance as average when another subject shared the same role. The results also showed that task roles are significantly related to skin potential level but independent of heart rate. Failure roles show greater arousal than success, and paired roles show greater arousal than single.

Another study using groups of three was designed to investigate the patterns and correlates of visual interaction in face-to-face groups. Subjects were assigned to 16 groups of three men each and a like number of groups of three women each. Each group was assigned a task which necessitated discussion of ideas. Patterns of visual interaction were recorded by two observers seated behind a one-way mirror. The results revealed that women looked significantly more at one another while speaking and while being spoken to than men. Competition seemed to inhibit mutual glance among high affiliators and increase it among low affiliators (Exline, 1963).

Research designed to study individual-environment interaction through

the use of semantic differential was conducted by Pervin (1967). He used the Transactional Analysis of Personality and Environment which considers student perceptions of themselves, parts of their college environment, and their college environment as a whole. His data gave strong support to the hypothesized positive relationship between perceived self-college similarity and satisfaction. Satisfaction with the self does not appear to be related in a consistent way to satisfaction with the environment. It seems to be the congruency between the characteristics of the individual and the environment that is important in satisfaction rather than the characteristics of the individual or environment alone.

Several studies have shown that the character of the perceiver has an influence on person perception. Two separate studies of authoritarianism and interpersonal perception by Crockett and Meidinger (1956) and Schulberg (1961) measured authoritarianism of each subject with the California F Scale. After a period of interaction, subjects were asked to use the same scale to judge their partners. Both studies revealed that consistently non-authoritarian judges were more capable of distinguishing that others were not like themselves.

In interpersonal situations a person usually gets much information of the other; some is assimilated and some not. Needs of the person are important determinants in influencing which information is assimilated and which is ignored.

Carlson (1961) conducted a study which was concerned with the influence of both general needs and goals specific to a situation on the information which is selected in forming an impression of others. The findings directly support a conclusion that high need intensity leads to a greater acquisition of relevant information than a moderate level of

need intensity. It appears that needs may influence the extent of total assimilation of information as well as selection of kinds of information. High need subjects assimilated more information than low need subjects.

Secord, Backman, and Meredith (1962) used a sample of 132 college students to study the influence of perceiver need in person perception. They administered the Edwards Personal Preference Schedule. An analysis of the results indicated that when liking for the stimulus person was controlled, no appreciable difference was found between inferences made about the stimulus person representing one's high personal preference need and the person representing one's low personal preference need.

Sixty-three graduate students in social work were the subjects of a study by Tripodi (1967) designed to assess the perception of conflict and to investigate the relationships among cognitive complexity, neuroticism and perceived conflict. The results indicated that highly complex subjects perceive more conflict than low complex subjects. It was also suggested that there may be an interaction between neuroticism and cognitive complexity in the perception of conflict, but the finding was not conclusive.

Person perception refers to ways in which one perceives himself as well as others. Often disparity exists between the self-image one holds and his concept of the ideal self.

Katz and Zigler (1967) conducted a study on 120 school children of grades five, eight, and eleven in the Long Island Public Schools to determine if the discrepancy between real and ideal self increases with development. They found that the real self scores were more negative than the ideal self for all grade levels. The magnitude of the difference between real and ideal self was influenced by both age and I.Q. Greater

discrepancy existed between real and ideal self scores at both grades eight and eleven than at grade five. High I.Q. subjects exhibited greater discrepancy between real and ideal scores than low at all grade levels. The larger disparity in older and brighter children was accounted for by both decreased self-evaluations and increased ideal self-images.

A similar study by Achenback and Zigler (1963) was conducted among psychiatric and non-psychiatric hospital patients. They found that high competence psychiatric and non-psychiatric patients reported a significantly greater disparity between real and ideal self than low competence patients.

Altrocchi, Parsons, and Dickoff (1960) found that people who use a repression mode of adaptation to real-ideal self discrepancy had smaller real-ideal discrepancies than those who use a sensitization mode of adaptation. The subjects were given intensive psychotherapeutic training to help them become more aware of the dynamics underlying their behavior. There was no consistency in the repressors and sensitizers change of real-ideal discrepancies.

Accuracy of interpersonal perception has drawn the attention of several investigators. Gline and Richards (1960) and Danielian (1967) used video taped interviews which their subjects were to judge. They both reported that a good judge may be accurate because he has an accurate stereotype or because he is able to predict specific differences between people or both. Danielian reported that although both stereotype accuracy and differential accuracy are important in judging accuracy, they are only slightly related to each other.

Other studies show that stereotyping alone is inadequate for judging accuracy. Sappenfield, Kaplan, and Bologh (1966) found that different

subjects showed high agreement in the judgement of masculinity-femininity, and the true (tested) masculinity-femininity of the subject was zero.

Richards, Cline, and Rardin (1962) divided their subjects into three groups and presented each group with differing amounts of information which they used as a basis for judgment. The subjects could not make accurate judgments on the basis of stereotype alone. They found that differentiation among persons increases as the amount of information provided about them increases.

Gardner and Taylor (1968) also found that the judgment of subjects was influenced by the information provided. The Canadian subjects heard interviews between two English-speaking people, one with a definite French Canadian accent. The message was presented in three ways: (1) anti-stereotype, (2) stereotype, and (3) neutral. The study demonstrated that when a subject is given more information about the target person than mere group identification he will make use of the information even though the ethnic stereotype influences his ratings.

According to Sechrest and Jackson (1961), their study of 60 female student nurses revealed that accuracy of interpersonal prediction is not related to a measure of social intelligence of high repute.

Oakes and Corsini (1961) found that individuals varied greatly in their ability to predict correctly regarding the social traits of another's self image. Using Q sort, students were asked to duplicate the sort the instructor had made regarding himself. The influence of training was made apparent. A subgroup composed of men with experience at the managerial level was significantly more accurate in perception of the instructor's self than a group with no managerial experience.

The first impression formed of another person may hamper accuracy of judgment. Briscoe, Woodyard, and Shaw (1967) found a significant

difference between groups presented with unfavorable descriptions of the subject and groups presented with favorable descriptions. The initially unfavorable impression changed significantly less than the favorable one.

Summary

Person perception is affected by the nature of the stimulus person, the interaction environment, and the character of the perceiver. Accuracy of interpersonal perception seems to be composed of stereotype accuracy, differential accuracy, and the amount of available information about the stimulus person.

Summary and Overview

This review has included coverage of literature in the areas of marital roles, separation of spouses, and person perception. A summary of each of these three has been presented at the end of each section of the review. This leads one to consider how these three distinct areas interact to affect one another.

Roles which a person fills in marriage govern how he interacts with his spouse. Each person may have different concepts concerning his own and his spouse's roles, but these differences are worked out through the primary relationship of marriage. When couples are separated, the primary relationship is broken by a gulf of time and space. Each person maintains his concepts of marital role behavior, but his knowledge of his spouse depends upon past knowledge and the processes of communication. It is likely that an incorrect perception of spouse is more difficult to change through intermediate sources than through personal interaction. It may also be that the fact of separation distorts perception as the absent one is likely to be idealized. Review of literature in the areas of marital

roles, separation of spouses, and person perception reveals a notable gap in regard to how these factors are affected by spouse separation. This study was designed to partially fill that gap by determining how spouses do perceive each other during separation and how the fact of separation affects perception.

PROCEDURE

The description of procedures used in this study includes the development of the questionnaire and the selection and nature of the sample.

Development of Questionnaire

An original questionnaire designed to explore two dimensions of each person's perception of his own roles was developed by the investigator (see Appendix B). Six general roles commonly filled by a man and six commonly filled by a woman were selected to be placed in rank order by each respondent to indicate rank both before and during the separation experience. The procedure was designed to provide classification of the roles considered important by each, the relative change in importance of specific roles that may be attributed to the separation experience, and the accuracy which each subject displays in predicting the response of his spouse. The selection of roles included in the rank order was made from a listing of five important roles for a husband and wife made by a graduate seminar and a similar listing of three important roles for a husband and wife contributed by an undergraduate class in marriage and family relations at Utah State University. The six roles selected for men were father, husband, provider (breadwinner), occupational duties, brother or son, and participant in church and community affairs. The roles of mother, wife, homemaker, career, daughter or sister, and participant in church and community affairs were chosen as representative of the major roles of women.

The second dimension of marital role perception, the roles in which

a husband and wife think of each other during a separation, was determined by a listing of specific questions relating to each of the six major roles which were to be placed in rank order. Respondents indicated whether they thought of their spouse in that particular way by checking responses of always, often, sometimes, seldom, or never. For purposes of analyses, the five point scale was later collapsed into a two-dimensional scale with "always" and "often" considered high responses and "sometimes," "seldom," and "never" considered low responses. A separate listing of questions was developed for men and women.

One index of the Locke-Wallace Short Form Marital Adjustment Test was included in the questionnaire. Respondents were asked to indicate their degree of marital satisfaction as they perceived it during the separation and as it was prior to separation. Although this is a rather subjective procedure and cannot be taken as a definitive measure of marital satisfaction, it can be used to indicate whether a particular respondent thinks that he is more or less satisfied during a separation as compared to before separation. It might have been desirable to include the entire marital adjustment test, but consideration was given to the growing length of the questionnaire when the decision to use only one index was made.

Validity

The questionnaire was considered to be valid if each of the six major roles was surveyed by specific questions pertaining to perception of spouse. A pre-test of the questionnaire was made by nine members of a graduate seminar in family relations before final adoption. They reviewed each specific question relating to perception of spouse and indicated which of the six general roles listed for men and six listed for women was referred

to by the question. Questions which did not relate to a role were deleted. By summarizing the agreement-disagreement alignment of the six roles and the questions judged to be related to each, an appraisal of internal consistency of the instrument is produced. This constitutes a measure of validity which is a moderate extension of face validity. Eighty per cent agreement was achieved for the questionnaire for men and 72 per cent for the questionnaire for women.

Reliability

Reliability was assumed to be sufficient for an exploratory study of this type. Formal assessment and quantitative statements of reliability would emerge from the subject's subsequent utilization of the instrument.

Sample Selection

The sample consisted of a proportionate number of married officers and enlisted men selected in a systematic randomized manner from the total number of married men in Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 225. The total sample was composed of 31 men, 12 officers and 19 enlisted men, and the wife of each. This number represents a 100 per cent return of questionnaires by officers and their wives and a 68 per cent return by enlisted men and their wives. Six additional questionnaires were returned, but since the spouse of each did not return a questionnaire, they could not be included in the sample.

The men were all stationed at DaNang, South Vietnam, at the time they participated in this study. Since that time some of them have been transferred to other bases within South Vietnam. The wives were living in various parts of the United States with the states of Kansas, Ohio,

Illinois, South Carolina, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Texas, Pennsylvania, New York, Alabama, Minnesota, Colorado, Michigan, Virginia, and New Hampshire represented. The rather heavy concentration of Eastern and Southern states reflects the fact that these people were stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina, before the men received orders to Vietnam.

Names and addresses of the men in the squadron were supplied by the Squadron's Commanding Officer. The investigator had access to the addresses of the wives of the officers selected but not those of the wives of the enlisted men. It was necessary to contact the selected enlisted men, gain their cooperation, and request that they send their wife's address.

Some hesitancy to participate was evidenced. A total of three mailings of the questionnaire to the sample was required before response was adequate to allow analyses of the data and completion of the study. The questionnaires were answered during the months of June, July, and August, 1969.

Sample Characteristics

The sample was composed of 31 men and their wives. The total sample breaks down into 19 enlisted men and the wife of each and 12 officers and the wife of each.

Whenever feasible, demographic data have been reported on the sample as a whole, but on occasion the sample was divided into officers and enlisted men if the data on the two groups warranted such. The areas of educational level of respondent and occupational duties of husband were two which required separate review for officers and enlisted men.

The couples had a total of 31 children, giving them a mean of one child per couple. Fourteen couples had no children, and three couples had three children. At the time the questionnaire was answered, the children ranged in age from two months to fourteen years. Three women gave birth to babies after the departure of their husbands. The mean age of the children was five years and seven months, but this presents a slightly distorted picture since a few older children affected the mean. The median age was two years and two months. Length of time married at the time of the husband's departure ranged from two weeks to 14 years. The mean time married was three years.

Of the 31 couples responding, 25 had never been separated due to previous overseas duty before the men left for Vietnam. Six couples reported previous overseas duty separations. Five of the six reported that the men had served one previous 13 month tour in Vietnam. One couple reported two separations because of unaccompanied overseas tours-- 10 months duty in Vietnam and 11 months of duty on a Navy aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean.

During the absence of their husbands, 13 of the women were solely occupied with the responsibilities of wife and mother. Fourteen women were gainfully employed in jobs ranging from school teaching to factory work. Four women were students--three college students and one in beauty school.

Five of the twelve officers included in the study were pilots of the A6-A "Intruder." Six others were bombardier-navigators on the same aircraft. Together these two constitute the air crew that flies the "Intruder." One officer in the sample was a maintenance officer and does not fly.

All of the enlisted men were ground support for the squadron. Their jobs in Vietnam vary from jet mechanic to office clerk, but all jobs are

in one way or another connected with the aircraft since the duty of the squadron in Vietnam is to fly combat missions. None of the men were located on what would be commonly considered a "front line" since they were stationed at the air base in DaNang.

The level of education attained by the respondents varied quite sharply between officers and enlisted men and officer's wives and the wives of enlisted men. A more complete picture of the sample is attained by viewing each group separately as presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Highest education level attained by sample

Educational level	Officers		Officer's wives		Enl. Men		Enl. Men's wives	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
High school graduate	12	100	12	100	19	100	16	84
Education beyond high school (other than college)	1	8	2	17	3	16	3	16
Some college (ranging from 1 to 4+ years)	10	83	8	68	3	16	3	16
College graduate	9	75	5	42	0	0	1	5

Analyses of Data

Data were analyzed by means of Spearman Rank-Order Correlation, t test, and chi square. Correlational technique was used to determine the significance of change in rank order of marital roles before and during separation. The t test was used to determine the spouses' accuracy of

perception of each other. Variation in marital satisfaction before and after separation and between the spouses was statistically tested by the use of chi square. The .05 level of confidence was employed as the criterion of statistical significance.

FINDINGS

Four hypotheses were tested. Of these four, one was rejected, one was only partially rejected (by women, but not men), one was not rejected, and the fourth was not supported.

Hypothesis 1

The first hypothesis, which states that husbands will indicate a greater change in the rank order that they place on their major roles after separation than will the wives, was not supported. It was believed that husbands would change the rank order of important roles more than wives because their situation would change more than that of their wives. The men entirely left a home atmosphere, trading it for a military base in Vietnam. The wives stayed in the United States, some living with their parents, some moving to their own apartments near the home of relatives, and some even staying where they were at the time of the husband's departure. For these reasons it was thought that the wives' roles would remain more constant than those of their husbands.

When the results of the frequency of change in rank order of roles were surveyed for husbands and wives, it was found that not only was the hypothesis not supported, but the change was in the opposite direction of that hypothesized. The total frequency of change for men was 86, and for women it was 88. The difference was so small that it was obviously not significant and the hypothesis was not statistically tested.

Although the total frequency of change was not significantly different between men and women, it was deemed worthwhile to more closely view the

several roles which were ranked. A breakdown of the amount of change for each role might reveal that one role changed more than others. It would also allow a comparison of the change in rank given to each role by husbands and wives from the time prior to the separation to the time during the separation and might reveal a greater difference between the sexes in role ranking than simply looking at the over-all frequency of change.

Spearman Rank-Order Correlations were performed on the six roles placed in rank order of importance by men both before and during the separation and on six roles placed in rank order by women. A high correlation would indicate that the rank order had been changed very little due to separation. A low correlation would indicate just the opposite. The correlations were significant at the .01 level for four of the six roles for men and at the .05 level for the other two. Five of the six roles for women were significantly correlated at the .01 level; the other was not significant. These results, listed in Table 2, show that, as viewed by both husbands and wives, the order of importance of roles was very similar during the separation to what it was before separation.

One role for women, that of mother, was not a significant correlation which indicates that the role of mother was accorded greater change in placement in rank order of importance during separation than any other. The change was generally in the direction of upward in importance during separation. In many cases "mother" was placed second in importance by the wives before the departure of their husbands, but then elevated to first after he left for Vietnam. The non-significant correlation can also be partly attributed to the fact that three respondents had babies after their husbands departed. In the case of one woman who had a baby after her husband left, mother role rank moved from fifth place to first.

Table 2. Rank-order correlation of husband and wife roles before and during separation

Roles for men	Correlation
1. Brother or son	.608**
2. Participant in church and community affairs	.751**
3. Husband	.619**
4. Father	.623**
5. Occupational duties	.412*
6. Provider	.374*
Roles for women	Correlation
1. Daughter or sister	.665**
2. Participant in church and community affairs	.725**
3. Career	.630**
4. Wife	.580**
5. Homemaker	.632**
6. Mother	.371

**significant at the .01 level

* significant at the .05 level

Another woman who had a baby after the departure of her husband transferred the role rank of mother from sixth place to first. Such extreme changes in position have a noticeable affect on correlation.

The roles of "provider" and "occupational duties" for men had a lower correlation than the other four male roles. This indicates that these roles had been changed in rank order more often than the other four. Both roles were generally ranked higher in importance by the men during separation than they had been prior to separation.

Hypothesis 2

The second hypothesis indicated that husbands would be no more accurate

than wives in ranking the spouse's roles as the spouse had done. This null hypothesis was rejected. It would generally be assumed, however, that if one sex were more accurate than another, wives should be more accurate in ranking their husbands' roles than vice versa since women are usually accorded an intuitive, empathetic orientation.

When determining the accuracy with which a wife ranked her husband's role, the ranking her husband gave himself was considered correct and the wife was given one point for each agreement. Agreement in rank was determined for both the rank order of roles before separation and during separation. A similar procedure was used to determine the husband's accuracy when predicting the way his wife would rank her own roles.

A t test was used to determine statistical significance. Contrary to the hypothesis, there was a significant difference at the .01 level between the husband's accuracy of predicting the role rank reported by his wife and the wife's accuracy of predicting her husband's rank order. Contrary to popular belief, husbands exhibited greater accuracy in predicting how wives would rank their own roles than wives did concerning how husbands would rank their own roles. One possible explanation for the greater accuracy of husbands is that the over-all pattern of behavior has changed more for the husband during this separation than for the wife, making it more difficult for her to predict him while he can draw assumption about her from his knowledge of her behavior patterns before his departure. This point is further amplified in the discussion chapter.

A second t test was performed to determine if there was a significant difference between the wife's ability to predict the rank order her husband placed on his roles before separation as compared to her ability to predict the rank order during separation. The same test was done to determine his accuracy of prediction of her both before and during

separation. Both husbands and wives were significantly more accurate (.01 level) predicting the spouses' role rankings before separation.

Tables 3 and 4 show how subjects ranked their own roles during separation. Couples with children and those without children were listed separately since the presence or absence of children affects the order of importance placed on roles, especially the roles of father and mother.

As would be expected, women with children ranked the role of mother high. Eighty-three per cent placed it first in order of importance. Women without children were just the opposite. Sixty per cent of the women with no children said that the mother role was in sixth place.

The career role ranked much higher for women with no children. Forty-six per cent placed the career role in either first or second position while only 11 per cent of the women with children said career ranked in the top two positions.

The most interesting difference between women with and without children occurred in the ranking of the wife role. During separation the wife role was ranked first by 78 per cent of the women without children but by only 17 per cent of those with children. Ninety-three per cent of the women without children ranked the role of wife in one of the top two positions, but only 50 per cent of the women with children placed it in one of the top two positions. The role ranked first most often by women with children was that of mother (83 per cent). The role ranked first most often by women without children was that of wife (78 per cent).

Differences in role ranking by men with and without children are not as great as they are for women. Neither group of men show interest in the roles of church and community affairs and brother or son. Men who have children do not rank the parent role as high as their wives. This probably reflects the fact that women are more child centered than men.

Table 3. Role ranking during separation by women with and without children

Role	Women with children			Women with no children		
	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%
Mother	1	15	83	1	0	0
	2	3	17	2	1	10
	3	0	0	3	1	10
	4	0	0	4	1	10
	5	0	0	5	1	10
	6	0	0	6	6	60
Participant in church and community affairs	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2	2	11	2	0	0
	3	3	17	3	3	25
	4	4	22	4	4	33
	5	5	28	5	4	33
	6	4	22	6	1	8
Homemaker	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2	5	28	2	4	36
	3	5	28	3	2	18
	4	5	28	4	3	27
	5	1	6	5	2	18
	6	2	11	6	0	0
Career	1	0	0	1	3	23
	2	2	11	2	3	23
	3	0	0	3	2	15
	4	1	6	4	1	8
	5	4	22	5	3	23
	6	11	61	6	1	8
Wife	1	3	17	1	10	78
	2	6	33	2	2	15
	3	7	39	3	1	8
	4	1	6	4	0	0
	5	1	6	5	0	0
	6	0	0	6	0	0
Daughter or sister	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2	0	0	2	3	25
	3	3	17	3	3	25
	4	7	39	4	3	25
	5	7	39	5	1	8
	6	1	6	6	2	17

Table 4. Role ranking during separation by men with and without children

Role	Men with children			Men with no children		
	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%
Participant in church and community affairs	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2	0	0	2	0	0
	3	0	0	3	1	8
	4	1	6	4	1	8
	5	6	33	5	5	38
	6	11	61	6	6	46
Brother or son	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2	0	0	2	0	0
	3	0	0	3	1	8
	4	3	17	4	7	54
	5	10	56	5	2	15
	6	5	28	6	3	23
Father	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2	6	33	2	0	0
	3	6	33	3	2	18
	4	6	33	4	3	27
	5	0	0	5	4	36
	6	0	0	6	2	18
Provider	1	3	17	1	1	8
	2	7	39	2	9	61
	3	6	33	3	3	23
	4	2	11	4	0	0
	5	0	0	5	0	0
	6	0	0	6	0	0
Husband	1	6	33	1	8	62
	2	3	17	2	1	8
	3	6	33	3	3	23
	4	2	11	4	1	8
	5	1	6	5	0	0
	6	0	0	6	0	0
Occupational duties	1	9	50	1	4	31
	2	2	11	2	3	23
	3	0	0	3	3	23
	4	4	22	4	1	8
	5	1	6	5	2	15
	6	2	11	6	0	0

Most importantly, it reflects the fact that the men are in Vietnam and separated from their children while their wives are with the children.

Hypothesis 3

The third hypothesis did not lend itself to statistical testing but can be adequately described and explained. The null hypothesis states that there is no significant relationship between the roles in which spouses most often think of each other and those they consider most important. It was decided that this would give a more accurate picture of the congruency of thought patterns since when all six roles are considered, some may not apply and it becomes problematical for the respondent to determine which should be ranked lower. For instance, he and his wife may have no children, she may live with her parents during his absence and not be gainfully employed. That would mean that she did not fit the roles of mother, career, or homemaker. But when he was asked to place those roles in rank order, he could have put "career" as high as fourth place, deciding to place "mother" and homemaker" after "career" even though she was not gainfully employed. This would have distorted the decision of whether his perceptions of his wife were congruent with the roles he considered important. A similar situation could have occurred for wives ranking the roles of their husbands.

Respondents placed their spouses' roles in rank order for the period during separation and also for the period before separation. Questions pertaining to perception of spouse were designed to find out how they perceived their spouse during separation. When a comparison was made to determine if spouses perceived each other in the roles they said were most important for each other, the perception of spouse during separation was compared to the way they ranked their spouse's roles during the

separation.

First and second rankings of husbands and wives were compared. This revealed that wives were more congruent between the roles they ranked as important for their husbands and the way they perceived them than were husbands in the roles that they said ranked first and second in importance. Two women frequently thought of their husbands in one of the two roles that they said were most important, but not in the other, and two were totally non-congruent; they reported low perception of their husbands in the roles they said were most important. In both non-congruent cases, the women said that the occupational duties of the husband and the role of provider were most important during the separation but infrequently thought of their husbands in this way. Rather, they tended to think of their husbands more in the husband-father roles.

The picture for men is not as clear. Forty-two per cent, or 13 out of 31, were only partially congruent between the way they ranked the roles of their wives and the way they perceived their wives. Two men were totally non-congruent reporting that they seldom thought about their wives in the roles they said were most important for them. Only 15 out of 31, or less than 50 per cent, were congruent between the roles they said were most important for their wives and the way they perceived their wives.

Men who had children were more likely to be congruent between the roles they ranked as important for their wives and the way they thought of their wives. They tended to rank the roles of mother and wife high and thought of their wives in this way. Those without children were less congruent, especially if their wives were working. They tended to rank the roles of wife and career high but did not think of their wives in the career role. This point is further amplified in the discussion chapter.

Tables 5 and 6 break down the perception of spouses according to sex and the presence or absence of children. The perception column shows the actual number of responses made pertaining to a certain role. The total possible column is the number of responses possible for each role if all subjects responded on all questions pertaining to the role. The column labeled per cent of total shows what per cent of the total possible responses was made by the subjects. This was arrived at by dividing the perception column by the total possible column.

Hypothesis 4

The fourth hypothesis of this study was rejected. The hypothesis states that there is no significant difference between the level of marital satisfaction expressed by husbands and wives during the separation as compared to their expressed marital satisfaction prior to separation. The chi square test was applied and revealed that there was a significant difference at the .01 level when the total sample was considered. As a group, there was significantly greater marital satisfaction before the husbands and wives were separated and the null hypothesis was rejected.

Separate chi square tests were performed on a breakdown of the sample to determine if variance in marital satisfaction existed within the sample. The results showed that there was a significant difference in the level of marital satisfaction for both the enlisted men and their wives at or beyond the .05 level. As would be expected, they were more satisfied before separation occurred. The officers and their wives also reported greater marital satisfaction before separation, but the difference was not statistically significant for either group. Table 7 lists the percentages for each group stating that they were average, below average, or above average in marital happiness both before and during separation.

Table 5. Husband's perception of wife in six major roles expressed in frequencies and percentages

	Roles					
	Mother	Participant in church and community affairs	Homemaker	Career	Wife	Daughter or sister
Perception by officers	59	7	57	0	115	2
Total possible	108	48	120	24	144	24
Per cent of total	54	15	48	0	80	8
Perception by enlisted men	103	16	112	3	188	5
Total possible	162	72	180	36	216	36
Per cent of total	64	22	62	8	82	14
Perception by men with children	133	17	107	4	163	6
Total possible	153	68	170	34	204	34
Per cent of total	87	25	63	12	80	18
Perception by men without children	34	10	62	1	130	3
Total possible	117	53	130	26	156	26
Per cent of total	29	19	48	3	83	12

Table 6. Wife's perception of husband in six major roles expressed in frequencies and percentages

	Roles					
	Participant in church and community affairs	Brother or son	Father	Husband	Provider	Occupational duties
Perception by officers' wives	7	9	55	134	8	24
Total possible	36	24	96	216	12	36
Per cent of total	19	38	57	62	67	67
Perception by enlisted men's wives	14	22	111	247	16	46
Total possible	57	38	152	342	19	57
Per cent of total	25	58	73	72	84	81
Perception by women with children	14	16	100	212	13	39
Total possible	51	34	136	306	17	51
Per cent of total	27	47	74	69	76	76
Perception by women without children	8	15	57	177	10	28
Total possible	42	28	112	252	14	42
Per cent of total	19	54	41	70	71	67

Table 7. Perceived degree of marital happiness during separation and before separation

Subjects	During separation		Before separation	
	% average or below	% above average	% average or below	% above average
All men	25	74	3	97
All women	55	45	13	87
Officers	17	83	8	92
Enlisted men	32	68	0	100
Officers' wives	50	50	17	83
Enlisted men's wives	53	47	11	89

SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

Summary

The intent of this study was to determine the way each spouse perceived the other during a separation. Marital roles were used as the vehicle to convey perception. Four hypotheses were employed to guide the study:

1. Husbands indicate a greater change in rank order of importance for roles following separation than wives.
2. Accuracy of role ranking as perceived by spouse is independent of sex.
3. There is no significant relationship between the roles in which spouses most often perceive each other and those they rank as being most important for each other.
4. There is no significant difference between the level of marital satisfaction expressed by husbands and wives during the separation as compared to their expressed marital satisfaction prior to separation.

The sample was composed of 31 married couples. Twelve of the men were officers and 19 were enlisted men. The men were members of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 225 stationed at DaNang, South Vietnam. Their wives resided in various parts of the United States. The couples had been married a mean number of three years at the time of the husband's departure and had a mean of one child each.

A questionnaire designed to explore each spouse's perception of the other during separation and the accuracy of that perception was designed by the investigator. The questionnaire was pre-tested on a graduate

seminar in marriage and family relations at Utah State University before being adopted in its final form.

The first hypothesis was not supported. Of the three null hypotheses, number two was rejected, three was not rejected, and number four was rejected. The major findings are summarized as follows:

1. Correlation of roles ranked in order of importance before and after separation by respondents was significant at or beyond the .05 level for all roles except that of mother. This indicates that there was really very little perceived change in the importance of roles during separation. The mother role was most variable.

2. Husbands were significantly more accurate than wives in duplicating the ranking of roles by spouse.

3. Both husbands and wives were significantly more accurate predicting the role ranking of the other before separation than they were in predicting how the other would rank his roles after separation.

4. Wives were more congruent than husbands in perception of the spouse in roles that they ranked as being highly important for the spouse.

5. Men who had children tended to be congruent between thought patterns about their wives and the roles they ranked as important for them. They usually ranked the roles of wife and mother high and often thought of their wives in these roles. This congruency did not exist with men who had no children.

6. There was significantly greater marital satisfaction before separation.

7. Perception of very high marital satisfaction after separation indicates that idealization or glossing of the absent situation and

absent person occurred.

Discussion

The several findings of this study open new areas of inquiry, providing avenues for stimulating questions about husband and wife interaction. The most conspicuous lacks are any answers to why the results were as they were. Providing answers to why the results were as they were was not the intent of the study but the questions still remain. There is room for much speculation, but it must be considered as just that.

When total frequency of change of rank order of roles was considered, it was so similar for husbands and wives that it could hardly be differentiated. There was just slightly more change by wives than by husbands, but if only one wife had changed one fewer position or one husband changed one more position, the frequency would have been identical.

The high correlation on almost all of the roles further validated the fact that change in rank order of roles was only slight for both husbands and wives. But why was the change slight, especially for husbands who actually evidenced a rather radical change in their living situation? It appears that in the minds of the men their roles did not change. They considered their roles of husband and father to remain stable even though they were husband and father in absentee; or on the other extreme, they have no more to do with church and community affairs in the United States than they do now in Vietnam.

The roles of "occupational duties" and "provider" had a considerably lower correlation than did the other four roles for men, which indicated that there was more change in the rank order of those two roles. In both cases these two roles were ranked higher during the separation.

The same two roles were elevated by the wives when the wives ranked the roles of their husbands during the separation. It was interesting to note that occupational duties were more important for officers than for enlisted men. Occupational duties were ranked first in importance during the separation by 67 per cent of the officers but by only 42 per cent of the enlisted men. A similar result occurred when wives ranked the roles of their husbands during the separation. Occupational duties were placed first by 75 per cent of the officers' wives, but only 42 per cent of the enlisted men's wives placed it first.

Occupational duties are clearly more important for officers than for enlisted men. It is possible to postulate several explanations. Many of the enlisted men joined the Marine Corps to keep from being drafted, and some may have actually been drafted into the Marine Corps. This is not true of the officers. The types of jobs they are performing in the Marine Corps may also reflect their dedication to their occupations. It may be that the officers, who are almost all pilots or bombardier-navigators, find their jobs more challenging and stimulating and are more dedicated to them than are the enlisted men. The role rank that wives gave the occupational duties of their husbands clearly mirrors the husbands' attitudes. It shows that wives are aware of their husbands' feelings toward their occupations and give similar responses.

Of all roles ranked by both men and women, the role of mother was changed the most in rank order position. In many cases, wife role rank was highest before the departure of the husband and the mother role was ranked second. After the husband left, the order was often reversed with mother ranking first and wife second.

Although the rank order of roles was relatively stable, some role transition has taken place as evidenced by the changes in the rank order

of the roles of mother, occupational duties, and provider. This is an example of adjustment to separation. When the couples are reunited, it will be necessary for them to adjust their roles once more and it may not always be done with ease. It may be hard for a wife to elevate her husband back into the role or prominence which he filled in her life before his departure. And if she does make this transition, it may be difficult for the child to once again share his mother's attention with someone else.

It is generally agreed that women are more perceptive and empathetic than men, but that was not true of this sample. Husbands were significantly more correct predicting the way their wives would rank their own roles than were wives in predicting husbands. Perhaps this can be explained by noting that both husbands and wives were more accurate judging the other's roles before separation. As has been stated before, the husband's living situation changed more radically than the wife's. He could use his knowledge of the role patterns of his wife before separation, a time when there was intimate interaction between the two, as a predictive base for her role patterns after the separation. The same would not be true for the wife. Although she had the same intimate interaction with her husband, she had not experienced the same things he experienced during the separation, making her basis for judgment less accurate than his.

Such rationale might be useful in explaining his greater accuracy when predicting her roles during separation, but he was also more accurate when predicting the important roles of his wife before the separation occurred. Husband and wife had similar knowledge about each other on which to base the judgment, but still he was more accurate.

Both husband and wife were significantly more accurate when they predicted the way the other would rank his roles in importance before the separation than they were in predicting the rank for after separation.

Some of the mutuality was lost during separation. Separation of marriage partners places time and space between them. It appears that time is easier to bridge than space. The couples bridge time by going back in memory and remembering the person as he was. Space is more difficult to traverse. Even though channels of communication are open, it seems that it is more difficult to acquire an accurate picture of a person who is thousands of miles away than it is to maintain an accurate picture of a person formed at least six months earlier.

Wives were more congruent between roles they considered important for their husbands, and perception of their husbands in those roles, than were husbands. Closer scrutiny of the individual responses revealed some of the reason behind the lack of congruency on the part of the husbands. Men who had children tended to be congruent in the way they thought of their wives since they ranked the roles of mother and wife high and often thought of their wives in these ways. Men with no children were more apt to be non-congruent, especially if their wives were employed. Career was ranked high, usually accompanied by a high ranking for the role of wife, but the men seldom thought of their wives as career women and were thus only partially congruent between role-ranking and thought patterns. Another role that frequently received a high rank order but infrequent thought was that of homemaker. Two men were totally non-congruent having infrequent thoughts of their wives in the two roles which were ranked highest. In both cases the roles of career and participant in church and community affairs were thought to be most important for their wives during the separation, but they seldom thought of their wives in these roles.

The findings for both husbands and wives concerning how they perceive their spouses during the absence reveals that the emotionally charged,

family-bound thoughts predominate while perceptions of the spouse in situations external to the home setting are much less frequent. It may be that such thoughts give solace during lonely hours and make the time separated and the gulf of thousands of miles easier to bear. It seems logical that a woman would gain little support by thinking of her husband washing the car, but that might not be true if she thought of the fun she and her husband had together washing the car. Such thoughts may be a means of sharing with her husband in a vicarious manner. Having emotionally charged thoughts of the absent person may also be a further extension of idealization.

Three specific questions on the wife's form pertained to the role of occupational duties of their husbands. Women were asked to indicate whether they thought of their husbands as Marines, defenders of the country, or fighters. In many cases they had frequent thoughts of their husbands as Marines and defenders of the country, and although both labels imply fighting, they infrequently thought of their husbands as fighters. Two possible explanations could account for their unwillingness to think of their husbands as fighters, but the latter is more plausible. The men were not stationed on what would be considered a "front line" although the air crew flies over such areas and the base itself frequently receives enemy shelling. The second and more acceptable explanation is that the women repressed the idea of their husbands engaging in combat, finding the threat posed by such thoughts too great.

The sample expressed significantly greater marital satisfaction before separation, and both husbands and wives were significantly more accurate predicting the role ranking of the other before separation than they were in predicting how the other would rank his roles after separation. These two findings, when viewed jointly, tie in with information found in the

literature concerning marital roles. Luckey (1961), Stuckert (1963), and Dymond (1953) reported that accuracy of perception of spouse is positively related to marital satisfaction. A similar conclusion can be drawn concerning the respondents in this study. At a time when their judgment of each other is more accurate (before separation), they report greater marital satisfaction. More accurate knowledge of the spouse cannot be given total credit for the greater marital happiness, but it should be considered as one of the contributing factors.

One of the most readily observable facts of this study is the extremely high perception of marital happiness, especially by husbands. This indicates that men may be more romantic than women. It may also be a reflection of their situations. In many cases, the women carried on a pattern of life similar to that before the husbands' departure with the exception that there is no man in the house. The pattern of life changed completely for the men. The total absence of anything similar to home and family life may make them romanticize to a greater extent than the wives, and thus, judge their marriages to be happier than do the wives.

For all groupings the perception of happiness was lower for the period during the separation. Several respondents indicated on the questionnaire that they perceived their marital happiness as being lower during separation because of the absence of the spouse and its concomitant loneliness.

The very high ratings of marital happiness before separation tend to show idealization of the absent person and the absent situation. It cannot be said without reservation that the self-ratings imposed by the respondents are incorrect, but it can be observed that they are very high. It may well be that since the respondents were stating the level of marital happiness prior to separation after the separation had actually occurred,

they were idealizing the absent person and the absent situation. It is likely that they were forgetting the disagreements, the baby that cried all night, and the screen door that needed repair and remembering only the mate who was a joy to be with and the fun they had together, how sweet the baby looked the day he left, and how much he wished he were sitting in his nice cozy living room rather than in a tin hut or tent in Vietnam.

Suggestions for Further Research

This study only scratches the surface of possible areas of inquiry. For many years families have been separated while the husband pursued some endeavor at a far-away place. Since World War II, however, the literature shows that interest in separation and its effects on all family members has passed out of existence.

A follow-up study of this sample would be in order to determine:

1. If the apparent idealization continued after the return of the husband, and if so, how long.
2. How idealization during absence effects the process of readjustment.
3. Whether the husbands retain their superior ability to predict wives after reunion.

Since the findings of this study concerning husbands' and wives' ability to predict one another were not what would commonly be expected, it would be useful if further research were done into this area to determine if the predictive ability of men remains more stable after a separation while that of women decreases. Such a study would be of value whether done as a follow-up of the same sample or with a different sample.

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APPENDIXES

Appendix AKey for QuestionnaireForm M

Questions one through 39 relate to one of six marital roles for women. The questions relate to the roles as follows:

<u>Role</u>	<u>Question number</u>
Mother	1, 2, 13, 14, 25, 26, 27, 28, 35
Homemaker	4, 5, 16, 17, 18, 29, 30, 34, 39
Participant in church and community affairs	10, 23, 37, 38
Career	3, 15
Wife	6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 19, 20, 21, 22, 31, 32, 33, 36
Daughter or sister	11, 24

Form F

Questions one through 35 relate to one of six marital roles for men. The questions relate to the roles as follows:

<u>Role</u>	<u>Question number</u>
Participant in church and community affairs	17, 21, 28
Brother or son	11, 29
Father	8, 9, 10, 18, 19, 20, 27, 35
Husband	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34
Provider	5
Occupational duties	12, 22, 30

Appendix BQuestionnaire

Part I: General Information

Sex: Male _____ Female _____

Number of children _____

Age of child(ren):

1. _____	4. _____
2. _____	5. _____
3. _____	6. _____

Length of time married:

Years _____ Months _____

Length of time separated:

Months _____

Have you been separated from spouse for overseas duty before?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, give dates and reason:

Dates _____ Reason _____

Main duty of husband during the current tour _____

Current occupation of wife _____

Amount of education:

_____ Less than high school graduate	_____ Senior
_____ High school graduate	_____ College graduate
_____ Some school after high school	_____ Some post-graduate work
_____ College Freshman	_____ Advanced degree
_____ Sophomore	_____ Other
_____ Junior	

Religious preference:

_____ Catholic	_____ Other
_____ Protestant	_____ None

Part II: Form F

Check the dot on the scale line below which best describes the degree of happiness, everthing considered, of your marriage at the present time. The middle point, "happy" represents the degree of happiness which most people get from marriage, and the scale gradually ranges on one side to those few who are very unhappy in marriage, and on the other to those few who experience extreme joy or felicity in marriage.

0	2	7	15	20	25	35
.
Very Unhappy			Happy	Perfectly Happy		

The following are six marital roles often considered important for a women. Rank these roles in order of importance, as you are currently filling them. Place a "1" after the most important, "2" after the next most important, and so on.

Role	Ranking
1. Mother	_____
2. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
3. Homemaker	_____
4. Career	_____
5. Wife	_____
6. Daughter or sister	_____

The following are six marital roles often considered important for a man. Rank these roles, in order of importance, as your husband is currently filling them. Place a "1" after the most important, "2" after the next most important, and so on.

Role	Ranking
1. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
2. Brother or son	_____
3. Father	_____
4. Husband	_____
5. Provider (breadwinner)	_____
6. Occupational duties	_____

Rank the following marital roles for a woman, in order of importance, as you were filling them prior to the departure of your husband.

Role	Ranking
1. Mother	_____
2. Participant in church or community affairs	_____
3. Homemaker	_____
4. Career	_____
5. Wife	_____
6. Daughter or sister	_____

Rank the following marital roles for a man, in order of importance, as your husband was filling them prior to his departure.

Role	Ranking
1. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
2. Brother or son	_____
3. Father	_____
4. Husband	_____
5. Provider (breadwinner)	_____
6. Occupational duties	_____

Check the dot on the scale line below which best describes the degree of happiness, everything considered, of your marriage prior to separation. The middle point, "happy" represents the degree of happiness which most people get from marriage, and the scale gradually ranges on one side to those few who are very unhappy in marriage, and on the other to those few who experience extreme joy or felicity in marriage.

0	2	7	15	20	25	35
.
Very Unhappy			Happy	Perfectly Happy		

The following questions are designed to determine in what ways husbands and wives who are separated think of each other. Do not consider what most husbands do or should do normally or even what your own husband does most of the time. When you think of him, how do you most often think of him? This may or may not be the role he most frequently fills. Answer each question by checking the appropriate box indicating your thought patterns at the end of the question.

	Always	Often	Some- times	Seldom	Never
1. Providing emotional support for me					
2. A handyman around the house					
3. Someone I love					
4. A host					
5. The person who provides leadership in the family					
6. A person who provided religious guidance for me					
7. The person who provides money for us to live on					
8. Providing emotional support for our children					

32. Someone who helps me with my chores at home
33. A person who provides me with mental stimulation
34. The head of the home
35. A person who provides religious guidance for our children

Always	Often	Some- times	Seldom	Never

Part II: Form M.

Check the dot on the scale line below which best describes the degree of happiness, everything considered, of your marriage at the present time. The middle point, "happy" represents the degree of happiness which most people get from marriage, and the scale gradually ranges on one side to those few who are very unhappy in marriage, and on the other to those few who experience extreme joy or felicity in marriage.

0	2	7	15	20	25	35
Very Unhappy			Happy	Perfectly Happy		

The following are six marital roles often considered important for a man. Rank these roles, in order of importance, as you are currently filling them. Place a "1" after the most important, "2" after the next most important, and so on.

Role	Ranking
1. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
2. Brother or son	_____
3. Father	_____
4. Husband	_____
5. Provider (breadwinner)	_____
6. Occupational duties	_____

The following are six marital roles often considered important for a woman. Rank these roles, in order of importance, as you think your wife is currently filling them. Place a "1" after the most important, "2" after the next most important and so on.

Role	Ranking
1. Mother	_____
2. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
3. Homemaker	_____
4. Career	_____
5. Wife	_____
6. Daughter or sister	_____

Rank the following marital roles for a man, in order of importance, as you were filling them prior to your departure.

Role	Ranking
1. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
2. Brother or son	_____
3. Father	_____
4. Husband	_____
5. Provider (breadwinner)	_____
6. Occupational duties	_____

Rank the following marital roles for a woman, in order of importance, as your wife was filling them prior to your departure.

Role	Ranking
1. Mother	_____
2. Homemaker	_____
3. Participant in church and community affairs	_____
4. Career	_____
5. Wife	_____
6. Daughter or sister	_____

Check the dot on the scale line below which best describes the degree of happiness, everything considered, of your marriage prior to separation. The middle point, "happy" represents the degree of happiness which most people get from marriage, and the scale gradually ranges on one side to those few who are very unhappy in marriage, and on the other to those few who experience extreme joy or felicity in marriage.

0	2	7	15	20	25	35
.
Very Unhappy			Happy	Perfectly Happy		

The following questions are designed to determine in what ways husbands and wives who are separated think of each other. Do not consider what most wives do or should do normally or even what your own wife does most of the time. When you think of her, how do you most often think of her? This may or may not be the role she most frequently fills. Answer each question by checking the appropriate box indicating your thought patterns at the end of the question.

	Always	Often	Some- times	Seldom	Never
1. A guide for our children					
2. A person who provides religious guidance for our children					
3. A career woman					
4. A person who keeps my home neat and clean					
5. Someone who sews and mends					
6. Someone who makes major family decisions					
7. Someone who gives me emotional support					
8. Someone I miss					

	Always	Often	Some- times	Seldom	Never
30. The person who buys needed items for the home					
31. Someone I love					
32. A sexual partner					
33. Someone who provides me with mental stimulation					
34. A person who makes decisions concerning the use of our money					
35. The person who provides religious guidance for our children					
36. Someone who encourages me in what I do					
37. A member of a religious group					
38. A participant in community affairs					
39. A manager of the household money					

VITA

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Candidate for the Degree of

Master of Science

Thesis: Marriage Role Perceptions of Husbands and Wives Separated by the Vietnam War

Major Field: Marriage and Family Relations

Biographical Information:

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Education: Attended elementary school in King Hill, Idaho, and Glens Ferry, Idaho; graduated from Glens Ferry High School in 1961; received the Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Idaho, with a major in home economics in 1965; completed requirements for the Master of Science degree at Utah State University, 1969.

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