Identifying Paths to Successful Marriage and Family Therapy Research: External Factors Within the Publications of Three Eminent Marriage and Family Therapy Researchers

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Abstract
In an attempt to identify a possible pathway to successful research in marriage and family therapy (MFT), publications of three eminent MFT researchers-James Alexander, John Gottman, and Howard Liddle—were content analyzed. These 208 journal articles, books, book chapters, and dissertations were examined for external factors and patterns across time.

Results supported the importance of doing clinical work, having a sustained research interest area, obtaining funding, and maximizing the utility of one's research samples. Implications and recommendations for future researchers, research training, career paths in clinical research, and further research are given.

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Marriage and family therapists observe how people behave within the family, and identify relationship problems. They then come up with treatment plans so that each individual has his or her needs met and the family unit can work for the benefit and happiness of all. Learn More. Skills You Need. Learn which personality traits and professional skills you'll need to be a successful couples therapist or marriage counselor. You should have… Strong interpersonal skills. Recent empirical literature provides support for the efficacy of marriage and family therapy (MFT) without convincingly identifying the principal components necessary for successful MFT outcomes. One way to identify these essential elements is to ask experts in the field to identify such variables. To this end, a panel of AAMFT Approved Supervisors generated 771 variables thought to be fundamental to positive MFT outcome and rated 217 of these variables as very important to the successful outcome of MFT. The variables were collapsed into five categories and further condensed into 34 conceptual structures in most societies. While the two institutions have historically been closely linked in Canadian culture, their connection is becoming more complex. The relationship between marriage and family is an interesting topic of study to sociologists. What is marriage? Different people define it in different ways. Not even sociologists are able to agree on a single meaning. For our purposes, we will define marriage as a legally recognized social contract between two people, traditionally based on a sexual relationship and implying a permanence of the union. PDF | Successful marriage is a dynamic growing relationship in which the personalities of both partner continue to develop to achieve personal | Find, read and cite all the research you need on ResearchGate.