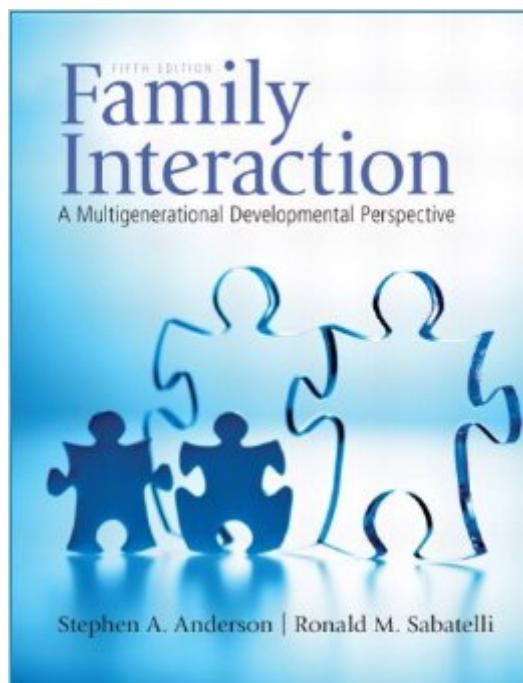


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# Family Interaction: A Multigenerational Developmental Perspective (5th Edition)



## **Synopsis**

Examines families - their challenges and successes - as they move through the life course. A Family Interaction takes a family systems and a multigenerational, developmental framework. This text looks at the major conceptual models used to understand the patterns and interactional dynamics that operate in families. It provides readers with an overview of the basic tasks that all families must execute regardless of their particular composition or living situation and, at the same time, offers readers an appreciation of the variety and uniqueness in the ways in which each family develops its patterns of interaction.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I first knew of Anderson and Sabatelli's works through the professional journals in family studies and family therapy. I used the instrument "Differentiation in the Family Systems Scale (DIFS)" developed by them in my master's thesis research. Their approach is mostly influenced by Murray Bowen's family system theory. In this text, they again use the Bowenian theory as a grounding framework, combined with structural family theories (i.e. Salvador Minuchin, David Olson's circumplex model..etc.). The authors did an excellent job of integrating existing family science literature. For example, in chapter II--family strategies, they propose six universal strategies families employ to meet developmental tasks during the family life cycle: developing identity, regulating boundary, maintaining resources, managing emotions, and coping with stress. Then, these strategies were used to illustrate family interaction patterns in different family developmental stages throughout the chapters in Part III. The last part discusses four alternative family developmental pathways. I find

the chapter on death, loss, and bereavement is especially insightful. Unfortunately, gay and lesbian relationships were not included here (nor in the "family diversity" chapter). That makes the book somewhat incomplete. However, I find the text is very suitable for introductory family courses, especially for those who prefer psychological approach rather than traditional sociological approach. This book is also recommended for family therapy students as the fundamental knowledge base. Though I left the graduate school few years ago and am a counselor now, I still find some concepts in the book very refreshing and useful for clinical conceptualization. I give this book a very high praise!

So far this book is killing me. Hopefully it will get better. It can't get much worse. I am learning a lot of good information. But it is pulling teeth to get it.

My package came quick and looks good. I don't have anything else to say other than...it would be better if it cost less money.

This book is so helpful. It is clear and concise and does a great job of breaking down the family systems.

This book is probably the worst textbook I've used in my college career. Not only is the layout extraordinarily simple and uninteresting, but the writing is a pain to read. I found this text very stuffy and repetitive, with many sentences based on formulaic constructions as, "Implicit in our discussion of 'x', we shall introduce topic 'y,'" and "'x' delineates 'y.'" As for the content, it seemed to me to be a presentation of many theories without any supporting evidence. The authors present many psychoanalytic-like theories using hypothetical examples, but few real world examples. If you have to use this book, good luck, if not, there are much, much better texts on family psych.

If you are contemplating divorce or are having family issues, it is a must read!!

Easy to understand the concepts and theory presented in this text.

Ordered it for a class. Would never order it otherwise.

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