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RELATIONSHIP MAINTENANCE

Relationship maintenance encompasses a wide range of activities that partners use to preserve their relationships. Despite the importance of these efforts, considerably more empirical focus has been devoted to starting (i.e. initiation) and ending (i.e. dissolution) relationships than on maintaining them. In this volume, internationally renowned scholars from a variety of disciplines describe diverse sets of relationship maintenance efforts in order to show why some relationships endure, whereas others falter. By focusing on ‘what to do’ rather than ‘what not to do’ in relationships, this book paints a more comprehensive picture of the forms, functions, and contexts of relationship maintenance. It is essential reading for scholars and students in psychology, communication, human development and family science, sociology, and couple/marriage and family therapy.

Brian G. Ogolsky is Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He has won the International Association for Relationship Research’s Book Award and several teaching awards for his mentorship and classroom teaching of statistics, methods, and intimate relationships.

J. Kale Monk is a fellow of the Center for Family Policy and Research and Assistant Professor of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri. He has received awards for scholarship from the International Association for Relationship Research, the National Council on Family Relations, and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

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Christopher R. Agnew
Purdue University

John P. Caughlin
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

C. Raymond Knee
University of Houston

Terri L. Orbuch
Oakland University

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Brian G. Ogolsky

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

J. Kale Monk

University of Missouri



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CONTRIBUTORS

- Christopher R. Agnew, *Department of Psychological Sciences, Purdue University, USA*
- Arthur Aron, *Department of Psychology, Stony Brook University, USA*
- Joyce Baptist, *School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University, USA*
- Brian R.W. Baucom, *Department of Psychology, University of Utah, USA*
- Donald H. Baucom, *Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, USA*
- John P. Caughlin, *Department of Communication, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*
- Alexander Dugas, *Department of Psychology, Florida State University, USA*
- Diane Felmlee, *Department of Sociology & Criminology, Pennsylvania State University, USA*
- Nelli Ferenczi, *Regent's School of Psychotherapy & Psychology, Regent's University London, UK*
- Katherine Fiori, *Gordon F. Derner School of Psychology, Adelphi University, USA*
- R. Chris Fraley, *Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*
- Stanley O. Gaines, Jr., *Centre for Culture and Evolution, Brunel University London, UK*
- Omri Gillath, *Department of Psychology, University of Kansas, USA*
- Emily A. Impett, *Department of Psychology, University of Toronto Mississauga, Canada*
- Jeremy Kanter, *Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, Illinois State University, USA*
- Gery C. Karantzas, *School of Psychology, Deakin University, Australia*
- Juwon Lee, *Department of Psychology, Carnegie Mellon University, USA*
- Feea R. Leifker, *Department of Psychology, University of Utah, USA*
- Edward P. Lemay, Jr., *Department of Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park, USA*

- Karena Leo, *Department of Psychology, University of Utah, USA*
 Gary Lewandowski Jr., *Department of Psychology, Monmouth University, USA*
 Brandon McDaniel, *Health Services and Informatics Research, Parkview Research Center, USA*
 James K. McNulty, *Department of Psychology, Florida State University, USA*
 Shelby Messerschmitt-Coen, *Counselor Education and Supervision, Ohio State University, USA*
 J. Kale Monk, *Department of Human Development and Family Science, University of Missouri, USA*
 Amy Muise, *Department of Psychology, York University, Canada*
 Brian G. Ogolsky, *Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA*
 Daniel Perlman, *Department of Human Development and Family Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA*
 Christine Proulx, *Department of Human Development and Family Science, University of Missouri, USA*
 Ashley K. Randall, *Counseling and Counseling Psychology, Arizona State University, USA*
 Amy Rauer, *Department of Child and Family Studies, University of Tennessee, USA*
 Natalie O. Rosen, *Departments of Psychology & Neuroscience and Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Dalhousie University, Canada*
 Jeffry A. Simpson, *Department of Psychology, University of Minnesota, USA*
 Susan Sprecher, *Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Illinois State University, USA*
 Laura Stafford, *School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University, USA*
 Jeffrey E. Stokes, *Department of Gerontology, University of Massachusetts Boston, USA*
 Nadya Teneva, *Department of Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park, USA*
 Jennifer A. Theiss, *School of Communication and Information, Rutgers University, USA*
 Laura E. VanderDrift, *Department of Psychology, Syracuse University, USA*
 Amber Vennum, *School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University, USA*
 Ningxin Wang, *Department of Management and Organization, National University of Singapore, Singapore*
 Xiaomeng Xu, *Department of Psychology, Idaho State University, USA*
 Ethan S. Young, *Department of Psychology, University of Minnesota, USA*