RELATIONSHIP TYPES & FRAMEWORKS

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INTRODUCTION

Based upon several years of research and development, the Shadowmatch research team has designed a solution that will explain personal relationships clearly and credibly. The drive behind this was to find a way to compare the habits of two individuals to help understand the way they will interact in different types of relationship. The Shadowmatch solution makes it possible to provide pairs of individuals with a Relationship Report that can help them better understand their relationship and improve the quality of the way they engage with each other. Since there are many types of relationship, the Shadowmatch solution is designed to interpret many different combinations of relationship frameworks and types to produce a customized Relationship Report based on the unique combination of habits of the individuals.

KEY CONCEPTS

Due to the complexities of relationships that people experience, any outline of the relationship will be limited in terms of completeness as well as the uniqueness of how individuals personally experience the relationship. In an effort to better understand the complexities of relationships, the Shadowmatch team developed Relationship Frames and Relationship Types to broadly distinguish between different relationship drivers.

Four Relationship Frames were developed:

- Friendships
- Business Relationships
- Love
- Security Relationships

Each of these Relationship Frames is dependent on some critical drivers for the establishment and success of the relationship.

With all relationships, the one most critical driver is the fact that relationships are successful when both individuals approve each other's behavior. This is firstly applicable in a broad sense of behaviors outside of the relationship. However, these drivers are more critical with regard to the behavior of the two individuals in the relationship towards each other. Relationships become compromised when the individuals (both or separately) do not approve each other's behavior. This applies to all relationships and this is the very basic premises the research team worked with.

In addition to this broad principle, different relationships have different critical drivers. Critical Relationship Drivers are behavioral "ingredients" that make the specific relationship succeed, keep it

alive and create a platform for the different relationships to be based on. For example, Friendship relationships have three critical drivers:

- Common interest
- Sharing of activities
- Physical distance

Business Relationships are established and successful when there is an exchange of value, when both individuals have a subjective feeling that they are "winning" and when there is mutual agreement to the exchange of value.

Security Relationships serve our physical and psychological needs to experience a secure living space for one or both individuals in the relationship. The critical drivers to the success of this relationship are a need from one individual (or sometimes both) to secure their living space, whilst the other individual provides what is necessary for security and the willingness of both individuals to manage the relationship in such a way that it works for both.

Love Relationships exist where the well-being and interest of the beloved is of higher priority to the lover than their own well-being and interest. Love Relationships are unconditional.

Friendship and Business Relationships are bi-directional relationships. Love and Security Relationships are one-directional relationships. Friendship and Love Relationships are about sharing with each other and caring for each other. Love Relationships are, in principle, one-directional: caring is provided by one individual in the relationship to the other unconditionally.

Security Relationships and Business Relationships are about gaining tangible value from the relationship.

People form relationships to fulfill specific needs. Friendships fulfill our social needs; business relationships fulfill our material needs. Security relationships provide people with safety and security whilst love relationships are for the fulfillment of our spiritual needs. Love transcends our cognitive reasoning, logic and social status as well as all borders of gender, race, age etc.

Within these four Relationships Frames, the following relationship types are functioning:

- Friendships
- Family
- Work-related relationships
- Teacher/Student relationships
- Parent-child relationships
- Marriage
- Co-Habitation
- Love relationships

In its purest form, the different Relationships Types relate to the Relationship Frames as follows:

Friendship as a Relationship Type is just related to the Relationship Frame of friendship with the possibility of Love components in the relationship.

In the Relationship Frame of Business, the following Relationship Types are predominantly functional:
- Work-related Relationships
- Teacher/Student
- Co-Habitation

In the Frame of Love Relationships, the following Relationship Types are present: Parent/Child, and pure love relationships between any two people.

The Relationship Type of Marriage functions with components of all four of the Relationship Frames. It carries components of Love, Friendship, Business and Security. The reason for this is to be found in the complexities of marriage relationships and the practicalities of living together over a very long period of time with a vested interest in all activities of both as well as the decisions taken by the couple collectively and individually.

Once there is an understanding of the Relationship Types and the Relationship Frames as the underlying mechanisms and principles driving and guiding the different relationships between people, it is much easier to understand and easier to recover a relationship once it becomes compromised.