Filter Model: Kerckhoff & Davis (1962)

States people separate – social variables
  Similarity of attitudes and values
  Complementarity of emotional needs.

Relationships develop through three filters:
  “Field of Available” possible people that we could have a relationship with.
  “Filter Out Potential Partners” gradually narrowed down to a small “field of desirables” – considered as potential partners.

Social variables: social/demographic variables – filter exerts its influence without us being aware of it. Usually similar to them – some are college, work. Larger groups of people live in other places and come from different backgrounds – rarely encountered.

Similarity of attitudes and values such as ideas, beliefs and communication.

Complementarity of emotional needs refers to how well the two-people fit together as a couple and meet each other’s needs.

Interpersonal attraction:
  Proximity: refer to physical/psychological proximity, increased contact can foster positive and negative relationships.
  Familiarity: People generally prefer the know over the unknown, known doesn’t = attractive.
  Attitude Similarity: Similarity in leisure activity’s more important in attraction than in attitudes, unless attitudes significant for the individual.
  Demographic Similarity: Friendships more likely between individuals of similar background e.g. age, sex, social group, as this could facilitate communication as well as confirm attitudes.
  Similarity in Personality: Having similar personalities may foster friendships; research has not supported the idea that “opposites attract”.
  Reciprocal Liking: If you know someone likes you it makes you feel good and rewarding.