

## **Minuchin's Healthy Family Hierarchy**

Three subsystems define different roles, and the hierarchy indicates that the adults have more influence and responsibility. The parenting and spousal roles are separate as the marriage needs to be a priority and safeguarded from the requirements of parenting.

### **Spousal Subsystem:**

Wife and Husband Roles

Sexuality, dating one another and the beginning of the relationship exists here and is separate from the parenting relationship

Impermeable Membrane separates the two subsystems

### **Parental Subsystem:**

Mother and Father Roles:

Parenting together and separately, each is a

Resource to the other, interact with the children

Semi-permeable membrane allows parents and children to interact

### **Sibling Subsystem:**

Children

The children are resources to one another,

The children rely on their parents and interact with them

Parents and children are influenced by one another