# Embracing Vespucci: Three Generations of Research on Love and Marriage

Thomas Bradbury 29 May 2013





- How did his name come to be associated with the America?
- What can we learn from him about discovery and exploration?



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Universalis Cosmographia, 1507. Matthias Ringmann and Martin Waldseemuller.



## So: Why Amerigo?

- He was ...
  Well-connected
- Adventurous
- Productive
- Fortunate
- Curious.



## Why Explore Love and Marriage?

#### **Intrinsic Reasons**

#### Universal experience

- Source of new life
- Expand range of emotion

### **Extrinsic Reasons**

- Promote well-being
- Promote child development
  - Fabric of societies.

### Love as a <u>Capacity</u>



- Traits
- Attachment
- Needs and Motives
- Family History.

### Love as an Exchange

- Harold Raush
- Social Learning Theorists
- Intimacy Process Model
- Social Support
- Dyadic Coping
- Capitalization.



### Love as an Emergent Property



- Social, economic, and environmental factors affect intimate bonds.
- These factors affect expression of our capacities and our exchanges.

"If, as adults, we can lay claim to competence and compassion, it only means that other human beings have been willing and enabled to commit their competence and compassion to us -- through infancy, childhood, and adolescence, right up to this very moment."

## **Embracing Vespucci**

- Broad vision of what is possible.
- Ambitious journeys into the unknown.
- Thoughtful synthesis of evidence.
- Good fortune.

