

	<b>Internal Dialectic</b> (within the relationship)	<b>External Dialectic</b> (between couple and community)
<b>Integration – Separation</b>	Connectedness - Separateness	Inclusion - Seclusion
<b>Stability – Change</b>	Certainty - Uncertainty	Conventionality - Uniqueness
<b>Expression – Nonexpression</b>	Openness - Closedness	Revelation - Concealment

**FIGURE 12-1 Typical Dialectical Tensions Experienced by Relational Partners**

Based on Baxter and Montgomery, *Relating: Dialogues and Dialectics*

can't be resolved by simple "either/or" decisions. The "both/and" nature of dialectical pressures guarantees that our relationships will be complex, messy,