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# Today's Families



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# What is a family?

# Family

People living in the same household who are related by blood, marriage or adoption



# Families

- Also include other people who do not live within the same household
- Can be formed by:
  - Origin
  - Procreation



# Types of Families

- Adoptive
- Blended/Step
- Couple/Childless (no children)
- Extended
- Foster
- Nuclear
- Single Adult
- Single Parent



# Adoptive Family

Children NOT biologically linked to parents

- Parents have gone through a legal process to make children part of their family



# Blended/Step Family

Husband, wife and at least one child from previous relationship

- Creates new family roles





# Couples Without Children

Married adults who have no children because:

- they are unable to conceive
- they simply do not want children
- Husband and wife can be extremely career-minded



# Extended Family

- Includes relatives other than nuclear
- Several generations of one family live together
- More common in other countries
- Could be a temporary arrangement



# Foster Family

- Parents care for children on a temporary basis (children waiting for adoption or needing a place to stay while problems/issues are being resolved)
- Foster parents are licensed by the state, screened by social services, receive training and a small amount of money



# Nuclear Family

- Two parents and biological or adopted children
- Shared responsibilities
- Most accepted family structure in our society



# Single Adult Family

- Household consisting of one adult
- Adult family status is single, meaning he or she has no partner or children



# Single Parent Family

- Rapidly growing structure in our society
- One parent and child(ren)



# Family Structures

[Family Life and Structure](#)

(click on link)



# Functions of a Family

- To meet physical needs
- To raise autonomous children who eventually leave home





# Functions of the Family

- To adapt to change and provide family experiences of bonding
- To maintain the sanity of the adults while promoting growth in children



# Roles And Responsibilities Of Family Members

Individuals within the family provide the following:

- Basic needs (such as food, clothing, and shelter)
- Economic support
- Education
- Love and affection
- Nurturance
- Opportunities to have fun
- Protection
- Religious background



# Factors That Influence Family Responsibilities

Each of Haley's six stages involves different emotional and physical processes and in turn influence family responsibilities.

- Leaving home
- Getting married or committing to a couple relationship
- Parenting the first child
- Living with an adolescent
- Launching the children
- Retirement and older adulthood

# Influences on Family Dynamics

- Crisis in the family
- Dynamics of previous generations
- Family values
- Level and type of influence from extended family or others
- Nature of attachments
- Nature of the household “mix”
- Special needs or chronically sick child and/or adult



# Compare Different Families

[Families are Different and Alike](#)

(click on link)

# Benefits of a Family

## Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

- Provides for physical needs (food, shelter, clothing, protection and security)
- Satisfies one's emotional needs (encouragement, support, belonging, companionship, love, self-esteem and self-actualization)



# Meeting Needs

## Financially

- Do chores without allowance
- Restrain from asking for extra things
- Take a part-time job

## Physically

- Complete chores
- Cook
- Help around the house



## Other

- Pick up the responsibilities wherever needed

# Managing Your Money



- Determine your needs and wants
- Establish your priorities

- Become your own personal “accountant”
- Keep accurate and current records of money

- Use a systematic process
- Use a decision-making process to help you take the best financial approach



# Effective Methods For Managing Family Roles

- Be supportive and accepting of all family members
- Have a positive attitude
- Learn to compromise and practice conflict resolution
- Practice good communication skills
- Forgive one another



# Family Ties

## Families are strengthened ...

- by spending time together
- by showing respect to each other
- by sharing innermost thoughts and feelings
- by trusting each other
- with traditions



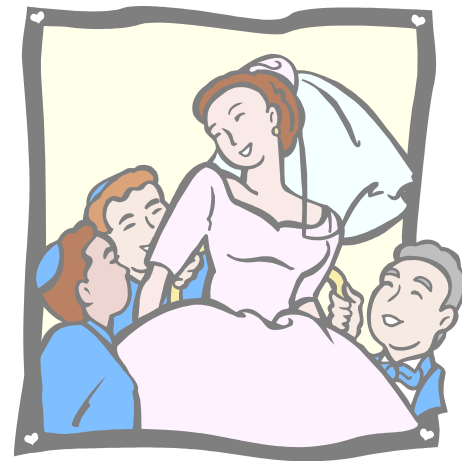
# Traditions

Family traditions allow us to find our purpose and fulfill our goals by:

Anticipating

Participating

Reflecting



# Types of Traditions

- Cultural
- Family
- Religious
- School



# Family Traditions

- Build memories and define us as a family
- Preserve our heritage and culture
- Provide consistency
- Teach members the value of family
- Unify and create bonds



# Questions?



# References and Resources

## Images:

Microsoft Clip Art: Used with permission from Microsoft.

## Textbooks:

Johnson, Leona. (2004). Strengthening family & self. Tinley Park, IL: Goodheart-Willcox Company.

Parnell, Baynor Frances. (2004). Skills for personal and family living. Tinley Park, IL: Goodheart-Willcox Company.

Ryder/Harter (2004). Contemporary living. Tinley Park, IL: Goodheart-Willcox Company

## Websites:

### Becoming a Stepparent

Becoming a parent by blending families or marrying someone with kids can be a rewarding and fulfilling experience.

<http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/stepparent.html#cat168>

# References and Resources

## Nine Steps to More Effective Parenting

Here are nine child-rearing tips that can help you feel more fulfilled as a parent — and enjoy your kids more, too.

[http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/nine\\_steps.html?tracking=P\\_RelatedArticle#](http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/nine_steps.html?tracking=P_RelatedArticle#)

YouTube™:

## Families of All Kinds

Compare how families are different and alike.

<http://youtu.be/POofYM4ZiKg>

## Family Life and Structure

Description of types of families.

<http://youtu.be/inaf1c2M90o>