

ALTERNATIVE FAMILIES



ONE-PARENT FAMILIES

Households in which only one parent is raising one or more children. This could happen for any number of reasons including: divorce, separation, death of a spouse, or a decision to parent independently.

COHABITATION

Cohabitation means living together and sharing a residence with a romantic partner without being married. In this relationship, a couple chooses to reside in the same household, and typically shares living expenses and responsibilities.

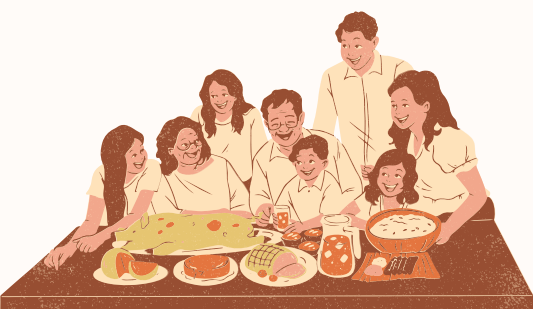


GAY/LESBIAN COUPLES

Gay and Lesbian households involve the romantic relationship involving individuals of the same sex. In this context, "gay" typically refers to male same-sex couples, while "lesbian" refers to female same-sex couples.

SINGLEHOOD

Single-hood refers to an individual being unmarried or not in a committed romantic relationship. It's a term used to describe people who aren't involved in a romantic partnership, whether they've never been married, divorced, widowed, or aren't currently in a relationship.



EXTENDED FAMILY HOUSEHOLD

This is a family arrangement that includes the nuclear family (parents and their children) but also people from multiple generations, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, or cousins, may live together, sharing a common living space.

ALTERNATIVE FAMILY FORM

This term is used to describe family structures that differ from the traditional nuclear family model. This term reflects a more inclusive understanding of family diversity, acknowledging that families come in various shapes and sizes.



FAMILY FORM EVOLUTION

Over the last 30 years, there have been significant shifts in family forms, reflecting societal changes, cultural shifts, and legal developments. Diversity acceptance and individual choice are great factors as well as dual-income households being a norm nowadays. We've also seen the rise of marriage equality.