

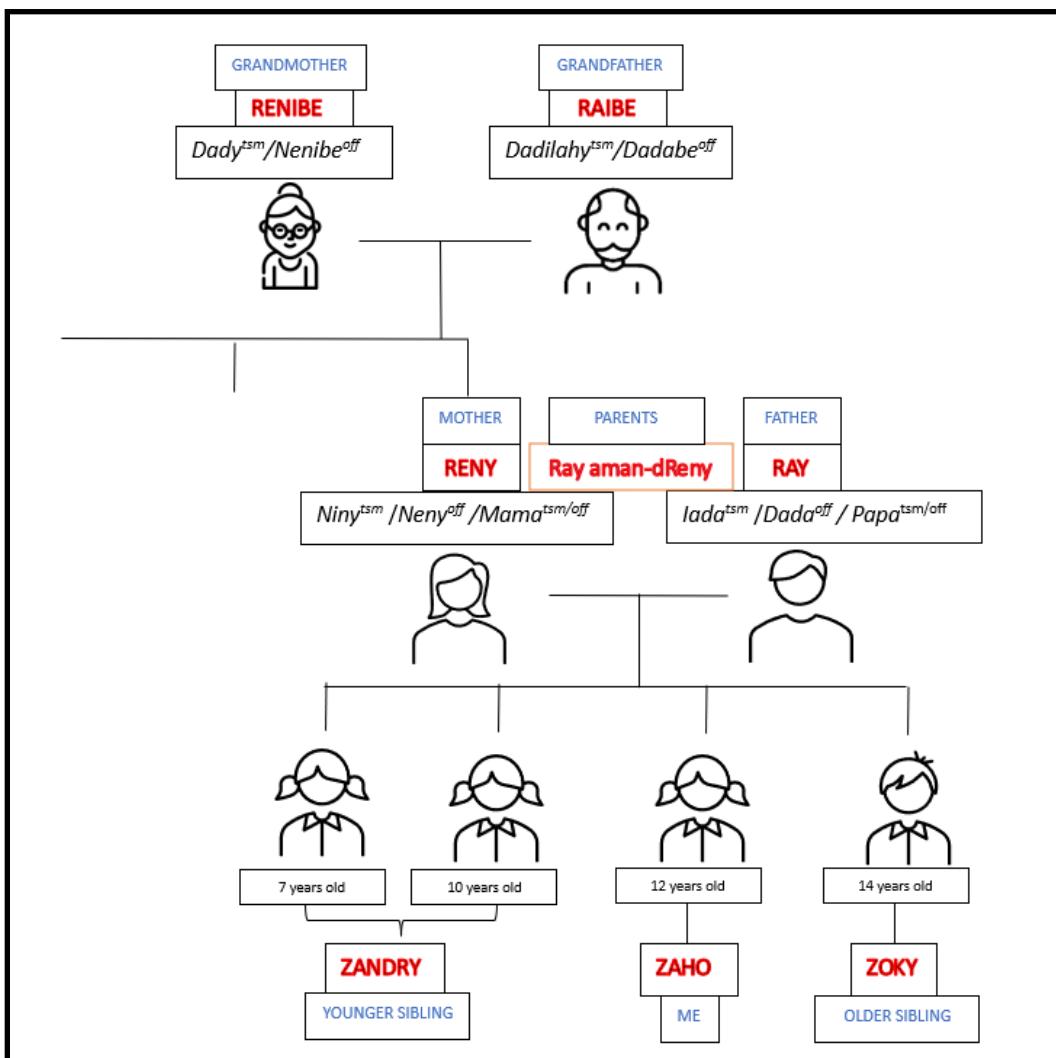
Ny Fianakaviana (the family)

A few observations:

- Family size tends to be large in Madagascar. Relationships between family members are important in daily life, through good and bad times.
- Starting a family is one of the main purpose of marriage - it is challenging being single or childless in the Malagasy culture.
- Malagasies consider:
 - uncles/aunties like parents
 - Cousins like siblings
 - Nephews/nieces like one's own children
- Marriage is a family affair, not just between the couple.
- Specific terms of family members are very complicated in Malagasy, and Tsimihety is even more complicated than official Malagasy.

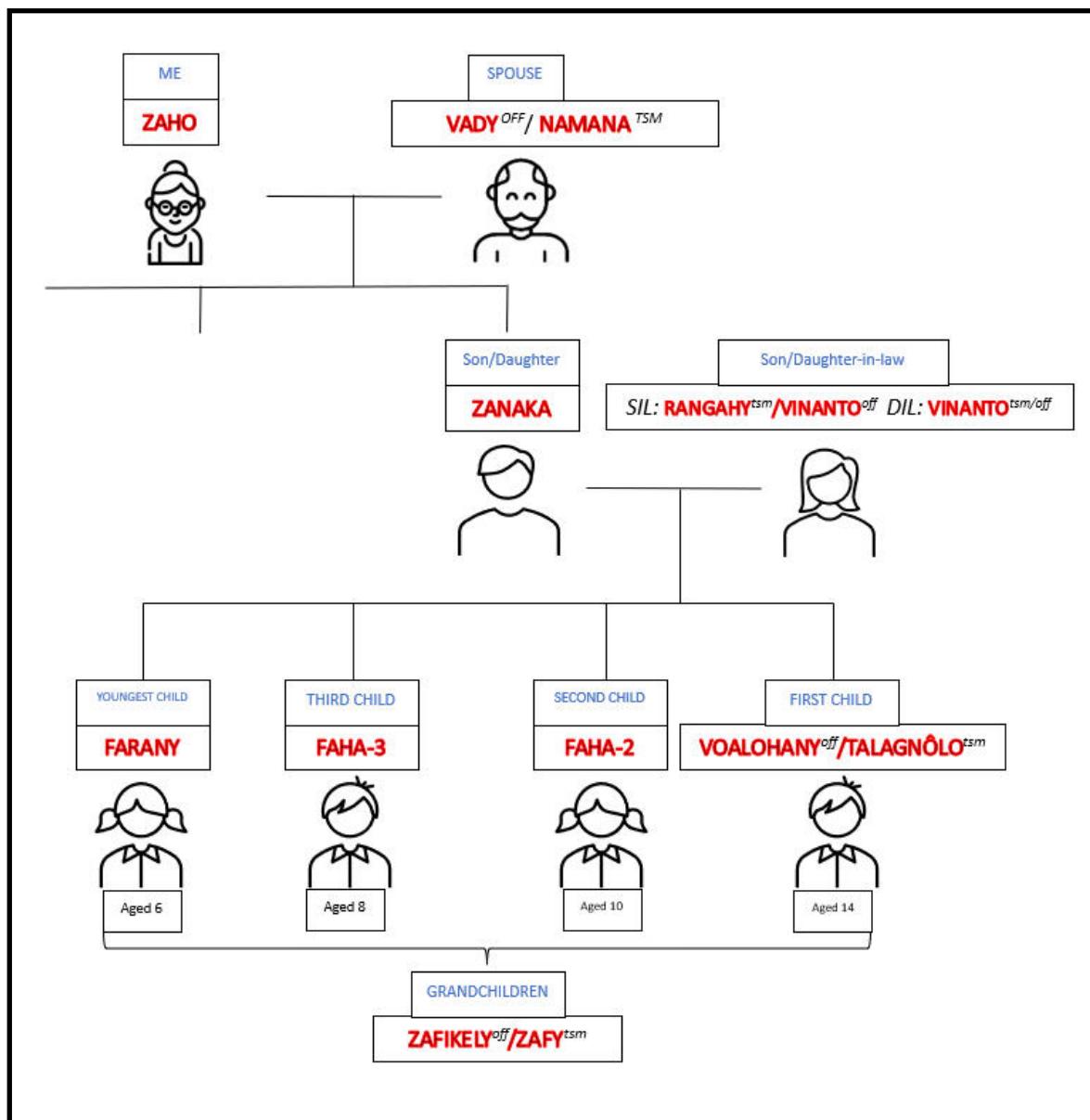
I will illustrate naming conventions of the relationship between family members using family tree diagrams.

THREE GENERATIONS (1)



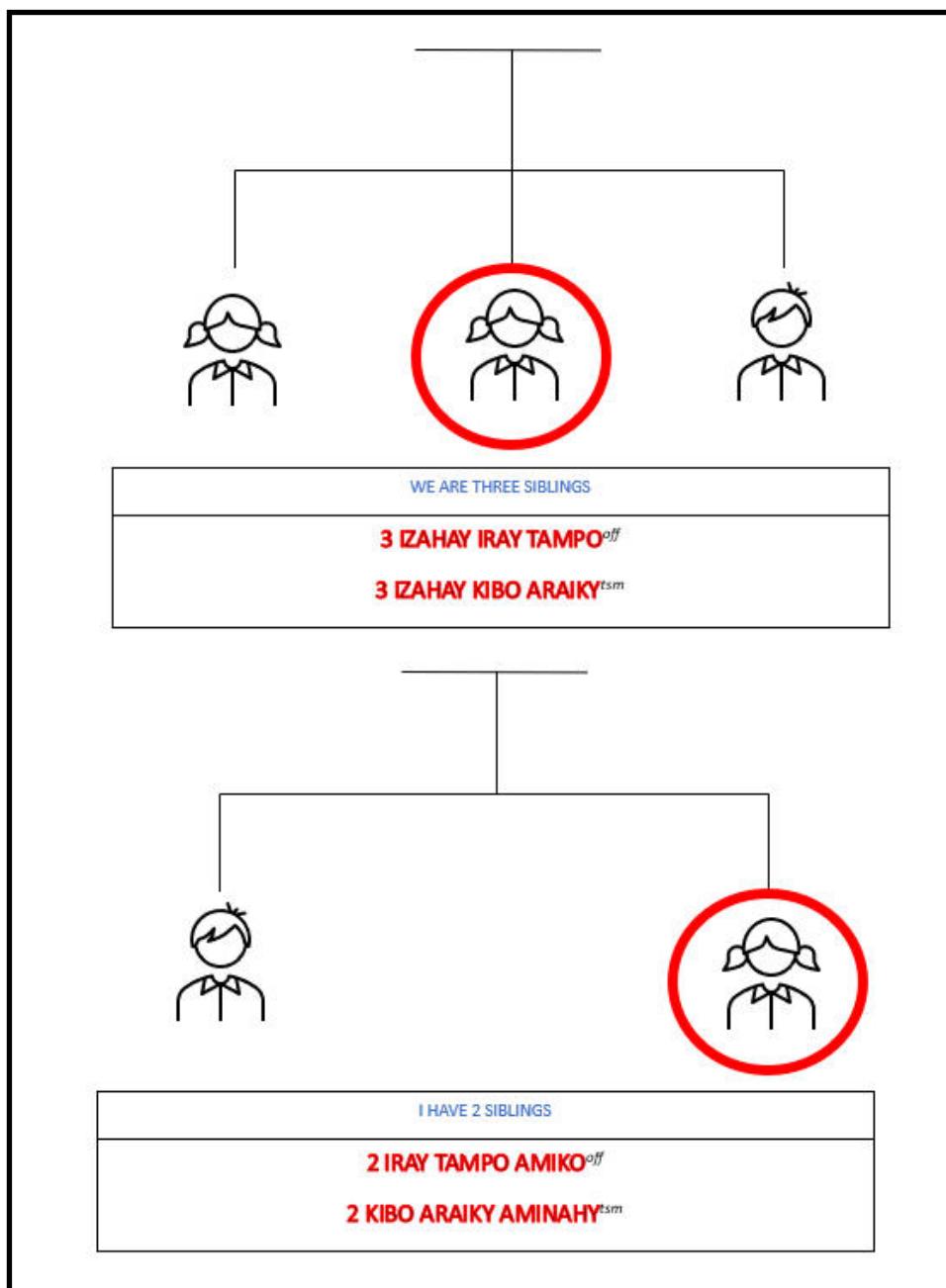


THREE GENERATIONS (2)





SIBLINGS (1)





SIBLINGS (2)



Twins = **HAMBANA**^{off} / **KAMBANA**^{tsm}

Sister – if you're a girl, you call your sister **RAHAVAVY**

if you're a boy, you call your sister **ANABAVY**

Brother – if you're a boy, you call your brother **RAHALAHY**

If you're a girl, you call your brother **ANADAHY**

Nephew/Niece – depends on the gender relationship of siblings

Uncle (maternal) = **Zama**^{tsm} / **Anadahin-dReny**^{off}

Uncle (paternal) = **iadabe** or **iadahely**^{tsm} / **Rahalahin-dRay**^{off}

Auntie (maternal) = **Ninibe/Mamabe** or **Ninihely/Mamahely**^{tsm} / **Rahavavin-dReny**^{off}

Auntie (paternal) = **Angovavy**^{tsm} / **Anabavin-dRay**^{off}

