

What is a family?

The Census Bureau calls a family

“a group of two persons or more (one of whom is a householder) related by birth, marriage or adoption and residing together”

(U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1998).

[“householder” refers to whoever owns or rents the home]

Our own definition may not match.

CREATING A FAMILY TODAY WITH STRINGS

nuclear

binuclear

“ex-connected”

extended

fictive kin

blended *step-siblings, stepmother, etc.*

Most definitions of family are individual ... and complex.