

FAMILY

WHAT IS A FAMILY?



- Foundation for all human activity
- Where human relationships begin and develop
- Where the norms and values of society are lived out and practiced
- Where new generations are brought up into adulthood



TRADITIONAL

Traditional Views of the Family

- Traditionally in Christianity, the man was responsible for providing for the family through work
- The mother was traditionally responsible for domestic life (everything to do with the home)
- The man used to be seen as the leader of the family. This is called patriarchy, which means a family or a society controlled by men



TYPES OF FAMILY

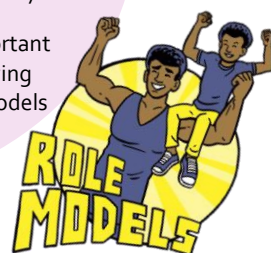
1. **Nuclear**
Two parents and one or more children living in the same house
2. **Extended Family**
Number of adults and children who are related living in the same home, e.g. aunts, cousins etc.
3. **Reconstituted Family**
Divorced adults remarried or cohabiting and may include children from the new relationship.
4. **Single Parent Family**
One parent raising one or more children alone. Increased rates of divorce has led to more single-parent families.
5. **Childless Family**
Married or cohabiting couple without children due to choice or inability to conceive.



ROLES

Family members can have the following roles:

- Caring for children
- Caring for other family members, e.g. elderly relatives
- Maintaining the family home
- Earning money to support the family
- Men and women both have important roles within the family, e.g. showing mutual respect and being role models for the children



ROLE MODELS



-Everyone in the Christian faith is regarded as part of the worldwide family

-Christians use the phrase 'people of God' for all Christians

-Pope Francis said:

"The family is the basis of human society. The role of the mother in passing on religious faith is fundamental."

WORLDWIDE FAMILY

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Parents are expected to:
 - Take their children to church
 - Teach children how to read and understand the Bible
 - Teach children how and when to pray
 - Join in the celebration of festivals, e.g. Christmas and Easter
 - Understand the importance of rites of passage, e.g. baptism and the Eucharist
- Many people today, e.g. **Humanists**, think that children should make up their own ideas about religion or that parents should not share their religious beliefs and faith with their children. **Humanists** believe all people should be able to make a free choice about accepting or rejecting religious beliefs

ROLES OF MEN AND WOMEN

Changing Views

- Women and men are now seen as in a partnership in family life, with shared responsibilities
- Women sometimes choose to stay on at work and there might be a 'house-husband' nowadays. The number of 'stay-at-home' dads has doubled since 1993. The law is also changing to reflect this – in 2015 it became possible for men and women to share parental leave. Parents can decide who takes leave to look after the baby, rather than it automatically being the mother



CHANGING

- Religious belief is taught and learned in the home. Religious beliefs, practices and teachings are lived out in the home and young children learn by example
- It is a religious **duty** for parents to bring children up in faith and teach the values of the religion
- The Ten Commandments, and other basic values, are shared by all Christians (including Muslims and Jews). These values include: respect your parents, no murder, no adultery, etc



FAMILIES AND RELIGION

