



### **Cohabitation**

The practice of living together as a male–female couple without marrying.

### **Domestic partnership**

Two unrelated adults who have chosen to share a mutually caring relationship, reside together, and agree to be jointly responsible for their dependents, basic living expenses, and other common necessities.

### **Egalitarian family**

An authority pattern in which spouses are regarded as equals.

### Endogamy

The restriction of mate selection to people within the same group.

### Exogamy

The requirement that people select mates outside certain groups.

### Extended family

A family in which relatives—such as grandparents, aunts, or uncles—live in the same home as parents and their children.

## Familism

Pride in the extended family, expressed through the maintenance of close ties and strong obligations to kinfolk outside the immediate family.

## Family

A set of people related by blood, marriage or some other agreed-upon relationship, or adoption, who share the primary responsibility for reproduction and caring for members of society.

## Homogamy

The conscious or unconscious tendency to select a mate with personal characteristics similar to one's own.



**Incest taboo**

The prohibition of sexual relationships between certain culturally specified relatives.



**Kinship**

The state of being related to others.



**Machismo**

A sense of virility, personal worth, and pride in one's maleness.

## Matriarchy

A society in which women dominate in family decision making.

## Matrilineal descent

A kinship system in which only the relatives of the mother are significant.

## Monogamy

A form of marriage in which one woman and one man are married only to each other.



**Nuclear family**

A married couple and  
their unmarried  
children living together.



**Patriarchy**

A society in which men  
dominate in family  
decision making.



**Patrilineal descent**

A kinship system in  
which only the  
relatives of the father  
are significant.

**Polyandry**

A form of polygamy in which a woman may have more than one husband at the same time.

**Polygamy**

A form of marriage in which an individual can have several husbands or wives simultaneously.

**Polygyny**

A form of polygamy in which a man may have more than one wife at the same time.



**Serial monogamy**

A form of marriage in which a person may have several spouses in his or her lifetime, but only one spouse at a time.



**Single-parent family**

A family in which only one parent is present to care for the children.