

Family

1

①

↓ conceptualized in many ways.

underlying each is fundamental idea.

↓
Structure of the family

↓
its function in society

②

Defn 1

Some define a family purely in terms
Sharing a household, collection of individuals
living together.

Def. ③

2

Family based on kinship.

Group of people who share common ancestors

or Basic social unit comprised of parents & their children

Defn ④

3 Some define
Biological Kinship → defining element of family

where opponents assert families can be
Blended Collection of individuals

related by marriage, adoption, partnership
a friendship.

④

Social theories have questioned nature of families
since ancient times.

Modern era — has witnessed — numerous transformations
of prevailing concepts of families in Western Societies

⑤

"Love & formations of families" discusses Sigmund Freud's
concept of families in Western Societies as

comprehensive social unit formed by physical,
biological, emotional, economic necessities

⑥

"Myth of Perfect families" introduces the
cultural myth of the perfect family, then
counters the relevance of the survey of diverse family structures

"Blended families" & accounts common reshaping & (2)
melting of families through Divorce & remarriage
- & Demographic Trends - what contemporary families
& households look like in U.S.

⇒ How individuals conceptualize family is
influenced by (1) Culture, (2) Religion, (3) Law,
(4) Politics.

⇒ Concepts of family are diverse

- What makes a family?
- How families are created & maintained?
- Who are the members of a family?
- What are the roles of members within families?
- What is the role of family in society?
- How are families essential to societies?
- What social forces have shaped our perceptions of families?

⇒ from Nuclear families → Extended families
or Traditional families → Blended families
⇒ Different family structures in today's society