Family diversity in the media content analysis

Complete the form below when you watch a form of media that has fictional or factual portrayals of a specific type of family or group that performs similar functions to the family. An overview of different family types is included to help you categorise these.

Family type	Name of family/group	Family or group structure	Programme/film/media source title

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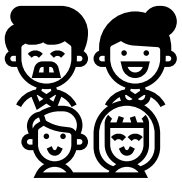
Common family types in media

Nuclear

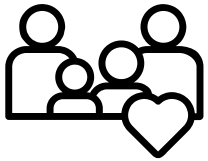


A family unit consisting of two parents (traditionally male and female) and their dependent children living together in one household. Contemporary definitions include cohabiting couples with children

Same-sex

A family headed by a same-sex couple, who may have children through adoption, surrogacy, or previous heterosexual relationships.

Reconstituted or blended



A family formed when two adults with children from previous relationships combine to create a new family unit.

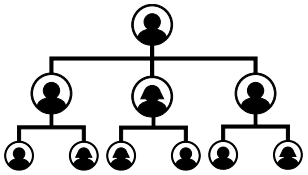
Lone or single parent

A family with only one parent raising one or more children due to separation, divorce, or the death of a partner.

Lone person

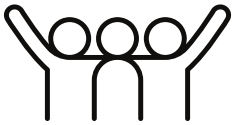
Single person living on their own.

Multi-Generational Household



A household where three or more generations of family members live together, such as grandparents, parents, and children, often for economic or cultural reasons.

Family of choice/fictive kin

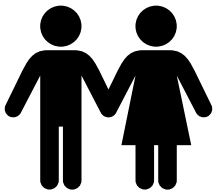


Non-biological families formed by people choosing their own family members, often seen in LGBTQ+ communities or among individuals who lack support from biological relatives.

L.A.T.s (Living Apart Together)

Couples who are in a committed relationship but choose to live in separate households, often to maintain independence or due to practical reasons like work or family commitments.

D.I.N.K.s



Couples who both work and choose not to have children, often prioritizing careers, financial stability, or lifestyle.

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