

# Definition of Family



January 9, 2005

Stakeholder Group  
Meeting

# Agenda

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- | Welcome
- | Recap from December 12, 2005 Meeting
- | Categorize issues
- | Break
- | Staff Presentation
- | Comments/Q&A
- | Next Steps

# Issues raised at the last meeting

- | The need for better code enforcement
  - Especially at night time
- | The need for occupancy limits
  - Perhaps tied to the square footage of the house, the square footage of bedrooms, the number of working adults...
- | Concerns about the secondary impacts of high-occupancy households
  - Trash, parking, noise, etc.

# Issue Categorization Exercise

- | You will have post-it notes for each of the issues raised at the last meeting
- | Place your post-it notes on the wall under the category heading you find most appropriate
- | For anything that doesn't fit or needs a new category place it in "other".

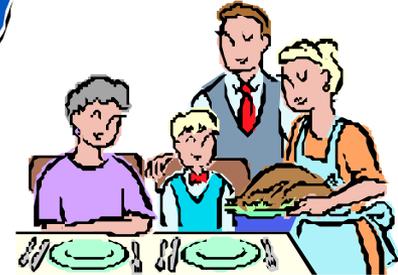
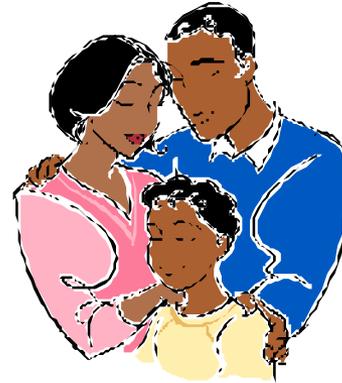
**BREAK**



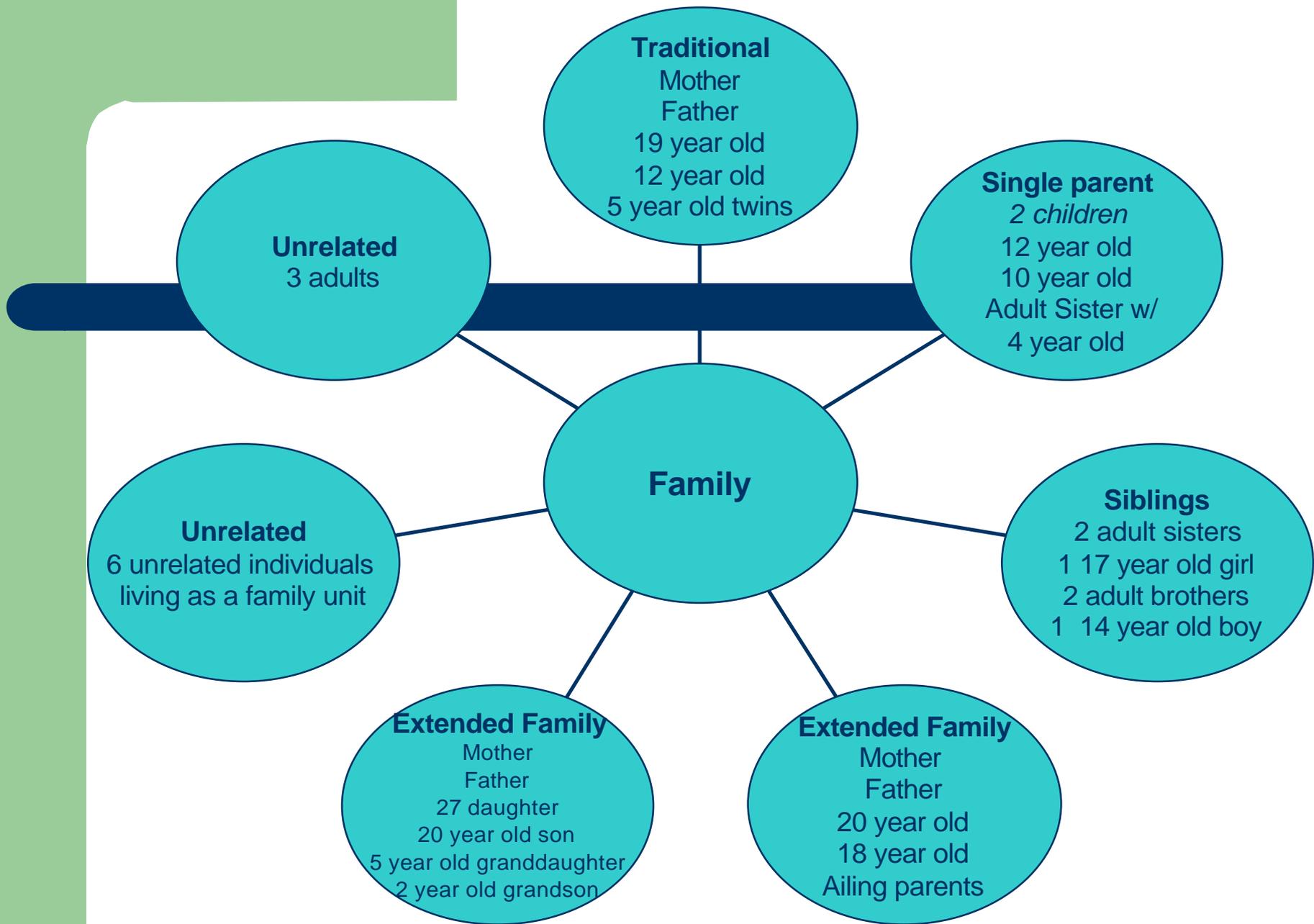
# In the most general sense, what is family?

- | A group of things related by common characteristics...(Merriam Webster)
- | A group of persons that share common ancestry...(Thesaurus.com)
- | A social unit living together...  
(Wordnet.princeton.edu)
- | Families have some degree of kinship  
(Wikipedia.org)

# FAMILY....



...is about RELATIONSHIPS



## **In considering the definition of family, we should ask ourselves:**

Is the problem with the relationships (or lack thereof) of people sharing a home?

Do we care if or how the people sharing a home are related?

What is the governmental interest in family composition?

## **In considering the definition of family, we should remember:**

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The purpose of single family zoning is to protect the residential character of the neighborhood...

“...to maintain an environment suitable for family living.”

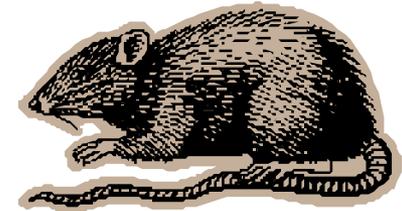
# What makes a place suitable for family living?

## External Appearance

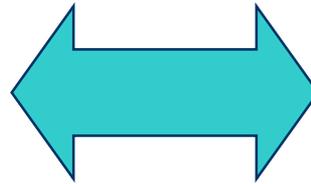
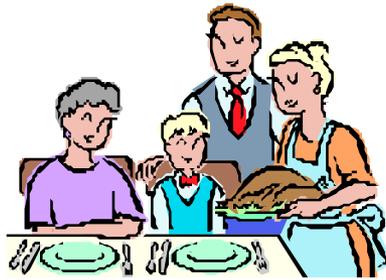


# What makes a place suitable for family living?

A safe and healthy environment



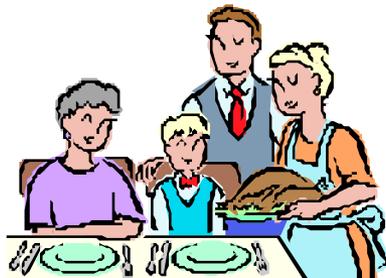
# External appearance and health and safety can be related to occupancy



- | The number of people living in a home together can influence the amount of trash, cars, noise, etc.
- | The number of people living together in a home can have health and safety impacts

# But concerns over occupancy are not equivalent to concerns over family.

Family =  
Relationships of  
people sharing a  
house



Occupancy =  
# of people  
sharing a house



# What is the issue?

## Issue is with relationships

- Whether or not people sharing a home are related
- How the relationships of those people affect the character of the neighborhood



## Issue is with occupancy

- # of people
- Health and safety impacts of the # of people
- Appearance and other external impacts of the # of people

# Next Steps

