

Chapter 2: Preindustrial Families and the Emergence of a Modern Family Form

Chapter Context

This chapter examines Euro-American families and their historical changes between the early 1600s through 1850. It shows how family life was affected by economic changes in the wider society, particularly the shift from an agriculturally based economy to an industrial economy.

Outcome-based Outline

Outcome	Learning Objectives	Interactivity
Knowledge of Subject Matter (or Discipline)	2.2 Discuss family life in Colonial America	x.x [interactive] (if app)
Information Literacy	2.1 Discuss what is new about social history of the family	
	2.3 Discuss the qualities and characteristics of modern family life	

PowerPoint Presentation

Download the PowerPoint Presentation for this chapter here.

Discussion Question Bank

This discussion question bank provides a listing of discussion questions (1-2 per module) which are included for in-class use.

Module	Discussion Question(s)
2.1 Family and the New Social History	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do different research methods and sources of data reveal the truth about the history of the family? 2. What family structures exist that challenge the idea of a universal nuclear family? How does agency manifest a response to change?
2.2 Family Life in Colonial America	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the structure of the family in colonial America? How was it tied to the economy and community? 2. Evaluate how patriarchy defined the gender roles and views of children in colonial America.
2.3 The Emergence of Modern Family Life	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In what ways did industrialization influence changes in the family

	structure? Why did these changes occur? 2. Compare and contrast gender roles and the views on children between the different social classes.
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Research Assignments

The following research assignments pertain to the main topics and/or themes of the chapter.

Compare and Contrast Colonial Families and Emerging Modern Families

Compare and contrast colonial families with the families who emerged with Industrialization. Analyze the influence of structural changes and the resulting forms of agency that people employed. How do we see the characteristics of today's family in the emerging modern family?