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**QUESTION: WHAT IS FAMILY, DISCUSS THE FUNTION OF THE FAMILY, DISCUSS THE TRADTIONAL FAMILY, DISCUSS YOUR NUCLEAR FAMILY, DRAW YOUR FAMILY TREE**

 **DEPARTMENT : LAW**

 **WHAT IS FAMILY?**

 Family as the case maybe can be defined in so many ways. A layman defines family as the coming together of a man, woman and children living together their homes. According to sociologists, the family is an intimate domestic group of people related to one another by bonds of blood sexual mating, or legal ties. They also see family as a group of people related by blood or ancestry, it is also define as a specific group of people that may be made up of partners, children, parents, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents

 The family is an intimate domestic group made up of people related to one another by bonds of blood, sexual mating or legal ties. It is the smallest and most basic social unit, which is also the most important primary group found in any society. It is the simplest and most elementary group found in a society. It is a society. It is a social group consisting of a father, mother and one or more children. It is the most immediate group a child is exposed to. In fact, it is the most enduring group, which has tremendous influence on the life most enduring social relationship found in society. Family has also been defined by different social scientists, like; according to Robert Bierstadt” he defined family , as the family almost without question, is the important of any group that human experience offers, the family is with us always is with us, or more precisely, we are with it”. Also according to M.F.Nimkoff; he defined family as a more or less durable association of husband and wife, with or without, or of a man or woman alone, with children. They are also major features of a family, such as:

. Family is a universal group. It is found in some form or the other, in all types of societies whether primitive or modern.

**.** A family is based on marriage which results in a mating relationship between two adults of opposite sex

**.** Every family provides an individual with a name and hence, it is a source of nomenclature

**.** Family is the group through which decent or ancestry can be traced

**.** Family is the most important group in any individual’s life

 In a family, we have different types or forms of family, which will be listed in a tablet form below;

 Types of family

Based based based on based on based on based on

On birth on marriage residence ancestry authority relation

**.** Family of monogamous matrilocal matrilineal matriarchal conjugal

Orientation polygnous patrilocal patrilineal patriarhal consanguine

**.** Family of polyandrous changing

Procreation

  **FUNTIONS OF THE FAMILY**

1] Family is a unit through which procreation takes place. Marriage sanction sexual relationships and it also establishes a family, which is further, which is further reinforced with the birth of children.

2] The process of reproduction is institutionalized, regulated and controlled in a family. The family legitimizes the act of reproduction

3] Family helps in propagation of human species and perpetuation of human species and probation of human race

4] Family provides an individual with an identity

5] It is through the family that every family name that every family name is carried on from one generation to another

6] Family is responsible for the production and upbringing of children

7] Family is an important agent of socialization

8] Family is also an important agent of cultural transmission

9] Family is a great source of strength, emotional and psychological, for its members

10] Family is traditionally responsible for the education of the children

 **The Traditional African Family**

The Traditional African family patterns are slowly but progressively being as a result of the process of modernization which is exhibited through trends like urbanization. Family patterns that were the norm in traditional rural African societies are gradually being altered and substituted by modern values. In the traditional societies in most sub Saharan African countries, there is a high value accorded to marriage, this has been marked by the practice of early marriage and childbearing which in most cases continues till the end of productivity age. The polygamous marriages dominated traditional societies and constitute a prime feature of rural African. The advent of modernity has inherently fostered a progressive transformation of African family organization marked by the drift from larger family size to small size household. The demographers often identify the changes taking place in family patterns such as changes in family size to be a charaterteristic of the second demographic transition process. It is imperative to highlight that family size discussions in the region is renown to be dominated by he extended family setting whereby a family is not made up of the father, mother and children but also includes uncles, aunties, grandparents to name a few. The extended families still has quite a strong hold in African despite adenoid modernization. African family patterns are increasingly faced with the challenge and pressure between traditional and modern family and it has been infer from the information provided in this paper practices that depicted rural sub Saharan African societies are progressively being transformed, this is marked by shift from polygamy marriages that dominated rural sub Saharan African communities to monogamous marriage and the movement from large household to small ones.

 **My nuclear family**

 As we all known the nuclear family is made of the father, mother and children and in my nuclear family we are made of my father, my mother, brother and sisters. In my family my father is the head of the family; he takes care of us and provides for the family by providing shelter, clothes, food and also paying our health bills and school fees too. My mother also helps in taken care of the family she makes sure the houses is in a very good condition, also my mother works she is not a house wife but she helps in taken care of the family household by cooking and making sure the house is clean and the this are provided in the household such as cleaning of the house and food items are in the house. As for us the children we help in assisting in the household work, as for me and my sister we help in the cleaning of the house washing of the cloths and cooking, my brother also helps in the assisting in the household work, he also cooks, clean and wash the car too. In my family we are united and we are loving and caring in my family. we are also a Christian family and we worship together as one family and it also the duties of the children to make their parents happy and support them which we do in my family, we are very hardworking in my family and that is why I love my family because we are always at peace and united and through this we always achieve our goals.

 **My family tree**

 **SISTER**

 **SISTER**

**SISTER**

 **SISTER**

 **ME**

 **BORTHER**

 **MOTHER**

 **FATHER**

**MY FAMILY TREE**