

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING: FOUNDATIONS

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CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER 2 HIGHLIGHTS

Differences between a
Family Genogram and a
Community Genogram



What information
does the Community
Genogram offer that
the Family Genogram
might not?

CHAPTER 2 HIGHLIGHTS

Community Genograms give insight regarding:

- Cultural factors that contribute to a system's dynamic
- Contextual factors that contribute to a system's dynamics

“[Family] genograms should be seen as a roadmap that, by highlighting certain characteristics of the terrain, guides us through the complex territory of family life” (McGoldrick et al., 2008, p. 19)

CHAPTER 2 HIGHLIGHTS

History of this graphic interactive assessment and treatment device:

-Bowen in the 1950's introduces *family diagram*: a method for visually representing and arranging information about extended family systems over several generations to emerge patterns and themes for objective review and examination.

-Around a decade later the *genogram* was introduced and became the common nomenclature for classifying graphic devices derived from Bowen's original work.

FAMILY SYSTEM'S THEORY

- Bowen's family systems theory conceptualizes the family as an emotional unit. He proposes the family operates as a system. According to the Systems Theory family member's interconnect and operate as a system not only as isolated individuals.

THE FAMILY GENOGRAM

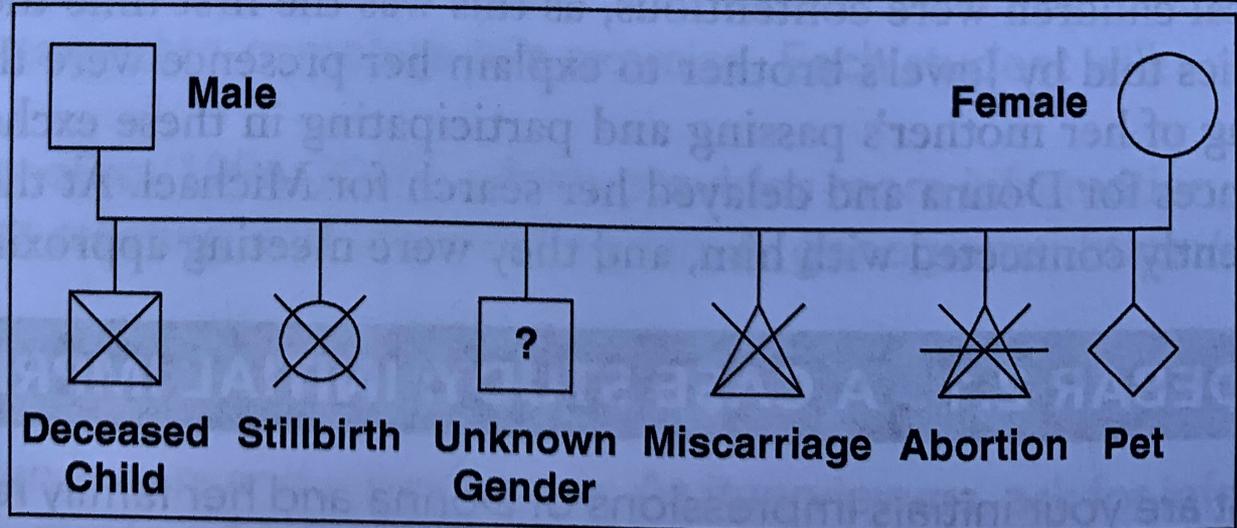
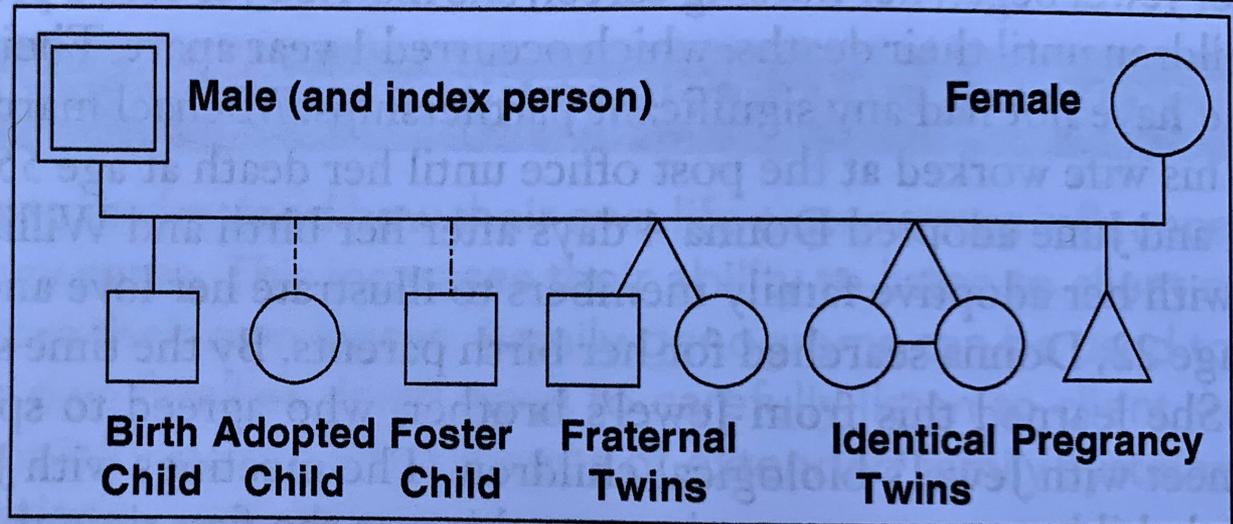
Broad description and general examples from website: <https://www.genopro.com/genogram/>

Video of a clinician creating, interpreting and conceptualizing using a family genogram:

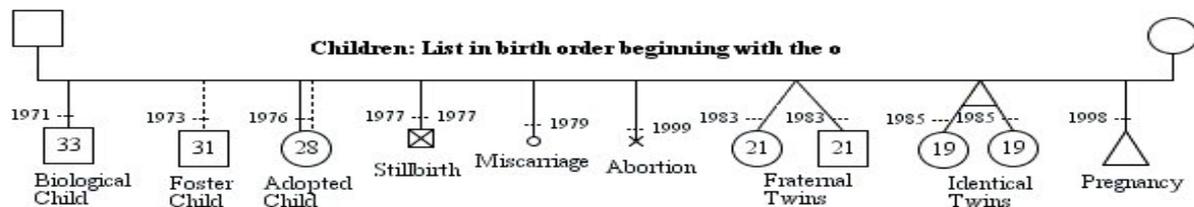
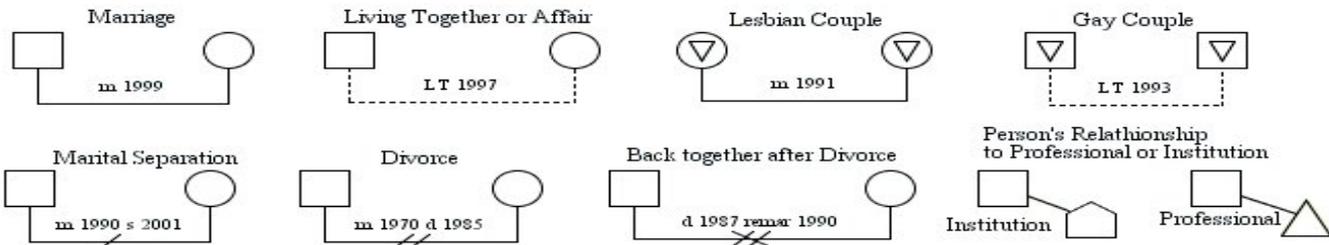
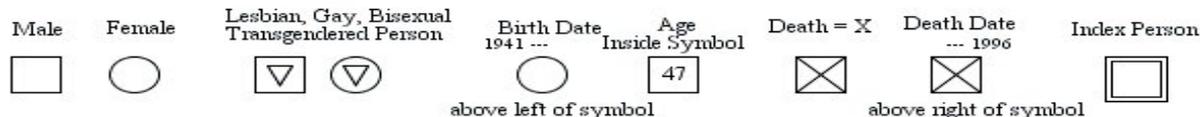
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGXEnLrR3EY>

Basic Family Member Symbols

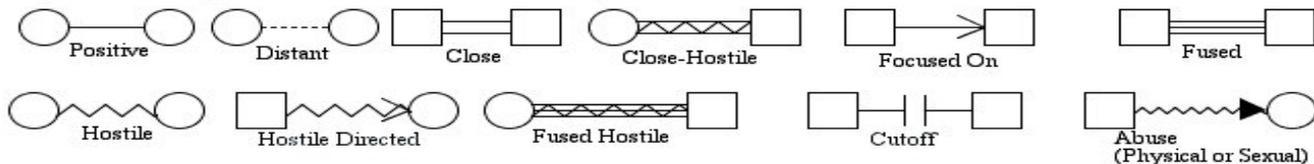
In family genograms, squares represent males and circles represent females. Double lines represent index persons. In heterosexual relationships, men are positioned on the left and women are positioned on the right. Children are arranged in birth order under the horizontal line, from left to right, with vertical lines used to identify each child's biological, legal, or social connection to the partners.

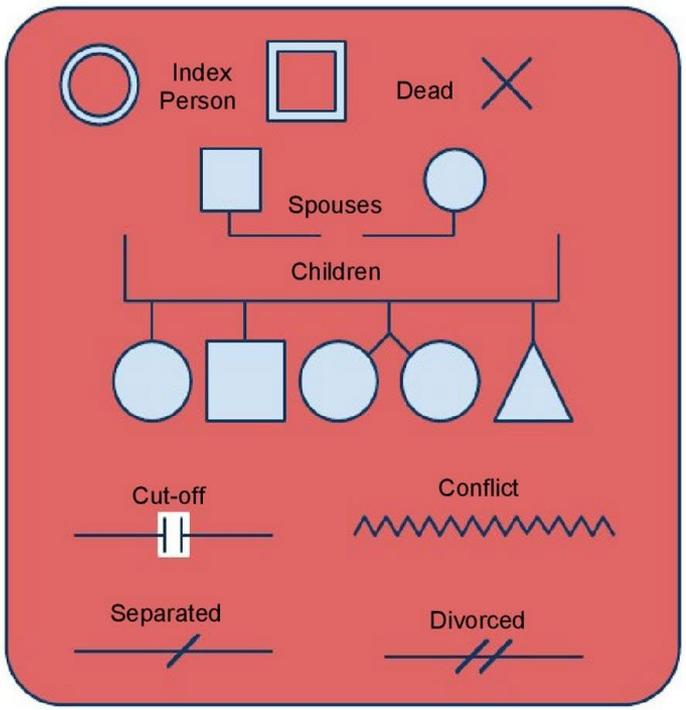
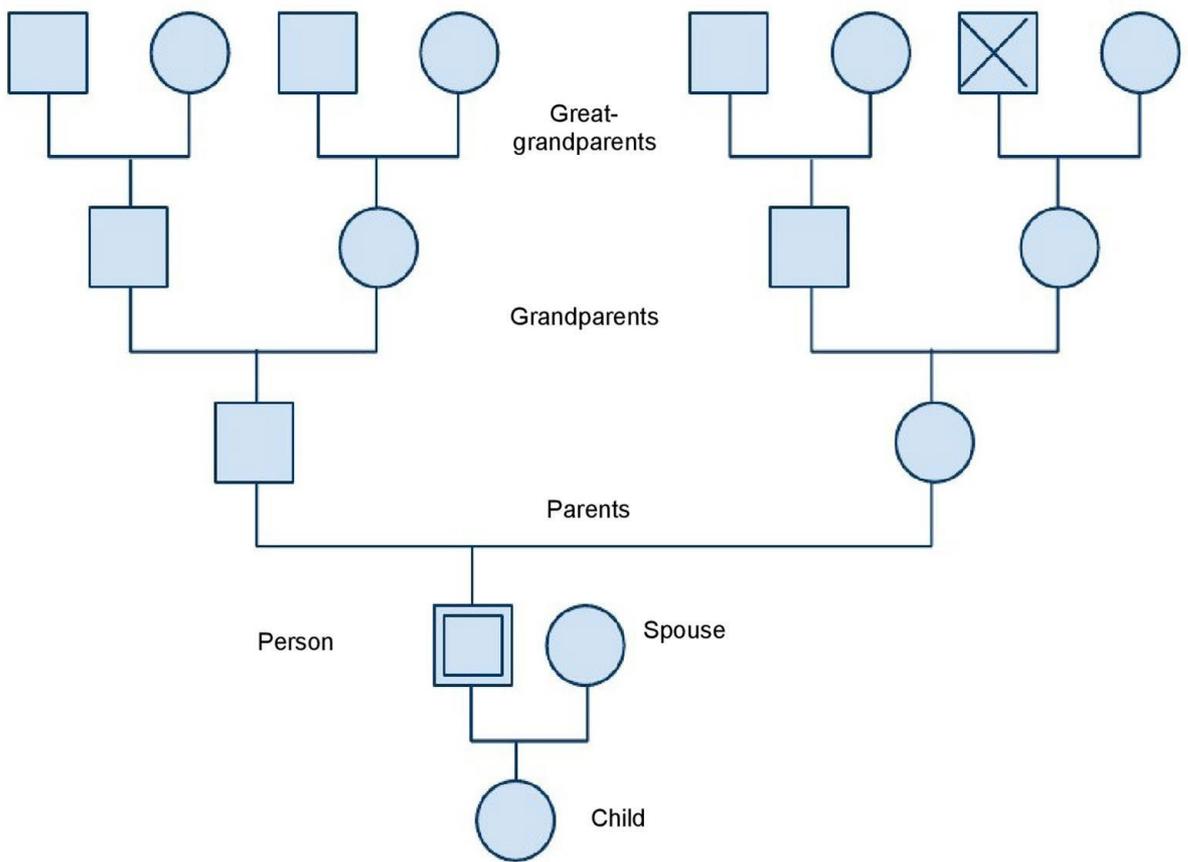


Standard Symbols for Genograms



Symbols Denoting Interactional Patterns between People





Smith Family Genogram

LET'S PRACTICE

- Create your own genogram

BREAK

Take a 15 minute break



ECOMAPS

Ecomaps were developed by a social worker named Ann Hartman as a method to diagram the ecological system of the family.

To complete an ecomap the clinician asks the client to write his or her name in a circle in the center of a piece of paper. Then requests that the individual identifies and put in circles people, groups and organizations that are part of his current environment.

Circles can be drawn in any size. What do you think the size may suggest?



MORE ON CREATING ECOMAPS

- Once the circles are created the clinician proceeds to ask the client to draw lines that can describe the quality of the relationship of the individual with each system.
- For example:
- “Draw a solid line from your circle to any circles that represents systems where your connection is positive or strong.
- Draw a wavy line from your circle to any circles that represent systems that you need but are not available to you.”

Reference:

Cormier, S., Nurius, P. S., & Osborn, C. J. (2017). Interviewing and change strategies for helpers (8th Ed.). Cengage Learning.



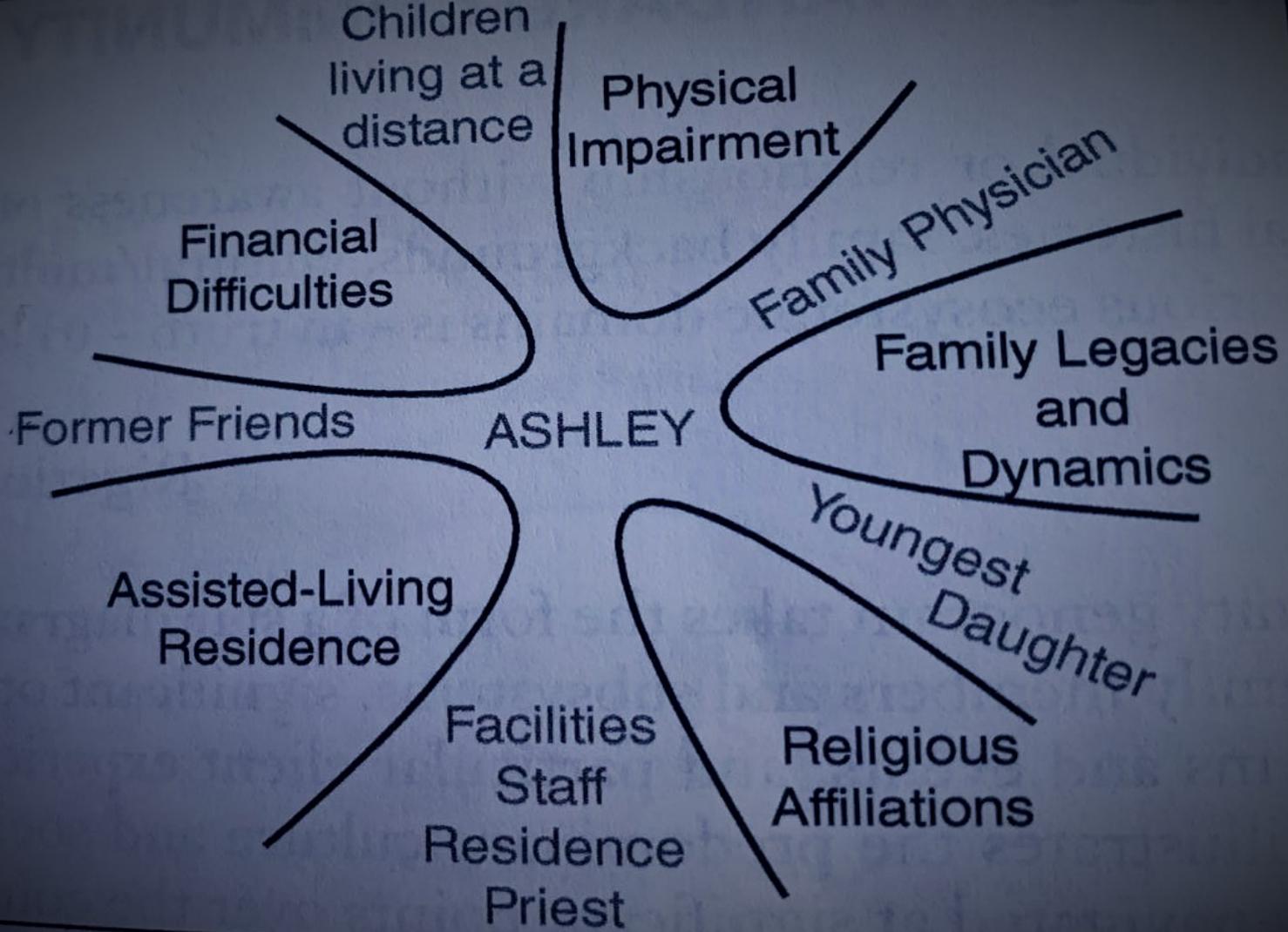
COMMUNITY GENOGRAM

Star Diagram

*First write the client's name in the center of the star.

*Then create lines to shape a star

- “The embayments surrounding the star comprise context deem relevant by the clients. The shape of each embayment illustrate how clients perceive the significance of each context.
- The channels connecting the significant others to the client are depicted as broad, narrow or closed off to illustrate how clients perceive the nature and scope of their exchange.”
- Reference: Capuzzi, D., & Stauffer, M. D. (2015). Foundations of couples, marriage, and family counseling. John Wiley & Sons.



Children living at a distance

Physical Impairment

Family Physician

Family Legacies and Dynamics

Youngest Daughter

Religious Affiliations

Facilities Staff Residence Priest

Assisted-Living Residence

Former Friends

Financial Difficulties

ASHLEY

REFERENCES

Capuzzi, D., & Stauffer, M. D. (2015). *Foundations of couples, marriage, and family counseling*. John Wiley & Sons.

<https://www.genopro.com/genogram/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGXEnLrR3EY>