

CNMI FAMILY

	Traditional	Contemporary
Who is in the family?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grandparents, parents, children, and grandchildren, extended family 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents and children <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as traditional
What are the housing provisions within the family?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple provisions Lived within local resources <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “A-Frame” mode of traditional materials without doors 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western-influenced (TV, electrical appliances, etc.) <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary designs TVs, computers, electrical appliances
What is the order of authority within the family?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eldest child first Parents were highly regarded, and children abided by their decisions <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eldest member of family first Parents highly regarded, then sons, then daughters 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eldest child still holds authority, but everyone deserves due respect <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as traditional

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What are the roles, rights, and responsibilities of each family member?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles and responsibilities were well understood, practiced, and respected • Father secured basic needs for daily living • Mother ensured that basic needs were met in the home and was a model for the whole family • Children assisted in home/other chores • Everyone valued respect, support, care, and religion <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandparents provided wisdom and guidance • Father provided housing, provisions, meat, and other supplies • Mother was responsible for food preparation, role modeling, and child rearing • Sons helped the father • Daughters helped the mother 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents provide for their children • Less attention is given to traditional family roles • Responsibilities now focus on family, community, and being a provider <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights/roles/responsibilities remain the same, but the means have changed • Some roles are shared
What are children's obligations to their family?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children respected and helped in family activities and were responsible for younger siblings <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children were expected to be respectful and help everyone in need 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children must learn to respect and value supporting the family <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as traditional • Children must respect the values and traditions of the family

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What are the functions and obligations of the family in the larger social unit?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The family cooperated, was responsible for other family needs and requests, practiced reciprocity, and emphasized being caring, disciplined, and helpful <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each family ensured the well-being of the clan and extended family; contributed to whatever was needed 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as traditional <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as traditional (money dictates activities)
What is the importance of individual family members versus the family as a whole?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individualism was highly valued Individuals were easier to address and responded more quickly to needs; lower expectations for individuals Everyone contributed <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individualism was not taught or practiced Family was a unit 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as traditional <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individualism is evident (results of changes, demographics, and family)
What is the degree of solidarity or cohesiveness in the family?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very high degree of family cohesion Supporting one another was very important <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very close family ties 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children are more independent but still rely on parents for some needs <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families are even more important, in order to protect identity

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What kinds of events affect the family?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing dependency of extended family; responsibility was strongly enforced • Agriculture, fishing, Christianity, and intermarriages <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity • Late marriages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of cash economy; children expect compensation • Western influence strengthened after the islands became a Commonwealth and signed a Compact with U.S. • Freedom structure is changing • Discipline is “my business”; child abuse laws are enforced
How do people come to meet and marry?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man arranged initial marriage intention • Man and his parents requested approval of bride-to-be’s parents • Both sets of parents met to arrange wedding day celebration and other needs <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandparents and parents arranged dating and marriage 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial marriage intention obsolete <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most couples meet in social settings such as church • Dating
What do parents want for their children?	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn and be skillful in all traditional skills • Be well respected, respectful, and contributing members in society • Believe in self <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be self-respecting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have good spouses • Provide for and live close to aging or elderly parents • Learn traditional skills 	<p>Chamorro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be educated/have lifetime job • Be prestigious, respected, and contributing members in society <p>Carolinian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be self-respecting, secure, industrious, faithful Christians, and successful financially • Go to school • Have own homes