

Blended Families

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- When pre-existing family units combine to form one
- After Smith (2009), 2015, p.48
- Children in blended families have experienced family transitions through single parenthood or marriage (Crouter et al. 2013, p. 402)
- Marriage during middle and late school years can affect the divorce from remarriage (Pruitt & Demery, 2010, p.1121), which impact socio-emotional development and mental health (Larson & McLaughlin, 2010, p.1742)



Blended Family Definition
A family unit formed by the marriage of two individuals, each of whom has one or more children from a previous marriage.

Single-Parenting

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- Death, divorce, choice, incarceration
- In 2011, "single-parent families represented 16.3%" (Statistics Canada, 2011, p. 3)
- Not "as good" of a family- can be hard on child
- Handicaps during infant and toddler years
- No immediate second support system (one parent to do everything)
- Importance of strong relationships and development
- Behavioural problems



Single-Parenting Definition
A family unit consisting of one parent and one or more children.

Skip Generation Families

- 5% of all Canadian children live with grandparents (Statistics Canada, 2011, pg14)
- Often due to family crisis (Dannison et al. 1999, Paragraph 1)
- Children are often experience behavioral or health issues (Dannison et al. 1999, Paragraph 4.5)
- Grandparents often feel isolation or financial strain (Dannison et al. 1999, Paragraph 13)
- Kinship care still preferable to foster care (Cooper, 2012, pg28)



Skip Generation Family Definition
A family unit where a grandparent or other relative acts as the primary caregiver for a child.

Background / Description

Family structure refers to the combination of relatives that comprise a family. Classification on this variable considers the presence or absence of: legally married spouses or common law partners; children; and, in the case of economic families, other relatives. (Canadian Statistics, 2015, para.2)

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Divorced Families

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- Approx 70,000 divorces per year (Rial & Zuber 2015, p. 109)
- Role model, a source of parental help, emotional support, and a superior (Rial & Zuber, 2015, p.402)
- Unhappy, unbalanced, and/or unbalanced (Machado & Holloway et al.)
- More compromised children as cited by Rial & Zuber, 2015, p.403 (Dangas, Sander, West, Muddah & Carson 1995)
- School Age of Children (Rial & Zuber, 2015, p.404)
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Divorced Family Definition
A family unit where the parents are no longer married or in a common-law relationship.

Conclusion

"A shared view of families as competent and capable, curious, and rich in experience informs our relationships with families and has a significant impact on children" (HDLH, 2014, p. 18).



Johnson Family Farm - Hedging Decision

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Divorced Families Thecasesolutions.com

- Approx 70,000 divorces per year (Kail & Zolner 2015, p. 399)
- Role model, a source of parental help, emotional support, and a supervisor (Kail & Zolner, 2015, p.403)
- Lethargic, inattentive, easily distracted, and unmotivated (Machida & Holloway n.d).
- More temperamental children as cited in (Kail & Zolner, 2015, p.403). (Lengua, Sandier, West, Wolchik, & Curran 1999)
- School Age children (Kail & Zolner, 2015, p.404).
- School academics (Guidubaldi, Cleminshaw, Perry, & Nastasi, 1984)



#Bike (2015, p.8)

As ECE's ...
Don't make a side from a mental about concentration
Be aware of your own resources
Make the classroom a safe place
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Conclusion

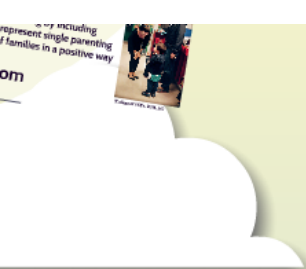
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References

Canadian Statistics, 2015, para.2
HDLH, 2014, p. 18
Kail & Zolner, 2015, p. 399
Kail & Zolner, 2015, p.403
Machida & Holloway n.d.
Lengua, Sandier, West, Wolchik, & Curran 1999
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Atkins (2010, p.1)


As ECE's ...

- Don't take a side have a neutral stand (concentrate around child)
- Be aware of community resources
- Make the classroom a safe place



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As ECE's ...

- **Don't take a side have a neutral stand (concentrate around child)**
 - **Be aware of community resources**
 - **Make the classroom a safe place**
- 
- A circular illustration featuring a central white circle with four red stick figures holding hands. Surrounding this central circle is a ring of colorful icons representing various community resources and services, including buildings, a tree, a car, a person, and a shopping cart.



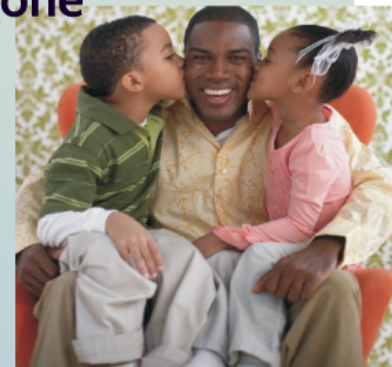
Senior City (2016, p.1)

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- No immediate second support system (one parent to do everything)
- Importance of strong relationships and development
- Behavioural problems



(Joshua, 2012, p.1)



(Polk, 2015, p.1)

As ECE's...

- Know the reason for the parent being single
- Adjust language use and actions accordingly
- Be a support system to the parent - ask how you can be of help
- Help the child/ren feel that they belong by including books, toys, posters, etc... that represent single parenting
- Talk about the different kinds of families in a positive way without biases

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(College of ECEs, 2014, p.1)

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(College of ECE's, 2016, p.1)

Blended Families

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- When pre-existing family units combine into one step-family (Vezina, 2012, p.8)
- Children in blended families have experienced family transitions: divorce, single parenthood, re-marriage (Crosnoe et Al, 2014, p. 460)
- Remarriage during toddler and pre-school year can offset the stresses from transitions (Ryan & Claessens, 2013, p.1227) , which impact socio-emotional development and mental health (Lee and McLanahan, 2015, p.753)



(Family Fusion Community, 2015, para 1)

As ECE's

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- Maintain an open dialogue with parents on changes to the family dynamic
- Create stable and secure relationships with children within the centre
- Be aware of any changes in behaviour patterns, and provide support as necessary

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