

Same-

Sex

FAMILY









Fam·i·ly

Noun

1. A. a basic social unit consisting of parents and their children, considered as a group, whether dwelling together or not: the traditional family.

1. B. a social unit consisting of one or more adults together with the children they care for: a single-parent family.

2. The children of one person or one couple collectively: We want a large family.

Children Raised by Same-Sex vs. Different-Sex Couples

- In a study of nearly 90 teens, half living with female same-sex couples and the others with different-sex couples, both groups fared similarly in school. Teen boys in same-sex households had grade point averages of about 2.9, compared with 2.65 for their counterparts in different-sex homes. Teen girls showed similar results, with a 2.8 GPA for same-sex households and a 2.9 GPA for girls in different-sex families.
- In another study, teens were asked about delinquent activities, such as damaging others' property, shoplifting, and getting into fights, in the previous year. Teens in both same-sex and different-sex households received essentially the same average scores of about 1.8 on a delinquent scale from 1 to 10 (with higher scores meaning more delinquent behaviors).

Same-Sex Marriage in the United States

Same-sex couples can marry in all but fourteen states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Texas.

The Supreme Court is set to rule this year on whether state bans on same-sex marriage are constitutional and whether states have to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states where such marriages are legal.

Same-Sex Couple Families by the Numbers

- According to reporting on the 2010 Census, there are more than 646,000 same-sex couple households in the U.S. Almost 132,000 of these same-sex couples indicate that they are married.**
- Also according to the Census, one in five male couples and one in three female couples are raising children.**
- Two million children are currently being raised by LGBT parents.**
- Same-sex couples living in Mississippi are the most likely to be raising children, followed by couples in Louisiana and Texas.**

The Recognition of Same-Sex Relationships Internationally

Seventeen countries grant same-sex marriages: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, and Wales), and Uruguay—allow same-sex couples to legally marry.

More than fourteen countries recognize same-sex civil unions or domestic partnerships, including Andorra, Austria, Columbia, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, and Switzerland