FAMILY AND CHILDRENS NOTES

Family: *"Two or more persons, one of whom is aged 15 years or over, who are related by blood, marriage (registered/de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household."*
>Traditional structure of predominantly white Anglo-Saxon populations in Australia and NZ is the **nuclear family**- married couple with children.
-Couples living with or without children
-Single parents- increased divorce, 11% single parent family
-Separated parents who share care of children over two households
-Blended families (when parents bring unrelated children from prior or foster-parenting relationships into a new joint living situation)
-Same sex couples with or without children
-Single people living alone/in groups
-Extended families in one or more households (includes relatives- aunts, cousins, grandparents- in addition to nuclear family)

>Population ages, social values changed, migration increased- greater diversity family structure & household composition.
>Single households are the fastest growing household type- 23% living alone
>Almost 2 babies per woman- median age of childbearing increased to 30, 1 in 5 may not have children; women from lower socioeconomic areas and indigenous more likely to have more children at younger ages.
>Teen pregnancy has declined, however still high compared to other developed countries.

Family systems theory	Interactions among members, between family and environment, which may result in either functional or dysfunctional outcomes. Key concepts: family is *interconnected, family as a whole is composed of more than the sum of its parts, boundaries between environment, subsystems (e.g. mother to child, partner to partner)*
Developmental theory	The life cycle of families; stages of family development. Key concepts: *change over time, transitions to stages*
Family cycle of health and illness	Cyclical model that describes common patterns of stress, reaction and adaptation to families when members become ill.
Structural functional theory	Families as an institution; how they function to maintain family and social networks.
Family stress theory	Analysis of how families experience and cope with stressful events