

Definitions starting with K

Kinship

Traditionally the Bahamian family has tended to be large and close-knit, comprising a complex network of mutual obligations and resources, both social and economic. Relatives still often have houses in the same [YARD](#), the extended family making up a [TOWN](#) or [COPPET](#) known by the [TITLE](#) of the [GENERATION](#). [BEFORE-TIME](#), in the days of [GREATS](#) and [FOREPARENTS](#), people were less likely to leave the island of their birth and it was not unusual to find kin who were [DOUBLE FAMILY](#) to each other.

If a child's [MUMA](#) must go to work, its [MAMA](#) may care for it; a child's [GRAN](#) and [GRINNY-GRAN](#) are considered [PARENTS](#), too. In the absence of [POP](#), [MUMA BREDDA](#) might help rear a [BOY-CHILD](#). If older [FAMILIES](#) work or are ailing, a [GIRL-CHILD](#) will have to help care for the children who [FOLLOW BEHIND](#) her. However, there are usually enough adults around—e.g. a [FOSTER-WIFE](#), a [FATHER-IN-LAW](#), or other [STEP-PEOPLE](#)—who take good care of their children, whether [LAWFUL](#) or [OUTSIDE](#).

Family relationships are so important that kinship terms are frequently used in addressing relatives, even one's [CON](#) or [BEEN](#) or [GORDY](#) or [GOD-BROTHER](#). They are also extended to use with friends; men of the same generation may call one another [BREDDA](#) (or [B'](#) or [BRA](#) Or [BRO-MAN](#) or [BUBBA](#) or [BULLA](#)) and address a woman as [SISTER](#) (even if they intend to flirt). It is polite to address people of the older generation as [MA](#) and [PA](#), whether or not they are relatives.

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