

VALUING

# Families



American families today give witness to God's amazing creativity and commitment to diversity! In 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau characterized the 102.5 million American households in the following way.

## 79% Family Households

(a group of two or more people living together and related by birth, marriage or adoption)

49% Families with children under 18

45% Biological, nuclear families

21% Step-families

27% Single parent families

(87% mothers, 13% fathers)

5% Grandparent-headed families

2% Co-habiting families

The remaining 21% were households representing a variety of other single or group configurations.

There are a host of other variables that give each family their unique character and identity. Our call to faith and discipleship inspires us to embrace a spirit of hospitality and generosity as we uphold the God-given right families of all shapes and sizes have to a voice, position and integrity in community. We celebrate God's creativity and commitment to diversity with a sense of confidence and commitment to uphold it in our own life experiences.

Visit Valuing Families at [www.ncccusa.org](http://www.ncccusa.org) to access resources for further exploration with children, youth and adults.

For this reason I fall on my knees before *God*, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its true name.

*Ephesians 3:14 NRSV*

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