

# **WHAT IS A FAMILY?**

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Unreflecting people simply may say that 'a family is the place wherein people grow up '.

That simplistic view of the family may be the view of small children , but does not at all tell us what a family really is and of what it does to us, in us and for us.

***It's precisely, what the family actually does to us  
and for us - its members - that makes it so important'***

1. The family gives us a sense of identity. This is important for both parents and children.
2. When we are very young, the family influences US into the kind of person we will become. For instance:
  - *If parents bring their child up too strictly and without much affection, he is likely to grow up very insecure and fearful.*
  - *If a child is given too much freedom, he finds it difficult to fit into society when he grows up*
  - *If parents reject their children, the children tend to be anti-social and get into trouble.*
  - *If one or other of the parents is absent for a long period, their children may find it difficult to relate to other adults later in life.*
3. It is the family to which a person belongs, that enables him to make wise and moral decisions
4. It is the family to which a person belongs that imparts personal, h moral. And social values
5. The family is the firrst group where we share our joys and sorrows.
6. Ihe family is the place where we should always find affection and care.
7. When we are growing up, the family teaches us what is expected of us in society,
  - *what language we should use,*
  - *what attitudes we should have,*
  - *what forms of behavior are acceptable.*

8. When we are growing up, the family helps us to ake our place in society in relation to other people. The family makes us conscious of our rights and duties and also of our responsibilities towards others.
9. The family, as we grow up, helps us to chose our state in life and career.