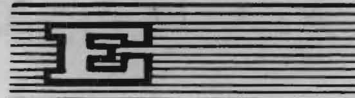




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DRAFT MANUAL OF DEMOGRAPHIC CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS SUITABLE FOR  
AFRICAN CONDITIONS

(Plan of Work)

N74-1043



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
SUB-COMMISSION ON THE PROMOTION AND  
PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS  
ANNEX I  
1991

# UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
ON THE WORK OF THE  
SUB-COMMISSION ON THE PROMOTION  
AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS  
DURING 1991

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INTRODUCTION 1/

This document was prepared in pursuance of resolution 230(X), adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its first meeting on 13 February 1971, in which the Executive Secretary of ECA was requested, inter alia, to prepare as part of the Commission's work programme "a demographic manual which will contain concepts and definitions suitable for African countries."

Following the adoption of that resolution, the first session of the Conference of African Demographers, meeting at Accra in December 1971, recommended that ECA should "complete the draft of the demographic manual containing concepts and definitions suitable for use in African countries for presentation at the next Conference of African Demographers and African Statisticians."

This recommendation was reiterated by the first Conference of Demographers of OCAM, which stressed the urgent need to provide the countries of the region with a manual of demographic concepts and definitions compatible with African realities.

Furthermore, the seminar on basic demographic data evaluation techniques organized by ECA and held from 16 to 27 July 1973 emphasized the importance of the draft manual and, in addition, recommended that a seminar should be organized to examine the draft.

On the basis of this series of recommendations and resolutions, the ECA Population Programme Centre undertook the preparation of the manual.

In spite of the many other tasks facing it under its work programme, staff recruitment problems and the very close deadline imposed for the publication of the document, this new section of ECA undertook the task of submitting a draft manual to the second session of the Conference of African Demographers.

This work by the Population Programme Centre produced the present draft manual, which is being submitted to the Conference.

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1/ This introduction deals with the presentation of the draft manual and its methodology.

In this way it was thought that African demographers would be provided with the background information necessary to evaluate the document. On that basis, let us examine the structure of the manual of demographic concepts and definitions suitable for African conditions.

4. Aims of the manual of demographic concepts and definitions suitable for African conditions

Since it cannot be regarded as a dictionary, nor as a general demographic manual, we believe that the manual of demographic concepts and definitions suitable for African conditions is a tool which will place at the disposal of researchers and specialists in African demography, on the one hand, a series of demographic concepts and expressions which the demographer will find extremely delicate to define in the African context and, on the other, a definition of each of these concepts which is compatible with African realities.

The document is thus a listing of demographic terms and expressions followed by definitions applicable in the African context; but it contains only those terms and expressions whose sense or content differs substantially from that usually recognized outside Africa.

The draft manual of demographic concepts and expressions suitable for African conditions contains, firstly, terms and expressions which are familiar in demographic usage although their meaning may not always be equivalent to that usually recognized in other countries of the world and, secondly, concepts which are utilized exclusively in Africa. Its novelty lays in the fact that an attempt has been made to bring out within the definitions the fundamental differences which exist between traditional definitions<sup>1/</sup> and definitions applicable to African realities. This is the approach which has constantly guided us throughout the preparation of this manual. It also influenced the methodology applied, which now deserves a few words of description.

5. Methodology used in the preparation of the manual

The methodology used in the preparation of this manual was based on the following premise: that difficulties encountered in applying traditional<sup>1/</sup> demographic concepts and definitions in Africa derive principally from the fact that particular demographic phenomena display

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<sup>1/</sup> See the note on page 3 concerning the meaning of "traditional".



numerous manifestations within our continent, and that the extreme diversity of these manifestations results in their not always being covered by the traditional definitions. In order to overcome this difficulty, we believe that one solution is applicable: one must, whenever possible, distinguish among the various manifestations which appear in Africa, and then regard these manifestations as so many concepts which have become adapted to African conditions.

In order to clarify this idea, let us return to the example of the concept of "marriage". We agree that, as a generic term, this concept is not suited to African conditions. Marriage defined as a "union between two persons..." appears in various forms in the African context. In Africa one finds the juridical marriage, the marriage by custom, the religious marriage - sometimes confused with the marriage in custom - and, lastly, common-law marriages. In our view, each of the four underlined phrases is a concept derived from marriage, and is adapted to African conditions. This new arrangement also has the advantage of allowing for the possibility of restructuring the traditional concept. In the case of marriage, the group of derived concepts apart from common-law marriages would re-form the meaning of the traditional concept.

Thus the aim of the methodology applied in the preparation of the draft manual was a direct one:

Firstly, to collect all the traditional demographic concepts and expressions which had one or several special meanings in Africa, and, secondly, to conceive within the African framework new terms, to be known as derived concepts, which would reflect the corresponding manifestations as accurately as possible.

The final task was that of formulating as precisely as possible a definition of the new demographic concepts.

Carrying out this task was a delicate operation, because of the difficulties involved in distinguishing certain nuances between the traditional definitions and the African definitions <sup>1/</sup>, and also because of our inadequate knowledge of the forms which such phenomena take throughout Africa.

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<sup>1/</sup> By African definitions are meant definitions existing in national sources.

For the task of listing the demographic concepts and expressions, we made use of the multilingual dictionary. For the purpose of defining the terms, we used, in addition to the multilingual dictionary, various other documents <sup>1/</sup> available in the Population Programme Centre. These documents assisted us in formulating and defining the new concepts.

5.1. Use was made of the multilingual dictionary as follows:

- (a) All traditional demographic concepts and expressions were noted.
- (b) A critical study was made of the traditional definitions of the concepts featured in the dictionary, taking into account both African definitions and definitions formulated on the basis of the African Recommendations ... and also our knowledge of the phenomena involved.
- (c) A distinction was drawn between, on the one hand, terms and expressions whose definitions, as set out in the multilingual dictionary, corresponded perfectly with those which were applicable in the African context and, on the other, terms and expressions which have special meanings in Africa.
- (d) All demographic terms and expressions which had meanings which differed from those covering manifestations of the corresponding phenomena in Africa were listed and underlined.

In cases where there is no fundamental inconsistency between the traditional definition and the African definition, but merely different shades of meaning, we have simply noted at the end of the traditional definition the restrictions or extensions of the application of the concept within Africa.

In cases where the dictionary definition is identical to the African definition, the terms and expressions concerned have been identified by underlining with a dotted line. Although we have not redefined the terms and expressions whose definitions in the multilingual dictionary are acceptable, we felt it necessary to mention them in the draft manual in order that they should not be forgotten.

<sup>1/</sup> The documents used include replies to the Population Programme Centre questionnaire sent, in August 1973, to national statistical services, survey and census reports, the African Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses and manuals for enumerators.

5.2. Use was made of the other documents as follows:

- (a) Concepts and definitions applicable to the countries of Africa were sought both in survey and census reports and in manuals for enumerators and other available documents relating to African demography.
- (b) Disputable concepts and definitions from the multilingual dictionary were modified, either by replacing them entirely with definitions and concepts compatible with African demography (derived concepts and definitions), or by extending or restricting the traditional meanings set out in the demographic dictionary.

5.3. Briefly, the demographic concepts proposed in this draft manual fall into two large groups:

- (i) The first group contains traditional concepts, that is, those whose meaning, as given in the multilingual dictionary, corresponds perfectly with the meaning which applies in the African context;
- (ii) The second group contains new concepts (derived concepts, and concepts which can be applied only in Africa).

The definitions of demographic concepts and expressions set out in the draft manual may be grouped into four main groups according to their origin:

(a) Definitions drawn from national sources

These definitions have been published in population survey and census reports. Other definitions in the same group were gathered with the assistance of the ECA Population Programme Centre questionnaire; and others appeared in manuals for enumerators. These last are followed by a note in brackets indicating the source for the definition (name of the country which formulated it; nature and date of the operation which gave rise to the definition; and the document in which the definition was published). On occasion, various national definitions may all correspond to a single concept. In such cases, it will be the task of the African demographers to select one of the proposed definitions, normally the one which is best suited to African conditions. If none of the proposed definitions meets this requirement, it will be for the demographers concerned to consider the various proposals before them and, from those proposals, establish an accepted form which is most compatible with African realities.



- (b) Definitions which have been drawn from the United Nations multilingual dictionary and which have undergone an extension or a restriction of the traditional meaning

For this group of definitions, information as to extensions and restrictions of usage was obtained, firstly, from national sources and, secondly, from the African Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses. Certain changes are the result of our own reflections. The definitions in this second group are followed by the words "demographic dictionary" in brackets.

- (c) Definitions drawn from the African Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses (document E/CN.14/CAS.6/1, issued by ECA in April 1968)

These definitions correspond to concepts and expressions whose meaning has not, to our knowledge, been accurately defined by any country in its national documents. The definitions drawn from the African Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses are, like the other definitions, followed by an indication of the source in brackets.

- (d) Definitions corresponding to concepts and expressions defined neither in national sources nor in the African Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses

The definitions in this group are merely proposals on our part, and appear in the draft manual in order to provide a basis for consideration by the African demographers. These definitions are followed by the word "suggestion" in brackets.

The above outline demonstrates once again that, at its present stage, the manual of demographic concepts and definitions suitable for African conditions is no more than a preliminary working paper; it will need to be improved by means of fruitful co-operation between the experts of the Population Programme Centre and national experts in demography.

It will no doubt be essential for the experts of the Population Programme Centre who are responsible for preparing the manual to visit a large number of African countries on missions with the aim of investigating and seeking definitions for various phenomena. It would also be desirable, on completion of the investigations planned under the methodology of the manual, to organize a seminar attended by demographic experts from the region, during which these experienced demographers would examine the final version of the manual and, where appropriate, express their views on the matter. However, pending attainment of those still distant stages in the preparation of the manual, let us examine how the document is arranged.



## 6. Structure of the draft manual

This draft manual is composed of two main parts:

- (i) The first part contains running text, i.e. concepts grouped by subject and, where necessary, followed by a definition.
- (ii) The second part, designed to aid the user of the draft manual, contains an alphabetical index.

The first part is divided into nine chapters, in the same way as the multilingual dictionary. These chapters cover the following subjects:

- Chapter 1 : General concepts (Concept and definition of demography, concept of population, various branches of demography, statistical units used in demography: individual, household, family, dwelling, vital events ..., population statistics; concepts and definition of percentages, rates, relative frequencies, indices...)
- Chapter 2 : The Treatment and Processing of Population Statistics (Sources of population statistics: censuses, surveys, population registers, vital records; extraction of data, accuracy of results)
- Chapter 3 : Distribution and Classification of the Population (Geographical distribution of the population: administrative units; sedentary population, nomadic population; distribution of the population by place of residence; urban, rural, town, village..., distribution by age, by sex, by nationality, by religion, by educational status, by occupational classification: economic activity, occupation, industry)
- Chapter 4 : Mortality and Morbidity (Concepts and definitions of mortality, concept and definition of morbidity; diseases and causes of death; mortality statistics)
- Chapter 5 : Nuptiality (Concept and definition of nuptiality, concept and definition of marriage, divorce, marriage statistics)
- Chapter 6 : Fertility (Concept and definition of fertility; births, abortion, sterility, statistics of fertility)

Chapter 7 : Population Growth; Replacement (Natural movement, natural growth, negative growth, rate of increase, determination of population growth, population projections)

Chapter 8 : Migration (Concept and definition of migration; various types of migration; place of departure, place of arrival; concepts of residence; length of residence ....., migration statistics)

Chapter 9 : Economic and Social Aspects of Demography (Over-population; under-population; optimum population, optimum rate of change; social status groups, socio-economic groups, maximum population; population policy ...)

The alphabetical index which follows contains all the concepts used in the draft manual.

Finally, an annex to the draft manual lists documents which contain international recommendations concerning definitions of certain demographic terms. This list also appears in the multilingual dictionary.

The above constitutes the introduction to the first draft manual of demographic concepts and definitions suitable for African conditions. Since the introduction concentrates on our conception of the manual, and on the methodology to be applied, we felt it necessary to submit it to the African demographers in advance for approval. Pending such approval, we have begun to apply the ideas and the methodology described in the present document.

Accordingly, we have drawn up a questionnaire which has been sent to national statistical services in order to collect various concepts and definitions currently being applied, or due to be applied, in African countries. We have, moreover, prepared a number of chapters of the draft manual in accordance with the proposed methodology.

On the assumption that all the replies to the questionnaire reach us by the end of February 1974, we will be in a position to prepare the draft manual according to the following timetable:

- 1974 - 1975 : Completion of the two parts of the draft manual
- End of 1975 - beginning of 1976 : Study of the draft manual by a group of experts meeting in a special seminar
- 1976 : Submission of the draft manual to the Conference of African Demographers
- 1977 : Editing and printing of the final version of the Manual of Demographic Concepts and Definitions Suitable for African Conditions

#### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A.	Archaic; in former use
Adj.	Adjective
Adv.	Adverb
Af. Recs.	African Recommendations for the 1970 Population Censuses
Mult. Dict.	Multilingual Dictionary
N.	Noun
Neol.	Neologism
Part.	Participle
Pl.	Plural
PPC	Population Programme Centre
Rept.	Report
V.	Verb

PART ONE

DEMOGRAPHIC CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS  
SUITABLE FOR AFRICAN CONDITIONS

CHAPTER ONE : GENERAL CONCEPTS

1. Demography

- 1.1. Traditional definitions
- 1.2. Various branches of demography
- 1.3. Demographic definitions suitable for African conditions

2. Statistical units used in demography

- 2.1. The individual or person
- 2.2. The household
- 2.3. The family
- 2.4. The dwelling unit

3. Population statistics



## 1. DEMOGRAPHY

### 1.1. TRADITIONAL DEFINITIONS:

Demography has traditionally been defined as the scientific study of human populations(...)<sup>1/</sup>, primarily with respect to their size, their structure and their development (cf. Mult. Dict.).

The concept of population gives rise to those of person (...), individual (...), inhabitant (...), total number (...), and universe (...).

From demography are formed demographic (...) and demographer (...).

### 1.2. VARIOUS BRANCHES OF DEMOGRAPHY:

Various main branches are conventionally distinguished within demography.

1.2.1. IN TERMS OF CONTENT, these branches are divided into three main groups, which together form quantitative demography. These groups are:

(a) Descriptive demography, which deals with the numbers, geographical distribution and general characteristics of human populations from a purely descriptive standpoint (cf. Mult. Dict.)

(b) Formal demography, also known as pure or theoretical demography, which is the study of quantitative relations among demographic phenomena in abstraction from their association with other phenomena (cf. Mult. Dict.).

(c) Population analysis, which is used by some demographers in a restricted sense comparable to the restricted meaning of theoretical demography. It may occasionally be used to mean the drawing of inferences from data collected in empirical investigations. Sometimes it has been restricted to that part of theoretical demography which makes use of mathematical methods. (cf. Mult. Dict.)

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<sup>1/</sup> The symbol (...) is a temporary substitute for a cross-reference which will enable the reader to find the definition of the concept which precedes the symbol.

When demographic phenomena are studied in actual populations, the term population studies is often used (cf. Mult. Dict.).

1.2.2. IN TERMS OF THE SUBJECT MATTER of population studies, we find:

(a) Economic demography, which is the study of relations between demographic phenomena and economic phenomena.

(b) Social demography, which is the study of relations between demographic phenomena and social phenomena.

(c) Historical demography, which is the study of the history of population development through time.

Mathematical demography is used for any Mathematical treatment, including the application of mathematical functions to empirical data (cf. Mult. Dict.).

Population theories represent over-all approaches to the question of population. They generally serve as a basis for population policy (...).

### 1.3. DEFINITIONS SUITABLE FOR AFRICAN CONDITIONS

The traditional definitions of demography and its various branches which are set out above are perfectly suited to African conditions.

The main limitation which may be imposed on these definitions in African conditions is that not all aspects of demography have yet reached the stage of evolution attained in other continents. The fact that African demographic data (...) are inadequate and fragmentary means that several branches of demography are still at an embryonic stage in Africa.

It can thus be stated that the concept of demography has the same sense in Africa as in other continents. The only reservation which needs to be made concerning African demography is that it is far from embracing all the aspects of demography which are enumerated in the traditional definitions (Suggestion).

## 2. STATISTICAL UNITS USED IN DEMOGRAPHY

The units used in demography include the individual or person, and the family.

2.1. The individual or person - also formerly referred to as a head - is defined as the fundamental unit among a given population.

2.2. The household has traditionally been defined as a socio-economic unit, consisting of individuals who live together (cf. Mult. Dict.).

In order to facilitate comparisons between countries, it has been recommended that a household should be defined as a group of individuals living and taking their meals together within a single dwellings (...).

In Africa, most countries have adopted this definition of the household for the purposes of censuses (...) and demographic surveys (...). (Cf. the manuals for enumerators used in various countries, and the various replies to the PPC questionnaire.)

The following definition of household has also been offered: In African conditions a household is a group of persons who have passed the night preceding the first day of the census or survey in the same dwelling (Tunisia; replies to the PPC questionnaire, and Cameroon - on-the-spot interview).

For the traditional African environment, it is suggested that the definition of the household should also be based on the presence, among the group under consideration, of a person recognized by ALL other persons in the group as the head of the household. (Suggestion.)

Accordingly, an African household might be defined as a group of persons who share meals and a single dwelling unit (...) on a daily basis <sup>1/</sup> and which contains one member recognized BY ALL the others as the head of the household (Suggestion).

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<sup>1/</sup> The members of one single household must necessarily take meals together every day and share a single dwelling unit, except for cases which do not arise from the deliberate action of a given member of the household.



From the concept of household are derived those of private household and composite household.

The expression private household has the same meaning as the concept of household.

A composite household is composed of a group of persons who generally have no relationship (...) with each other, but who live together for the purpose of travel or study, or for reasons of health or discipline, or in order to work, in a hotel, a hall of residence, a hospital or a barrack (Tunisia; replies to the PPC questionnaire).

The study of household composition gives rise to the concept of relationship between the head of the household and the other members.

The relationship of a given member of a household with the head of the household makes it possible to determine what that member represents for the head of the household.

In a household of the western type, the relationship existing between the head of the household and each other member of the household may be one of the following: father, mother, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother, uncle, aunt, son, daughter, cousin, nephew, niece, grandson, granddaughter,...

In such households, the father of a given person P is defined as the man who has begotten P.

The mother of P is the woman who gave birth biologically to P.

The brother (sister) of P is the man (woman) born of the same father and the same mother as P.

The grandfather of P is the father of P's father (paternal grandfather) or the father of P's mother (maternal grandfather).

The grandmother of P is the mother of P's father (paternal grandmother) or the mother of P's mother (maternal grandmother).

P's uncle is the brother of P's father (paternal uncle) or the brother of P's mother (maternal uncle).

P's aunt is the sister of P's father (paternal aunt) or the sister of P's mother (maternal aunt).



P's son is the man who has been begotten by P, or to whom P have given birth.

P's daughter is the woman who has been begotten by P, or to whom P has given birth.

P's cousin is the son (or the daughter) of P's uncle or aunt.

P's nephew is the son of P's brother or sister.

P's niece is the daughter of P's brother or sister.

P's grandson is the son of P's son or the son of P's daughter.

P's granddaughter is the daughter of P's son or the daughter of P's daughter.

The persons listed above are described as blood relatives or genetic relatives of P.

Relationships between the head of the household and the other members of the household may be based on union by marriage (...). In such cases, the relationships listed above are converted into those of brother-in-law, father-in-law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, and so on.

In African conditions the task of determining the relationship between the head of a household and the other members of the household is not as easy as in societies of the western type. In Africa, a person P may have several different "fathers": on the one hand, his natural father, defined as are fathers in western-type societies, and on the other his father by custom and his juridical father.

The father by custom of F may be defined as the individual who, on the basis of custom (...), exercises the rights and assumes the duties with respect to F which ought to fall to F's natural father. This applies, for example, in the case of a child F and his maternal uncle P when F's mother belongs to the household of her brother P. Here, when either is asked what relationship obtains between them, F states that he is P's son, and P states that he is F's father.

F's juridical father may be defined as the individual who, in the eyes of the law, exercises, or ought to exercise, the rights and assumes, or ought to assume, the duties with respect to F of a father of the western type. This applies, for example, in the case of a paternal uncle of F's who legally recognises F after the death of F's natural father, even though, on the level of custom, F lives with his mother in the household of his maternal uncle P, whom he regards as his father.

The example cited with respect to the concept of father could be generalized to cover all relationships existing between the head of a household and the other members. The example shows that the concepts of "father", "mother", "brother", "sister" and so on are not specific in African circumstances. It is therefore suggested that they should be clarified with the use of the words "natural", "by custom" or "juridical". Thus the simple term "father" would, in Africa, be replaced by natural father, juridical father or father by custom, and each of these terms, which are suited to African conditions, could be defined as in the above paragraphs.

2.3. The family must be carefully distinguished from the household. It is defined primarily by reference to relationships which pertain to or arise from reproductive processes and which are regulated by law or by custom. In societies of the western type, the family is based primarily on the affinal relationship (...) established between spouses (...) as a result of marriage (...) and on the relationship (...) between a couple as parents (...), i.e., father (...) and mother (...), and their children (...), i.e., sons (...) and daughters (...) (cf. Mult. Dict.).

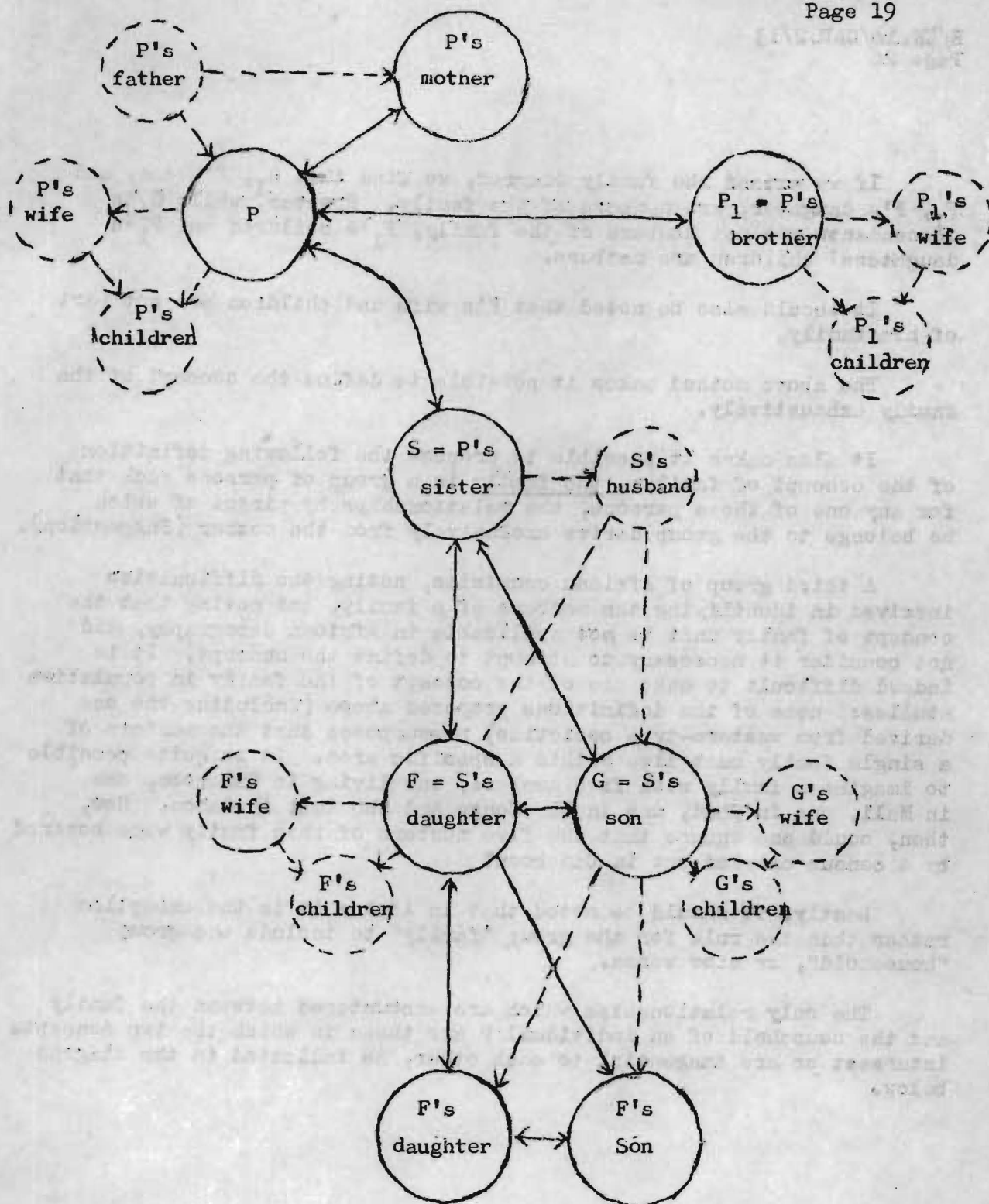
The family has not the same meaning everywhere in Africa. (Suggestion)

In some African countries it is not possible to define the concept of family exhaustively. These are countries in which family relationships are founded not only on the relationship between the father and the mother and the children, but also on the relationship between a given person and, on the one hand, his uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews, nieces and all the descendants of each of his parents, and also, on the other hand, his spouse (...), his parents-in-law (...) and the members of their families.

The particular feature of these countries as far as the definition of the family is concerned is that it is impossible for anyone to identify all the members of his family. Most African countries fall into this category.

In other countries (Congo, Zaire) the family is of a matriarchal type: it centres around the mother.

In these countries the structure of the family of a person P is as represented below. Members of the family appear in solid circles, and non-members in broken circles:



The solid circles linked by double-ended arrows represent members of P's family.

The broken circles represent persons who are not members of the family.



If we extend the family diagram, we find that  $G_1$ ,  $P$ 's son, and  $F_1$ ,  $P$ 's daughter, are members of the family. However, while  $G_1$ 's descendants are not members of the family,  $F_1$ 's children and  $F_1$ 's daughters' children are members.

It should also be noted that  $P$ 's wife and children are not part of his family.

The above method makes it possible to define the concept of the family exhaustively.

It also makes it possible to propose the following definition of the concept of family: the family is a group of persons such that for any one of those persons, the relationships by virtue of which he belongs to the group derive exclusively from the mother (Suggestion).

A third group of African countries, noting the difficulties involved in identifying the members of a family, and noting that the concept of family unit is not applicable in African demography, did not consider it necessary to attempt to define the concept. It is indeed difficult to make use of the concept of the family in population studies: none of the definitions proposed above (including the one derived from western-type societies) presupposes that the members of a single family must live within a specific area. It is quite possible to imagine a family with five members, one living in Cameroon, one in Mali, one in Chad, one in the Congo and the last in Gabon. How, then, could one ensure that the five members of this family were covered by a census carried out in Cameroon?

Lastly, it should be noted that in Africa it is the exception rather than the rule for the group "family" to include the group "household", or vice versa.

The only relationships which are encountered between the family and the household of an individual  $P$  are those in which the two concepts intersect or are tangential to each other, as indicated in the diagram below.



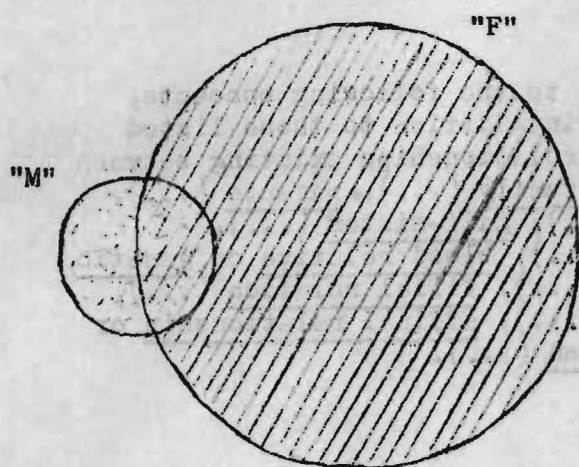


Fig. 1 : M and F intersect

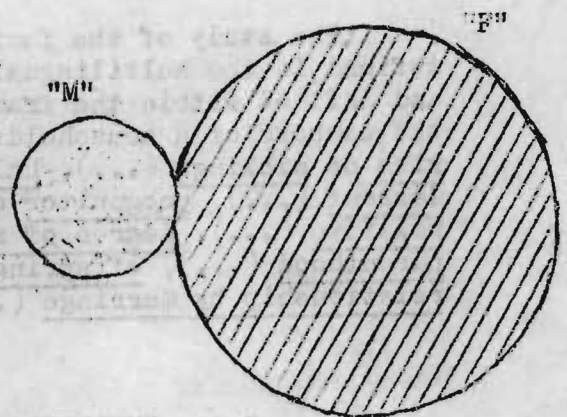


Fig. 2 : M and F are tangential

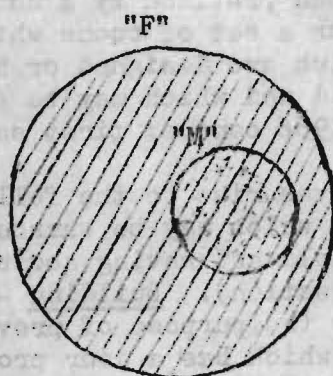


Fig. 3 :  $M \subset F$

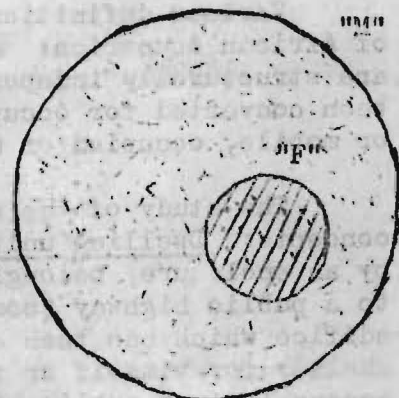


Fig. 4 :  $F \subset M$

**Note:** M = Household of an individual P

F = Family of an individual P

A relationship of the type represented by figs. 1 and 2 always exists between M and F.

In Africa many relationships exist of the type represented by fig. 3.

In Africa, the relationships between M and F of the type represented in Fig. 4 are to all intents and purposes impossible.

The study of the family gives rise to the following concepts, defined in the Multilingual Dictionary, in addition to those listed and defined within the framework of the relationships existing between the members of a household: biological family (...), parents (...), sibs or siblings (...), half-brother (...), half-sister (...), descent (...), progenitor or ancestor (...), blood relative or genetic relative (...), degree of relationship (...), filial relation (...), parenthood (...), offspring or progeny (...), affinal relationship or relationship by marriage (...), generation (...).

#### 2.4. DWELLINGS

A dwelling or dwelling unit is a statistical abstraction denoting housing accommodation appropriate for occupation by one household (...) (cf. Mult. Dict.).

Various definitions of dwelling have been provided by a number of African countries: a dwelling is a room or a set of rooms which are structurally independent or separate, which are designed or have been converted for occupation by one household and which may be permanent or mobile, occupied or unoccupied (Tunisia; 1966 census; first section).

The study of the concept of dwelling gives rise to the following concepts: Dwelling unit - group of buildings which may be surrounded by an enclosure, belonging to a single household and having access <sup>1/</sup> to a public highway (courtyard, passage)(Suggestion). Building - any edifice which has been constructed by man for the purpose of providing shelter for himself or for his property, and which has a door providing access <sup>1/</sup> to a public highway (Tunisia, 1966 census; first section). Type of dwelling - this expression may have two different senses:

(1) It may be regarded as indicating whether the dwelling is a building (hut, villa, palace ...), a part of a building (flat, or studio situated in a block of flats), a multiple-household structure, a building in a state of near-collapse or which has not been completed, a tent, a shed ...

(2) It may also be understood as indicating the building materials which were used for the walls, the roof, the floor, etc. of the dwelling, as well as whether it is provided with water, gas, electricity, sanitation services, etc. (Tunisia, 1966 census; Manual for Enumerators).

<sup>1/</sup> Access to a public highway may be direct, or may be through a courtyard, a passage or other areas which lead to the public highway.

Status of occupation of a dwelling - an indication of whether the dwelling is occupied by the owner, by a tenant or by a non-paying occupant (Tunisia, 1966 census; Manual for Enumerators).

Owner or landlord of a dwelling - Household occupying a dwelling owned by the head of the household or another member (Suggestion).

Tenant of a dwelling - Household occupying a dwelling by virtue of a contract with the owner or landlord and paying a specific rent, whatever the amount (Suggestion).

Non-paying occupant - Household none of the members of which is either the owner (landlord) of the dwelling nor a tenant. (Suggestion)

Room - Any one of the following: bedroom, dining room, living room, any room or other area intended for occupation and normally designed for that purpose, having a door for entry, separated from the other rooms by floor-to-ceiling partitions and large enough to accommodate an adult's bed - at least four square metres. (Tunisia, 1966 census; Manual for Enumerators)

Surface area - area indicating the capacity of the dwelling as to number of occupiers. (Suggestion)

Degree of crowding of a dwelling - Relationship between the number of persons occupying a dwelling and the size of the dwelling as represented by its surface area (Suggestion).

Insufficiently occupied dwelling - Dwelling whose degree of crowding is lower than normal crowding standards <sup>1/</sup> (Suggestion).

Overcrowded dwelling - Dwelling whose degree of crowding is higher than normal crowding standards (Suggestion).

Unoccupied dwelling - A dwelling which is not used for residence either permanently or occasionally (cf. Mult. Dict.).

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<sup>1/</sup> It is suggested that the African demographers should establish crowding standards which may be regarded as normal everywhere.



### 3. POPULATION STATISTICS

The terms population statistics or demographic statistics (...), when used in the singular, denote methods of quantitative analysis of population data, or, more generally, the art of collecting and presenting statistical information about the population. When used in the plural, they refer to numerical data about populations (Mult. Dict.).

This definition is applicable to Africa.

Population statistics gives rise to the following concepts, which are defined in the Multilingual Demographic Dictionary (pp. 7 to 11 of the English edition): observation; collection; editing; scrutiny; table; tabulation; classes; groups or classification; collation; basic data; raw data; primary data; crude data; series; number; figure; statistical table; variable; variate; qualities; characteristics; attributes; analysis; refinement of figures; ratio; proportion; percentage; rate; specific rate; general rate; revised rate; corrected rate; standardized rate; adjusted rate; relative frequency; absolute frequency; chance; risk; probability; homogeneous; provisional data; final data; average; mean; arithmetic average; arithmetic mean; geometric mean; geometric average; weighted average; weighted mean; weight; median; dispersion; scatter; variation; variability; differences; deviations; measures of dispersion; range; interquartile range; semi-interquartile range; quartile deviation; mean deviation; average deviation; variance; standard deviation; quantiles; order statistics; quartiles; deciles; centiles; continuity; discontinuity; discrete (variable); frequency distribution; distribution; cell frequency; class frequency; structure; time series; trend; fluctuation; variation; deviation; periodic fluctuation; cyclical fluctuation; seasonal fluctuation; irregular fluctuation; chance fluctuation; random fluctuation; graduation; smoothing; graphic graduation; curve fitting; method of least squares; moving averages; calculus of finite differences; interpolation; extrapolation; indices of heaping; indices of bunching; tables; current tables; cohort tables; generation tables; current rates; cohort rates; generation rates; estimation; estimate; conjecture; graphic representation; diagrammatic representation; diagram; graph; figure; chart; map; logarythmic graph; semi-logarythmic graph; frequency polygons; histograms; bar charts; sampling procedures; sample; elements; sampling unit; sampling scheme; sampling plan; probability sample; random; sampling frame; sampling fraction; cluster sampling; stratified random sampling; strata; multi-stage sampling; representative sample; quota sampling; population parameter; sampling errors; standard error; confidence interval; significant difference; level of significance.