

research in brief

Family — Public and Private Institution

The modern family differs from its predecessors in degree of privacy afforded members for the following reasons:

1. Most of the gainful employment is done outside the home.
2. There are fewer outsiders in households.
3. Changes in architectural styles and use of space.
4. Families have apparently moved indoors from the front porch and yard.
5. Diminishing performance of family roles in public domain resulting in less social controls.

“The Family As a Public and Private Institution: An Historical Perspective.” Barbara Laslett. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, XXXV (August, 1973), 480-92.

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