Community and Family Studies

Stage 6 Resource List
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Reports on a study conducted by the Australian Institute of Family Studies, which involved interviewing children and parents about their relationships with parents and siblings, the kinds of activities that occurred in their families, sources of conflict between family members and their feelings about family life.
Relevant to ‘Individuals and Groups’, ‘Families and Communities’, ‘Groups in Context’ and ‘Parenting and Caring’.

Investigates a broad range of areas and concepts including the management process, resource management, wellbeing, life span development, interpersonal relationships, groups, leadership and conflict, communities, families, work and researching social issues.

ISBN 0713183683
Considers the role of the law in society, how the community can influence changes in the law, laws relevant to different individuals and groups in the community and the appropriateness of laws in meeting individual, family and community needs.
Relevant to ‘Family and Societal Interactions’ and ‘Social Impact of Technology’.

Has chapters on what constitutes sociology; identity, being yourself, being Australian; ourselves in families; sex and gender in Australia; unemployment; poverty and inequality; Australian media.
Relevant to ‘Individuals and Groups’ and ‘Groups in Context’.

Addresses issues of theoretical and popular concern in Australian society, such as inequality between people of different classes or cultures, the ways of being male and female, and the role of Australia in an increasingly globalised world.
Consideration of research and how it is done are also included.
Relevant to ‘Groups in Context’ and ‘Parenting and Caring’.

ISBN 1863738258
Detailed account of varying perceptions of masculinity.
Useful background reading.

Examines what families are, and how they meet our needs, family types, family issues, and families and change. Family issues include communication, gender and family roles, power and violence, child abuse and poverty. This title uses a student centred approach to learning and includes activities, case studies, research projects and role play.

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’, ‘Groups in Context’, ‘Family and Societal Interactions’ and ‘Parenting and Caring’.


Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’


Must be purchased with either *Families in Form* or *Family Diversity*.

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’

Department of Industrial Relations NSW, *Industrial Relations Information and Research Kit for Teachers and Students*, Department of Industrial Relations NSW, http://www.dir.nsw.gov.au

Very useful resource that defines terms, outlines government bodies and provides a list of further resources to explore.


Detailed teacher resource covering parenting issues.


Investigates the important aspects of the contemporary family through a skills-based approach. Different topics, such as family status, male and female stereotypes, family in stress, cultural diversity, family and technology and family and the law are presented using current and relevant materials to stimulate discussion and activity.

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’, ‘Communities in Context’, ‘Family and Societal Issues’ and ‘Social Impact of Technology’.


Includes information and exercises in a variety of areas related to groups and how individuals function within them. Investigates topics of differentiating between teams and groups, reasons why people join groups, group norms, roles of group members, cohesiveness and conformity, leadership styles, power in groups, communication skills, barriers to effective communication, group decision-making and problem-solving and conflict resolution.

Relevant to ‘Resource Management’ and ‘Individuals and Groups’.

Includes information and exercises related to negotiation within, and between groups. Investigates topics of individual and group negotiation, active listening, non-verbal communication, persuasive strategies, channels of communication and strategies and tactics.

Relevant to ‘Resource Management’, ‘Individuals and Groups’ and ‘Individuals and Work’.


Focuses on Australia’s moral and legal obligations towards children. The book contains chapters that focus on children’s rights and child policy in Australia. Particularly relevant to the HSC option module ‘Family and Societal Interactions’ where it draws attention to significant legislation affecting children (and to a lesser extent youth) and discusses issues relating to the laws and their impact on individuals and families.


Uses wide research and careful reading and analysis of the relevant empirical data to consider the ‘What about the boys?’ debate. The stance is pro-feminist, while also conceding that schooling needs to reconstitute masculinity for boys’ own benefit, as well as for the benefit of humanity. Focuses on meeting the needs of both boys and girls and looks at ensuring that schooling contributes to a more gender just society.

Useful across the course.


Provides stimulating material on a variety of aspects of work, topics include paid and unpaid work, the worth or status of work, equal employment opportunity, trade unions, communication in the workplace, changing workplaces, unusual occupations and safety in the workplace.

Relevant to ‘Family and Societal Interactions’, ‘Individuals and Work’ and ‘Social Impact of Technology’.


Covers the entire research process, from thinking about what might be researched and setting some research objectives, through to writing the final research project report. Research methods, qualitative and quantitative research, interpreting, analysing and presenting data are also covered.

Herbert, M, *Setting Limits: Promoting Positive Parenting*, PACTS Number 7

Provides information and skills to help parents and caregivers in setting appropriate limits for children. Looks at setting fair, firm limits, communicating reasonable and appropriate rules, giving clear and assertive instructions, praising and encouraging cooperation and applying consistent consequences to misbehaviour.

Relevant to ‘Parenting and Caring’.


Covers a wide range of issues which look at relationships between families, communities and government and responses to continual and rapid social, economic and technological changes. Issues include relationships between family and government; contribution of Aboriginal family values to Australian family life; gender roles and dealing with work and family; family incomes and inequality; sole parents and social security; structure of work and workplace demands and the family; legal perceptions of the family and same sex partners; and the family and educational futures.


Looks at how fathers, mothers and employers succeed in managing the competitive demands of home and work. Highlights the interrelationship of work and family for men and explores practical strategies to help working fathers achieve balance.

Relevant to ‘Parenting and Caring’ and ‘Individuals and Work’.


An account of how Australian attitudes are changing under the influence of the events of the past twenty years, considering social, cultural, political, economic and technological change. Particularly useful in the issues related to the work ethic, working mothers, divorce, the workplace, groups, family values and housing.

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’, ‘Family and Societal Interactions’, ‘Parenting and Caring’ and ‘Individuals and Work’.


Easy to read text includes issues on change, family, work and what is to come. Useful across the course.

Complete study of stages in lifespan development; treating physical, intellectual, social and emotional growth at each stage; and emphasising that development results from the interdependence of these areas at every stage. For each stage significant and topical issues are raised as ‘applied topics’, such as adolescent alcohol use, impact of television on children, divorce, retirement and meeting the needs of the elderly.

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’ and ‘Groups in Context’.


Comprehensive coverage of all aspects of lifespan development, which provides a focus on the major issues for each stage. Examines theories of development; prenatal development and preparations; physical, cognitive and socioemotional development at each stage; the diversity of families and parenting; societal changes in families; adolescent issues and status; gender and identity development; marriage; family life cycle; parental roles; work pathways of men and women; decline in old age; social policies for the aged; and a wide range of other relevant and topical areas. Articles, case studies and overviews are included throughout.

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’, ‘Communities in Context’ and ‘Contemporary Issues in Parenting and Caring’.


A video and discussion sheet package that covers topics such as:
- what is a family?
- the family life cycle and stress
- marriage/partnership and stress
- birth of children and stress
- separation and divorce/stress
- families, work and stress
- the primary school years/stress
- the adolescent years/stress
- family conflict
- managing stress in families
- games/activities

Relevant to ‘Families and Communities’, ‘Groups in Context’ and ‘Parenting and Caring’.


These resources are concerned with Australian contemporary social issues and the diverse facts and views that shape them. The information contained in them comes for a wide variety of sources including government reports and statistics, newspaper reports, magazine articles, surveys, literature from lobby groups and charitable organisations.
Titles relevant for this course include:

Vol 9   Changing roles in the Family. ISBN 1875682090
Vol 10  Indigenous People. ISBN 1875682104
Vol 14  Children in Care. ISBN 1875682147
Vol 15  Living With Disability. ISBN 1875682155
Vol 16  When Families Break Down. ISBN 1875682163
Vol 18  Gender and Discrimination. ISBN 187568218X
Vol 20  Changes at Work. ISBN 1875682139
Vol 21  Ageing: Everybody’s Future. ISBN 1875682228
Vol 23  Genetic Engineering. ISBN 1875682252
Vol 27  IVF and Surrogacy. ISBN 1875682325
Vol 33  Information Superhighway. ISBN 1875682392
Vol 34  A Man’s World. ISBN 1875682406
Vol 39  Parenting. ISBN 1875682457
Vol 42  Conflict Resolution. ISBN 1875682481
Vol 45  Industrial Relations. ISBN 1875682511
Vol 62  Coping with Stress. ISBN 1875682708
Vol 64  Marriage. ISBN 1875682724
Vol 69  Child Care. ISBN 1875682775
Vol 71  Homelessness. ISBN 1875682791
Vol 75  Euthanasia. ISBN 187568283X
Vol 77  Poverty in Australia. ISBN 1875682856
Vol 79  Gene Technology. ISBN 1875682872
Vol 85  The Computer Age. ISBN 1875682945


Relevant to ‘Parenting and Caring’, ‘Social Impact of Technology’ and ‘Individuals and Work’


Examines how responsibilities for managing the sometimes conflicting demands of work and family life, as well as the costs and benefits, can be more equitably shared between families, employers and the community. Topics include demographic and social changes, needs of workers with family responsibilities, impact of family on work, satisfaction at work and in life, sharing work and family responsibilities, how families manage, sole parents, policy and legislation and equitable sharing between men and women.

Relevant to ‘Groups in Context’, ‘Parenting and Caring’ and ‘Individuals and Work’. 
Websites

Australian Bureau of Statistics World Wide Web Information Services
http://abs.gov.au

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is Australia's official statistical organisation. It encourages informed decision-making, research and discussion within governments and the community, by providing a high quality, objective and responsive national statistical service. This site has information about the ABS, the main statistical features of many current publications, and other summary statistics. The contents list allows direct access to pages of interest including:

- A Statistical Profile of Australia
- Community Profiles

Links to other statistical agencies is efficient. Sites are organised by country and region. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare is a relevant Australian site.

Relevant to ‘Groups in Context’ and ‘Individuals and Work’.

Australian Department of Health and Aged Care http://www.health.gov.au

The Department's responsibilities include promoting good health and ensuring all Australians have access to key health services. Navigating to relevant pages requires patience. Once there, information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Australians and People with Disabilities and their Carers is useful.

Relevant to ‘Groups in Context’ and ‘Family and Societal Interactions’.

Australian Institute of Family Studies http://www.aifs.org.au

The Institute is a Commonwealth statutory authority promoting the identification and understanding of factors affecting marital and family stability in Australia. The site is easy to navigate, providing such things as a listing of Australian journals and articles by Australi ans in international journals. The search tool requires the user to enter words into fields provided, it then searches a database and provides a listing of relevant readings. This is a useful source when researching specific areas. Note that readings are not available online. Abstracts from Family Matters, the research journal of the Institute, are available.

Relevant to many areas of the subject.

Atlanta Reproductive Health Centre http://www.ivf.com

The contents list on the home page provides easy access to current information about infertility, IVF (including GIFT procedures) and endometriosis. It is a comprehensive source for articles on all aspects of infertility. Site highlights include the IVF photo gallery, FAQs and a chat room to deal with online questions.

Relevant to ‘Parenting and Caring’.
Benevolent Society of NSW http://www.bensoc.asn.au

The Benevolent Society of NSW pioneered vital social reforms that form the basis of many of Australia's community services today. There are four centres that focus on children, women's health, ageing and social leadership. The site is currently being updated and should be complete by the end of October, 1999. The site will provide links to:

- Centre on Ageing
- Centre for Children
- Centre for Women's Health
- Post Adoption Resource Centre
- Sydney Leadership.

Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services http://dss.gov.au

Navigating this site is relatively easy. It provides a drop down contents list that allows access to information about childcare assistance and rebates. In addition, information relating to finding a child care place, financial assistance, help for children with special needs and information for families about the types of services available is accessible.

Related to ‘Parenting and Caring’ and ‘Family and Societal Interactions’.

Department for Women http://www.women.nsw.gov.au

The Department for Women is a key agent in improving the economic and social wellbeing of women. Its focus is on women with limited access to social and economic resources. This is a very useful site. Some publications are downloadable others are only available for browsing online. Literature available includes information about Parental Leave as well as a list of contact details for related services and inquiries. The site provides links to many related organisations including:

- NSW Anti-Discrimination Board
- Rural Women’s Network
- Office of the Status of Women
- Australian Feminist Policy Network
- Womenwatch (the gateway to United Nations’ sites)
- Australian Women’s Intra Network (a database of Australian women’s organisations).

Quick links to the Report on the Ministerial Inquiry into Pay Equity and the Aboriginal Women’s Directory are also available. In addition the site provides a student resource kit that contains information on:

- Library Services
- Journals and Statistics
- Agencies and Organisations
- Legal Links
- HSC Resource Links
- Women’s Information Sites
- Women and Work: information sources, statistics and bibliography
- Violence Against Women: information sources, statistics and bibliography.

Related across the subject.
Department of Industrial Relations http://www.dir.nsw.gov.au

The Department of Industrial Relations works with employees, employers and their representatives to facilitate equitable, innovative and productive workplace relations. This is an easy to navigate site, using a drop down box to provide easy access to a variety of facts sheets that cover areas such as:

- History of Pay Equity
- Paid and Unpaid Work
- Work and Families
- Workers as Carers
- Women’s Pay and Employment Patterns
- Why is there a gap between men’s and women’s earnings?
- Personal Carers Leave
- Parental Leave
- Unfair Dismissal.

Online publications include the titles:

- Flexible work practices: the benefits
- Flexible work practices make good business
- Maternity at work

Relevant to ‘Parenting and Caring’ and ‘Individuals and Work’.

Lawlink NSW http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au

This site is the Attorney General Department’s Online. The Department provides a range of services ranging from courts, resolution of community disputes, discrimination and privacy complaints, overseeing the legal profession, and simply changing the law to accurately reflect the needs and values of the community. The site allows a simple search for laws using an easily accessible database. Visitors to the site can either enter a phrase or search words, then highlight selections from drop down boxes to enable their search. The site provides an overview of such areas as Australia’s Legal System, Law in Australia, The Parliamentary System, The Process of Law Making and Legal Aid. In addition, the site includes a school projects page, providing information about:

- The legal system
- Crime and the law
- Environment and the law
- Family and the law
- Workplace and the law.

Relevant to ‘Family and Societal Interactions’ and ‘Individuals and Work’.

National Council on Family Relations http://www.ncfr.com

This is an American site. NCFR provides a forum for family researchers, educators, and practitioners to share in the development and dissemination of knowledge about families and family relationships, establishes professional standards, and works to promote family wellbeing. Limited use but may be an appropriate resource when investigating government’s responsibility for supporting families. Provides an efficient link to many American-based family-related websites.

Relevant to ‘Parenting and Caring’ and ‘Family and Societal Interactions’.
Scaleplus http://scaleplus.law.gov.au

SCALEplus is the legal information retrieval system owned by the Australian Attorney General's Department. It is an integral part of the Window On The Law initiative to bring low or no-cost access to the law for the community. The site allows the user to search through legislation and case law for areas of interest by entering phrase or search words. In addition, a direct link to popular Acts provides a list of items including:

• Family Law Act
• Social security Act
• Workplace Relations Act.

Relevant to ‘Family and Societal Interactions’.

Service NSW http://www.nsw.gov.au

This site is essentially the NSW Government’s site. While the content is comprehensive and vast it is relatively easy to navigate. A series of icons provides link to information about:

• Business
• Community
• Culture and recreation
• Education
• Energy services
• Employment
• Environment
• About the government
• Health
• Housing
• Law and justice
• Rural
• Transport
• Facilities
• Youth.

The Law and Justice section includes a valuable student project page. Websites, a textbook search database, CD-ROM database and library database are provided. Additionally, a link to NSW legislation takes the user to a database containing consolidated legislation of the State of New South Wales as provided by the NSW Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

Relevant to many areas of the subject.