



## Family Life



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The main beliefs of many people in Ghana include the importance of family and the respect of elders.

More than half of the people in Ghana live in small towns and villages surrounded by countryside. Extended families live close together, sometimes sharing a house. Everyone relies on each other within the family. Homelessness does not exist in rural areas.

By watching adults, children learn from their elders. Throughout their lives children receive moral and religious instruction from the older people in the community. Girls are taught housework. Boys are taught hunting and farming.

Recently, many people have left the villages to go to larger towns and cities to go to school and get better jobs. Slowly the traditions and ways of life in the village are changing. Despite this, women's roles are still traditional looking after the house, raising children, working the fields and selling goods in the market.

Ceremonies are important to Ghanaians. There are special ones for every event of life: birth, child naming, marriage, death, planting and harvesting. The ceremonies bring families together often, with an amazing show of colour, song, music and dance.