

# ND CFS Quality Assurance

## QA CASE REVIEW

### Genogram Resource

**COMPLETING A GENOGRAM:** A genogram is a helpful tool that visually describes a family composition and relationships which will assist the review team in understanding the case individuals. The genogram can be a copy from the existing record or can be completed using this suggested Case Review Genogram reference. Please note that the below directions are suggestions and are not required.

#### 1. BEGIN BY DIAGRAMMING THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD:

- Symbols describe the sex of the individual. A male is indicated by a square; a female is indicated by a circle; a triangle is used to indicate if the sex of the person is unknown (i.e. the sibling of a great-grandparent or a stillborn child whose sex is unknown).
- An "X" through a figure indicated the person is no longer living.

#### 2. DRAW CONNECTING LINES BETWEEN THESE SYMBOLS TO DESCRIBE FAMILY COMPOSITION:

- Children born to the couple are drawn below the parents and the child's symbol is connected to the line between the parents, starting with the oldest to the left.
- Twins are connected to one another, and a single line connects their line to their parent's line.
- A dotted line drawn around the group of individuals denotes the household composition.

#### 3. DRAW ADDITIONAL SYMBOLS TO DESCRIBE FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS:

- Marital separation is indicated by a single slash along the connecting line; a divorce is indicated by two slashes.
- Location of the slashes on the connecting line denotes which parent has custody of the children. The slashes on the marital line indicate the couple is divorced. The location of the slashes set the father off from the children and indicates the mother has custody of the children.
- Additional lines are drawn between the symbols to describe the emotional quality of the relationships that exist between the children and the parents or between the siblings.

#### 4. REPEAT THE PROCESS VERTICALLY & HORIZONTALLY TO INCLUDE EXTENDED FAMILY:

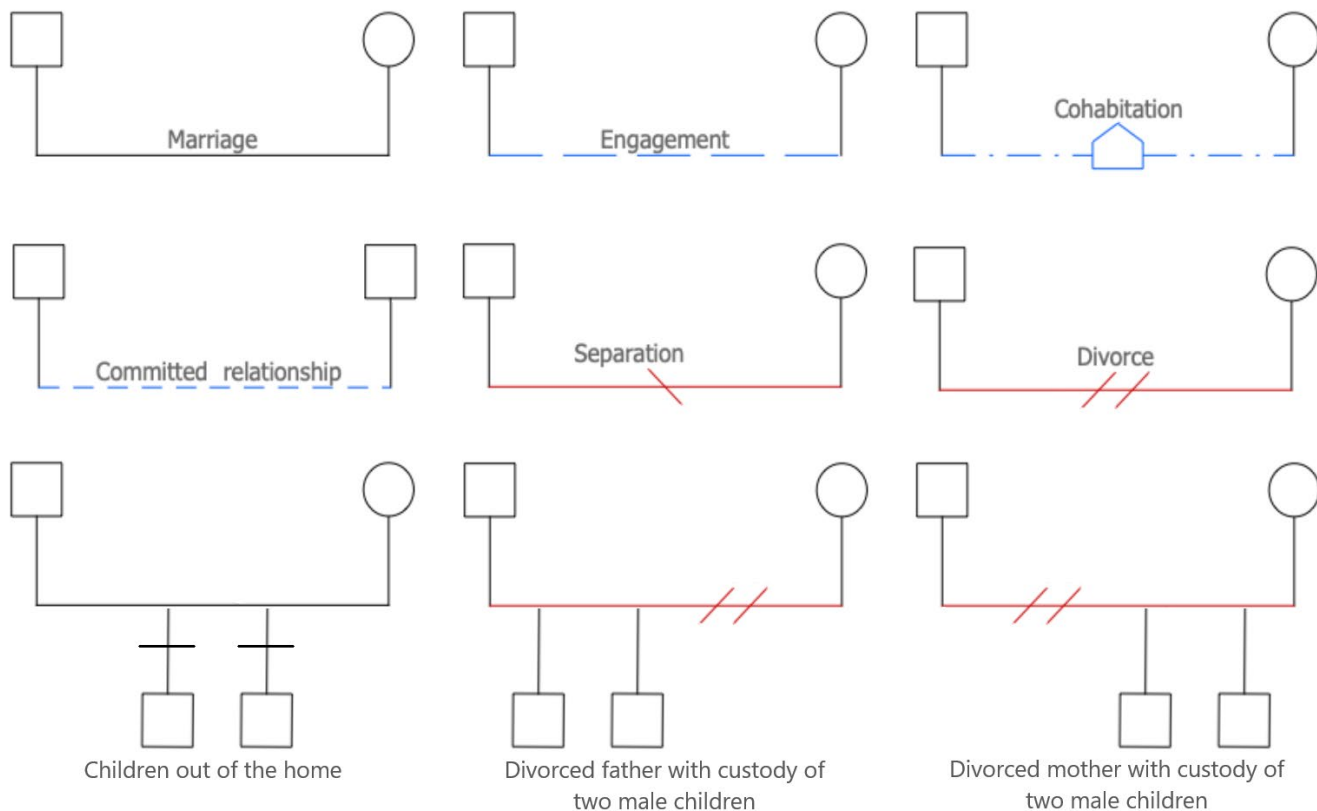
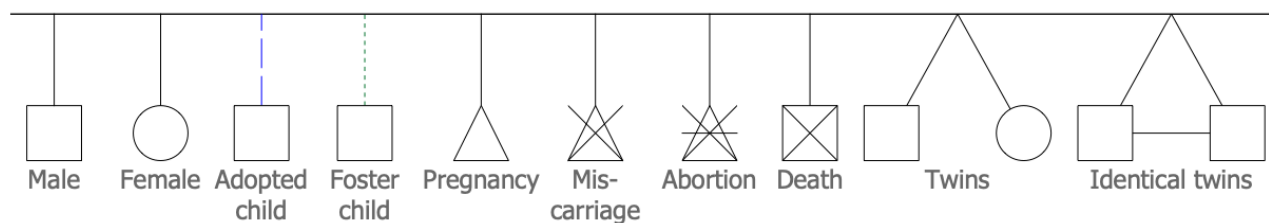
- Grandparents are connected and diagrammed above the parents (vertically). Connecting lines extend from the grandparent's line to the parent.
- Repeat the process horizontally, as needed, to include the aunts, uncles, and cousins of the children.

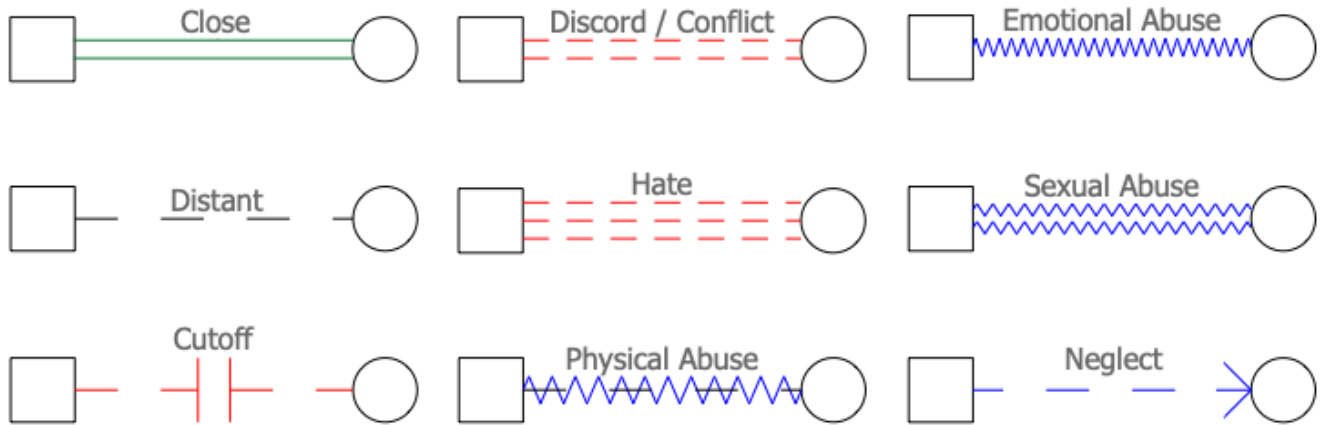
### 5. FILL IN THE DIAGRAM WITH IDENTIFYING INFORMATION:

- Upon obtaining the skeletal structure of the family, identifying and historical information can be added.
  - The name is written next to the individual's symbol

Optional:

- The birthdate and death date are written next to the individual's symbol.
- The age of the individual can be written inside the square or circle figure for quick reference.
- Marriage dates and dates of separation and divorce are written next to the connecting lines between the individuals.
- Occupations, interests, descriptive characterizations, health conditions, etc., can be written next to the individual.
- Information that further describes the family unit, such as race, income, religion, ethnicity, or cultural influences on the family can be written in the border.





**Examples:**

(labels are used for example purposes only)

