

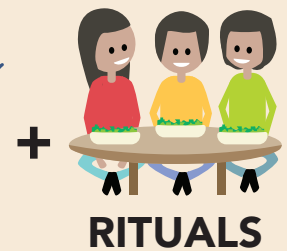
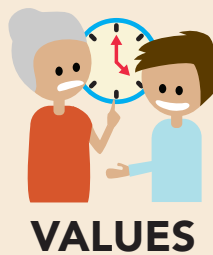


# UNDERSTANDING *Family* Culture



Remember: you have blind spots. Your own family culture influences the way you interact with others. You will be most helpful to families when you take the time to understand their culture.

## 3 Cornerstones of a Family's Culture



### EXPLICIT ASPECTS OF FAMILY CULTURE



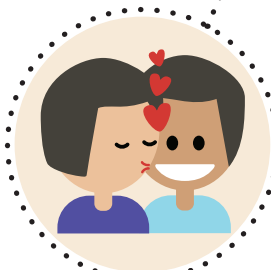
How important is hierarchy?



How are gender roles perceived?



What are the cultural attitudes toward aging and the elderly?



What personal activities are seen as public? Private?



How do people view obligations toward one another?



What is the tolerance level for non-conformity?



## DEEPLY-EMBEDDED ASPECTS OF FAMILY CULTURE



### Communication

- What is the pause time allowed when someone is speaking?
- Are there any "off-limit" topics?
- What is humorous? How is humor expressed?



### Economy

- Who is responsible for what?
- How are earning, saving, giving and taking explained?
- What do discipline, rewards, consequences and incentives look like?



### Expectations

- Are people encouraged to be more action-oriented or to be more contemplative?
- How is time understood and measured?
- What are the main family rules? Who enforces them?