

KEY DEFINITIONS #1

POLICY, FAMILY POLICY, INDIRECT FAMILY POLICY, AND FAMILY IMPACT LENS

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Policy, Family Policy, Indirect Family Policy, and Family Impact Lens

Policy	A plan or course of action carried out through a law, rule, code, or other mechanism in the public or private sectors
Family Policy	Any policy that directly affects family outcomes, such as the various responsibilities and functions that families perform for the well-being of their members and society, including (a) family formation, (b) partner relationships, (c) economic support, (d) childrearing, and (e) caregiving
Indirect Family Policy	Policies that directly address individual needs and well-being, but also indirectly affect family outcomes
Family Impact Lens	A way of thinking and a frame for viewing the world that moves beyond <i>what</i> policy or program is enacted or established to <i>how</i> or <i>why</i> it impacts family functioning