Chapter 19.   Kinship

A child learning to speak often starts with kinship terms: 'mother' and 'father' among the earliest. In many widely different languages, 'mother' is [mama] and 'father' is [papa], beginning with labial consonants. During the early years of Nwehu Nuswei (NN), the *M---* FAMILY of words was dedicated to family and daily life activities[25] with these early languagage development phenomena in mind.

Within the *M---* FAMILY, GENUS *Mu--* was quickly given the task of representing natural (biological) family words, and SPECIES *Mum-* was assigned to the immediate family. In light of the NN gender association of final vowels *e* 'feminine', *a* 'any gender', and *o* 'masculine', parental terminology quickly emerged:

- 'mother'   ⌐ꓶꓓ   *mume*
- 'father'   ⌐ꓶꓒ   *mumo*
- 'parent'   ⌐ꓶꓕ   *muma*

I personally have always had difficulty keeping family relationship terms straight, perhaps owing to having three 'grandfathers' and three 'grandmothers' (thanks to remarriage on one side of my family). As a result it was not until several decades after the initial FAMILY assignment that I turned my attention to developing more detailed NN kinship terms.

Ðp 19.1 and 19.2 are an attempt to graphically display kinship terminology. The first display gives English terms and serves as a partial translation of the NN terms shown in the second. Due to space constraints, only the principal terms are displayed in either language, but of course details are given and discussed in later sections of this chapter. These diagrams place "ME" ꓲꓶꓓ *himei* 'self' at the center and spread out from there. Above ME are previous generations, while below are younger generations. On the same level are siblings and spouse(s).

In addition to terms focusing on biological relationships in SPECIES *Mu--*, several GENUSES in species *Mi--* provide words for situations like "normal" and "different" marriage relationships, adoption, god-parenting, and terminology for relations several generations removed.

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25   The first extant draft of the *M---* FAMILY is dated 1986-09-25.
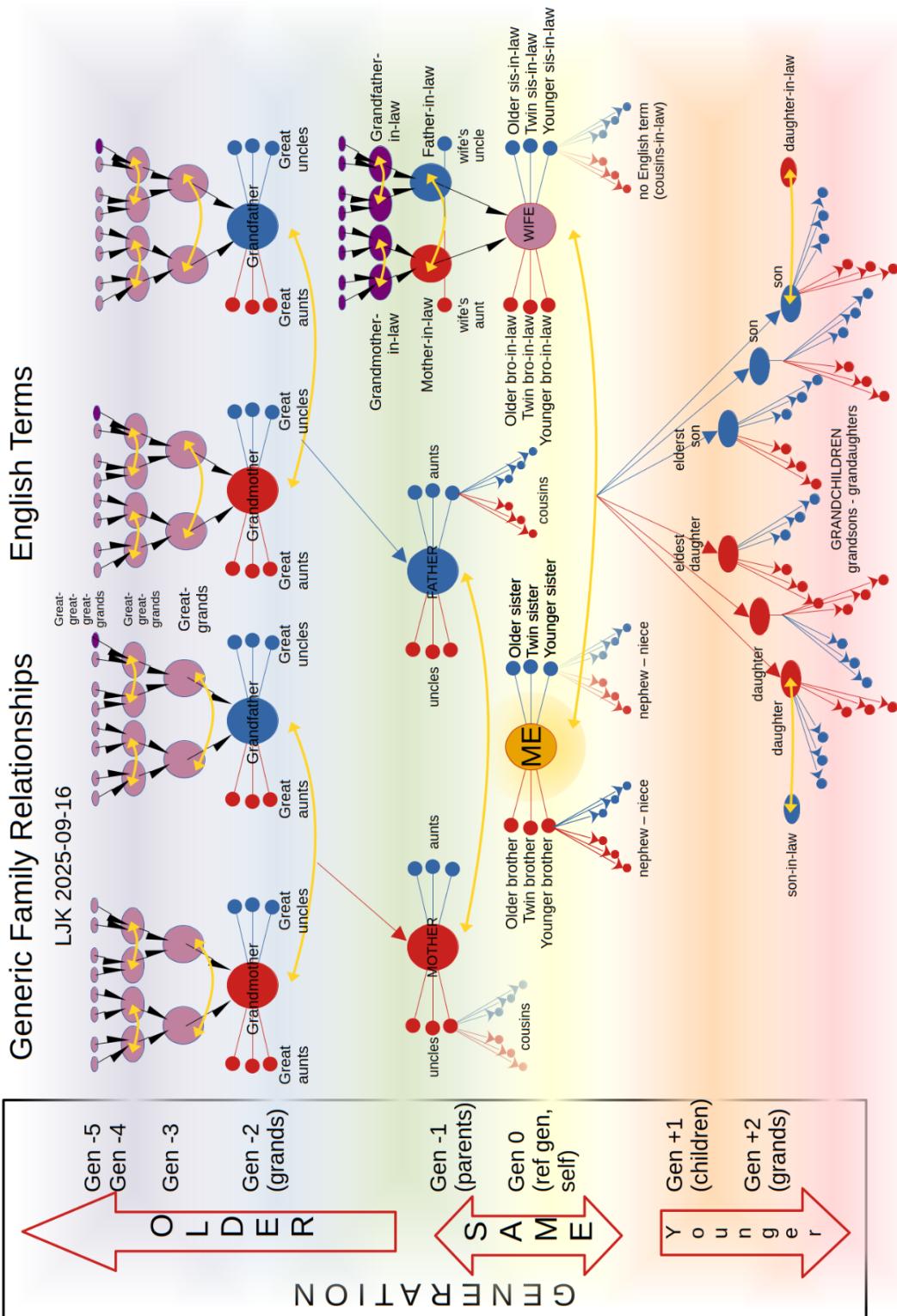
Ðp 19.1 - Generic Family Relationships: English Terms
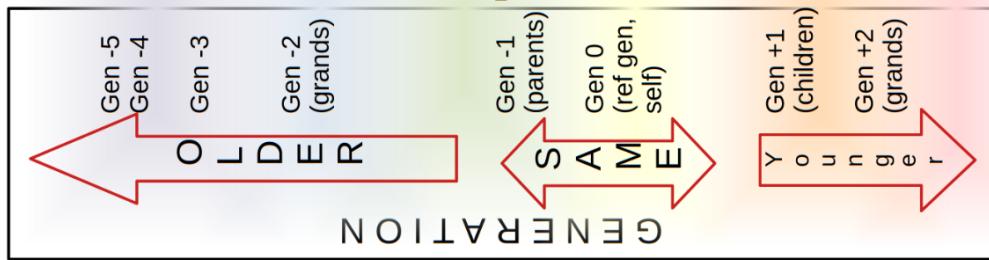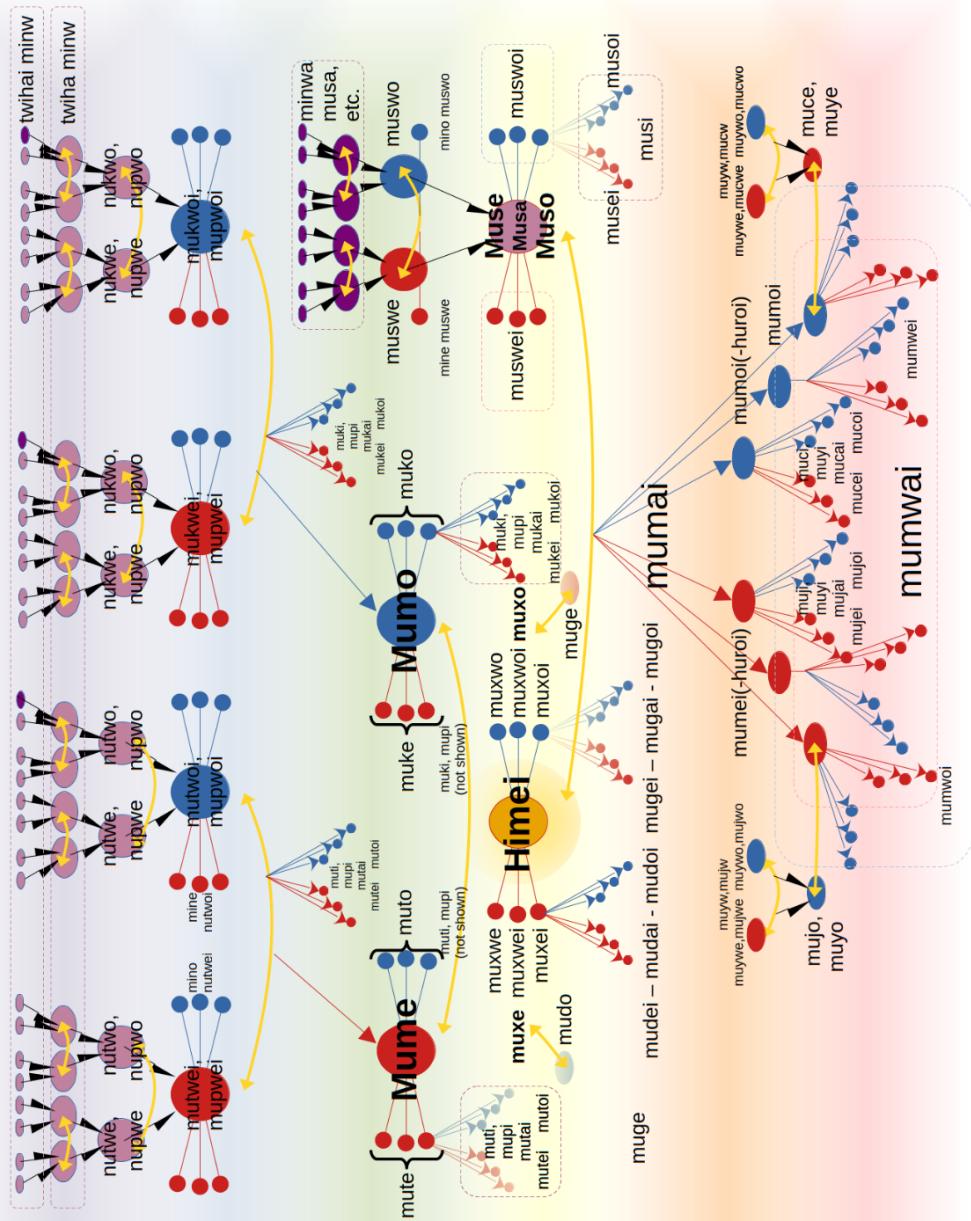
Dp 19.2 - Generic Family Relationships: Nwehu Nuswei Terms

19.1.   General Principles

19.1.1.   Kinship in General

First up in FAMILY *M---* is a SPECIES representing general kinship relations. (Perhaps this is about as far as I got in my childhood understanding of family relations!) Ɖρ 19.3 gives the definitions:

Core value		General		Younger		Older		Same Generation
unspecified, general	u	muhu	Kinship, kinfolk	muhi	Younger relative	muhw	Older relative	muhwi	Same generation (or age) relative / older + younger relatives
Female	e	muhe	Female relative	muhei	Younger female relative	muhwe	Older female relative	muhwei	Same-generation female relative
Any Gender	a	muha	any-gender relative	muhai	Younger any-gender relative	muhwa	Older any-gender relative	muhwai	Same-generation any-gender relative
Male	o	muho	Male relative	muhoi	Younger male relative	muhwo	Older male relative	muhwoi	Same-generation male relative

Ɖρ 19.3 – SPECIES **Muh-** 'Kinship in General'

This SPECIES illustrates how the general concepts of family relations are expressed in NN, as discussed in the following section.

19.1.2.   Kinship Concepts

Fundamental concepts conveyed in kinship terminology include gender, relative age, and indirect links through father, mother, sisters and brothers, male and female children, multiple marriages, adoption, and informal parentage (that is, not officially sectioned by society through marriage). All these are handled to some degree in NN.

19.1.2.1.   Gender and Relative Age

In SPECIES *Muh-* (Ɖρ 19.3), we can see illustrated the semantic dimensions considered essential for most kinship terms illustrated in the final vowel:

- Gender:
  - ⅃   *e*   female
  - ⌐   *a*   any gender
  - ⅃ᵖ   *o*   male
  - -   -   disregarding gender, or group classification
- Relative age:
  - ㄥ   *i*   younger
  - Ꮰ   *w*   older
  - Ꮰ   *wi*   same
  - -   -   disregarding relative age

Male and female gender are fundamental to the sexual reproduction process; as far as I know all natural languages distinguish between the genders of close family members. NN adds the designation 'any gender' or 'flex gender', making it available for use in situations where neutrality or reference to non-traditional genders is desired. 'Any gender' -⌐ -*a* contrasts semantically with 'disregarding gender' -ᴣ -*u,* which refers to the general concept or group of relatives in that category:

- General –ᴣ -*u*
  - ᒉᴈɪᴣ   *muhu*   'kinship, relationship'
  - ᒉᴈɪ⌐   *muha*   'a relative of any gender'
- Singular, plural, and COLLECTIVE
  Since NN words don't indicate number, a FUNCTIONAL is added to indicate singular, plural, and COLLECTIVE numbers. See §8.2.2. Since ᒉᴈɪᴣ *muhu* refers to kinship as a concept, a collective FUNCTIONAL is added to ᒉᴈɪ⌐ *muha* to refrer to relatives as a group. This is true of most of the kinship terms that have no *i* or *w* in the final syllable.
  - ᒉᴈɪ⌐–ɪᴈㄥᎮ   *muha-huxw*   [məˈhaʃu] '(certain individual) relatives'
  - ᒉᴈɪ⌐–ɪᴈㄥᏰ   *muha-huxwi*   [məˈhaʃwi] 'relatives (collectively, as a group)'
- Younger –ㄥ -*i*
  - ᒉᴈɪㄥ   *muhi*   'younger relatives (as a group), younger generations'
  - ᒉᴈɪⱭ   *muhai* 'a younger relative of any gender'
- Older –Ꮰ -*u*
  - ᒉᴈɪᎮ   *muhw*   'older relatives as a group, older generations'
  - ᒉᴈɪᕀ   *muhwa* 'an older relative of any gender'
- Same –Ꮰ -*wi*
  - ᒉᴈɪᏰ   *muhwi*   'my generation, relatives of about the same age'
  - ᒉᴈɪᏱ   *muhwai* 'a relative of my generation, any gender'

Other SPECIES in GENUS *Mu--* use this DIMENSIONAL pattern where possible, though some types of relationship require different dimensions. That leaves the second consonant to indicate the general type of relationship represented by each SPECIES.

The term "relative age" refers to the SPEAKER's age or that of the FOCAL person. In discussing kinship, we are talking about the relationship between one person and another. The first person, often refered to as "me", is the FOCUS, and the second person is the one who is the "relative" of the first. For example (speaking for myself),

> *William-hujo xufu himei-hufe mumo.*
>
> ᑫᒐᖴᖴᒐᑊᑕ–ᥣᥞᒐᑕᕈ ᒐᥞᒐᥞ ᥣᒐᒐᕈ–ᥣᥞᒐᕈ ᒐᥞᒐᕈ·
>
> /ˈwɪljamˌʤɔ ʃəˈfə hiˈmejˌfɛ məˈmɔ/.
>
> "William[-honored person] is my father." [26]

19.1.2.2.   Other Family Relationships

Beyond gender and relative age, types of biological relationships are distinguished by the second consonant of the ᒐᥞ-- *Mu*-- genus. Additional kinds of relationship, social and geneological, are represented in GENUS ᒐᥡ-- *Mi*--. These are listed here and discussed further in the rest of this chapter.

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26 It is helpful in NN to identify names by appending a functional indicating personhood (or gender, age-group, level of respect, title…). Marker species ᥣᥞᒐᒐ- *Hum*- 'bio-social status' and ᥣᥞᒐᒐ- *Huj*- are the most useful for this purpose. ᥣᥞᒐᒐᕈ *Hujo* 'honored person' (similar to Japanese -*san*).

Close family	Immediate (nuclear) family	ꗡ	*Mum-*	§19.2.1
	Brothers and sisters	ꗡ	*Mux-*	§19.2.2
General family		ꗡ	*Muh-*	§19.1
Siblings families	Any sibling's family	ꗡ	*Mun-*	§19.3.1
	Brother's family	ꗡ	*Mug-*	§19..3.2
	Sister's family	ꗡ	*Mud-*	§19..3.3
Spouse and Family		ꗡ	*Mus-*	§19..4
Parents' Families	either side	ꗡ	*Mup-*	§19..5.1
	Father's family	ꗡ	*Muk-*	§19.5.2
	Mother's family	ꗡ	*Mut-*	§19.5.3
Childern's families	Any child	ꗡ	*Muy-*	§19.6.1
	Son's family	ꗡ	*Muc-*	§19.6.2
	Daughter's family	ꗡ	*Muj-*	§19.6.3
Complications	Non-formalized relations	ꗡ	*Muf-*	§19.7.1
	Same mother, different father	ꗡ	*Mur-*	§19.7.3
	Same father, different mother	ꗡ	*Mub-*	§19.7.4
Societal quasi-kinship				§19.8
	Marriage relations	ꗡ	*Mir-*	§19.8.1
	Different-marriage relations ("Step-")	ꗡ	*Miy-*	§19.8.2
	Godparents and children, adoptive parents and children	ꗡ	*Mip-*	§19.8.3
Geneology	Generational calculus terms	ꗡ	*Min-*	§19.9

19.2.   Close Family

19.2.1.   Immediate (nuclear) family: ꗡ- *mum-*

Close family was – appropriately – the first species of kinship words defined. *Dp* 19.4 sets these out:

Core value		Immediate parents		Children		Grandparents		Grandchildren	
unspecified, general	u	mumu	Immediate (nuclear) family	mumi	Childhood	mumw	Parenthood	mumwi	Grandchildhood
female	e	mume	Mother	mumei	Daughter	mumwe	Grandmother	mumwei	Granddaughter
any gender	a	muma	Parent	mumai	Child	mumwa	Grandparent	mumwai	Grandchild
male	o	mumo	Father	mumoi	Son	mumwo	Grandfather	mumwoi	Grandson

*Dp 19.4 – SPECIES **Mum**- 'Close Family*

Given the early decision to assign 'mother' to ⌐ɪ⌐ᴅ *mume*, the rest flows naturally from the parental words using the gender and relative age principles shown above. However, brothers and sisters – so much a part of many families – had no place here. That had to be rectified using another species entirely: ⌐ɪ⌐ - *Mux-*.

19.2.2.　　　　　Brothers and Sisters: ⌐ɪ⌐ - *mux-*

In SPECIES ⌐ɪ⌐ - *Mux-* (Ðρ 19.5) NN provides vocabulary for refering to siblings by gender (including neutral or flex-gender), either simply or by relative age (older, younger, or same-age). General terminology for each of these categories is shown in top row of vocabulary in the chart (final syllables with no CORE VOWEL).

Core value		Any age		Younger		Older		Same Age	
social status	u	muxu	siblinghood	muxi	younger siblinghood	muxw	older siblinghood	muxwi	same-age siblinghood
Female	e	muxe	sister	muxei	little sister	muxwe	big sister	muxwei	same-age sister (twin, etc.)
Gender-neutral or flex-gender	a	muxa	sibling	muxai	younger sibling	muxwa	older sibling	muxwai	same-age sibling
Male	o	muxo	brother	muxoi	little brother	muxwo	big brother	muxwoi	same-age brother (twin, etc.)

　　　　　*Ðρ 19.5 - SPECIES **Mux**- 'Brothers and Sisters'*

Vocabulary for older and younger siblings is important in many cultures. Japanese, for example, has separate words for older and younger brother (兄 *ane*, 弟 *otouto*) and for older and younger sister (姉 *ame*, 妹 *imouto*). And even though English does not have separate words, the relative age of siblings is enshrined in inheritance and property laws dating centuries back, borrowing from Latin such terms as "primogeniture". "First-born" can be indicated by appending ɪꜰ⌐⌐ *huroi* 'farthest ahead, first' to the relationship word:

- ⌐ɪ⌐ᴅ–ɪꜰ⌐⌐　　　*muxe-huroi*　　/mə'ʃɛˌɹɔj/　　'oldest sister'

- ⌐ɪ⌐ᴅ–ɪꜰ⌐⌐　　*mumoi-huroi*　/mə'mɔjˌɹɔj/　'first-born son'

19.3.　　　Siblings' families

It seems most languages have vocabulary for the children of siblings, like English "niece" and "nephew". NN provides three species, representing sibling-families in general as in English (⌐ɪꜰ - *Mun-*, Ðρ 19.6) and also families of brothers (⌐ɪꜱ - *Mug-*, Ðρ 19.7) and of sisters (⌐ɪꜰ - *Mud-*, Ðρ 19.8) separately. I have not researched whether there are languages with separate vocabulary for brother- and sister-families, but it seems natural to distinguish between them. In many cultures, the children of "my brother" will share my family name, while the children of "my sister" will have a different family name.

19.3.1. Any sibling's family: ⌐◦⌐- *mun-*

Core value			Children i		Parents w		Siblings w-i	
		Family, spouse		*Younger*		*Older*		*Same age*
unspecified, general	u	munu	sibling's family	muni	sibling's children	munw	sibling's spouse's parents	munwi	sibling's spouse's siblings
female	e	mune	sibling's wife	munei	sibling's daughter	munwe	sibling's spouse's mother	munwei	sibling's spouse's sister
any gender	a	muna	sibling's spouse	munai	sibling's child	munwa	sibling's spouse's parent	munwai	sibling's spouse's sibling
male	o	muno	sibling's husband	munoi	sibling's son	munwo	sibling's spouse's father	munwoi	sibling's spouse's brother

D_ρ *19.6 - Species* **Mun-** *'Siblings' families'*

19.3.2. Brother's family: ⌐◦⌐- *mug-*

Core value			Children i		Parents w		Siblings w-i	
		Family, spouse		*Younger*		*Older*		*Same age*
unspecified, general	u	mugu	brother's family	mugi	brother's children	mugw	brother's spouse's parents	mugwi	brother's spouse's siblings
female	e	muge	brother's wife	mugei	brother's daughter	mugwe	brother's spouse's mother	mugwei	brother's spouse's brother
any gender	a	muga	brother's spouse	mugai	brother's child	mugwa	brother's spouse's parent	mugwai	brother's spouse's sibling
male	o	mugo	brother's husband	mugoi	brother's son	mugwo	brother's spouse's father	mugwoi	brother's spouse's brother

D_ρ *19.7 Species* **Mug-** *'Brothers' family'*

19.3.3. Sister's family: ⌐◦⌐- *mud-*

Core value			Children i		Parents w		Siblings w-i	
		Family, spouse		*Younger*		*Older*		*Same age*
unspecified, general	u	mudu	sister's family	mudi	sister's children	mudw	sister's spouse's parents	mudwi	sister's spouse's siblings
female	e	mude	sister's wife	mudei	sister's daughter	mudwe	sister's spouse's mother	mudwei	sister's spouse's sister
any gender	a	muda	sister's spouse	mudai	sister's child	mudwa	sister's spouse's parent	mudwai	sister's spouse's sibling
male	o	mudo	sister's husband	mudoi	sister's son	mudwo	sister's spouse's father	mudwoi	sister's spouse's brother

D_ρ *19.8 Species* **Mud-** *'Sisters' family'*

NN does not provide separate vocabulary for families of older siblings as opposed to younger or same-age siblings. This may be important in some cultures, and can be handled in NN placing the word for older or younger brother (⌐◦⌐ *muxwo*, ⌐◦⌐ *muxoi*) or sister (⌐◦⌐ *muxwe*, ⌐◦⌐ *muxei*) in front of the word for that sibling's family member – for example, ⌐◦⌐ ⌐◦⌐ *muxei mudoi* 'my younger sister's son (my nephew)'

19.4. Spouse and Family

NN provides vocabulary for husband, wife, or spouse in species ⌐◦⌐- *Mus-* along with words to refer to their close family members.

Core value					Younger		Older		Siblings	
unspecified, general	u	musu	spouse's family	musi	spouse's sibling's children	musw	spouse's parents	muswi	spouse's siblings
female	e	muse	wife	musei	spouse's sibling's daughter	muswe	spouse's mother	muswei	spouse's sister
neutral, any gender	a	musa	spouse	musai	spouse's sibling's child	muswa	spouses's parent	muswai	spouse's sibling
male	o	muso	husband	musoi	spouse's sibling's son	muswo	spouse's father	muswoi	spouse's brother

D_P 19.9: SPECIES **Mus**- *'Spouse and family'*

While gender-neutral words are provided, there is no effort to differentiate between older and younger siblings of a spouse. When desired, they can be distinguished by words from SPECIES ⌶ɪ- *Muh-* (§19._), which has general terms for older and younger relatives. For example, ⌶ᵻᴶᵻ-ıᵻᴶᵻ ᴶᵻᴸᵞ ⌶ᵻᴶᴶ *Muso-hufu muxwe musei* 'daughter of my husband's older sister (niece-in-law?)'

19.5.   Parents' Families

Now, what about older generations? NN provides vocabulary similar to English to refer to all ancestors of my parents without distinction between parents, and vocabulary specific to parents of each gender.

19.5.1.   Parents' family, either side: ⌶ᴏᴸ- *mup-*

Core value		Parent's Siblings		Descendants Of Parent's Siblings		(eiher side, my great-grandparents)		Parent's Parents (my grandparents)	
unspecified, general	u	mupu	parent's family	mupi	parent's nieces and nephews	mupw	parent's grandparents	mupwi	parent's parents
female	e	mupe	parent's sister (my aunt)	mupei	parent's niece (my cousin)	mupwe	parents grandparent	mupwei	parent's mother
neutral, gender	a	mupa	parent's sibling (any gender)	mupai	parent's niece or nephew (my cousins)	mupwa	parent's grandparent	mupwai	parent's parent
male	o	mupo	parent's bother (my uncle)	mupoi	parent's nephew (my cousin)	mupwo	parent's grandfather	mupwoi	parent's father

D_P 19.10: Species Mug- 'Parents´ family'

19.5.2.   Father's family: ⌶ᴏᴦ- *mug-*

Core value		father's Siblings		Descendants Of father's Siblings		(eiher side, my great-grandfathers)		father's fathers (my grandfathers)	
unspecified, general	u	mupu	father's family	mupi	father's nieces and nephews	mupw	father's grandparents	mupwi	father's parents
female	e	mupe	father's sister (my aunt)	mupei	father's niece (my cousin)	mupwe	fathers grandmother	mupwei	father's mother
neutral, any gender	a	mupa	father's sibling (any gender)	mupai	father's niece or nephew (my cousins)	mupwa	father's grandparent	mupwai	father's parent
male	o	mupo	father's bother (my uncle)	mupoi	father's nephew (my cousin)	mupwo	father's grandfather	mupwoi	father's father

D_P 19.11: SPECIES **Mug**- *'Father's family'*

19.5.3.   Mother's family: ⌐⌐⌐- *mut-*

Core value			Mother's Siblings		Descendants of Mother's Siblings		Mother's Grandparents (eiher side, my great-grandparents)		Mother's Parents (my grandparents)
collective, group	u	mutu	mother's family	muti	mother's nieces and nephews	mutw	mother's grandparents	mutwi	mother's parents
female	e	mute	mother's sister (my aunt)	mutei	mother's niece (my cousin)	mutwe	mother's grandmother	mutwei	mother's mother
neutral, any gender	a	muta	mother's sibling (any gender)	mutai	mother's niece or nephew (my cousins)	mutwa	mother's grandparent	mutwai	mother's parent
male	o	muto	mother's bother (my uncle)	mutoi	mother's nephew (my cousin)	mutwo	mother's grandfather	mutwoi	mother's father

D𝆑 19.12: SPECIES **Mug**- 'Mother's family'

Note that there are several ways to refer to grandparents. Terms associated with close family carry with them a more intimate feeling, while those associated with particular parents may come across as somewhat more formal or even legalistic:

	As close family	As parents' parent	As mother's parent	As father's parent
Grandmother	⌐⌐⌐ *mumwe*	⌐⌐⌐ *mupwe*	⌐⌐⌐ *mutwe*	⌐⌐⌐ *mugwe*
Grandparent	⌐⌐⌐ *mumwa*	⌐⌐⌐ *mupwa*	⌐⌐⌐ *mutwa*	⌐⌐⌐ *mugwa*
Grandfather	⌐⌐⌐ *mumwo*	⌐⌐⌐ *mupwo*	⌐⌐⌐ *mutwo*	⌐⌐⌐ *mugwo*

D𝆑 19.12b: Four ways to identify a grandparent

19.6.   Childern's families

Now, on to "my" following generations, which we refer to here as "childrens' families". As with older generations, a three-fold distinction is made: child gender-neutral ⌐⌐⌐ *muy-*, daughter's ⌐⌐⌐- *muj-* , and son's ⌐⌐⌐- *muc-*.

Since a child's siblings are already represented in species ⌐⌐⌐- *mux-*, same-age (–ꞯ -*wi*) and older (–ꞁ -*w*) positions are used to represent the siblings and parents of the child's spouse. As with grandparents, there are foud corresponding ways to refer to grandchildren (not listed here).

19.6.1.   Any child: ⌐⌐⌐- *muy-*

Core value			Family, spouse		Younger		Older		Same age
unspecified, general	u	muyu	child's family	muyi	child's children	muyw	child's spouse's parents	muywi	child's spouse's siblings
female	e	muye	child's wife	muyei	child's daughter	muywe	child's spouse's mother	muywei	child's spouse's sister
any gender	a	muya	child's spouse	muyai	child's child	muywa	child's spouse's parent	muywai	child's spouse's sibling
male	o	muyo	child's husband	muyoi	child's son	muywo	child's spouse's father	muywoi	child's spouse's brother

D𝆑 19.13: SPECIES **Muy**- 'Child's family'

19.6.2. Son's family: ⲓⲟⳑ- *muc-*

Core value			Family, spouse		Younger		Older		Same age	
unspecified, general	u	mucu	son's family	muci	son's children	mucw	son's spouse's parents	mucwi	son's spouse's siblings
female	e	muce	son's wife	mucei	son's daughter	mucwe	son's spouse's mother	mucwei	son's spouse's sister
any gender	a	muca	son's spouse	mucai	son's child	mucwa	son's spouse's parent	mucwai	son's spouse's sibling
male	o	muco	son's husband	mucoi	son's son	mucwo	son's spouse's father	mucwoi	son's spouse's brother

Dₚ 19.14: Species Muc- 'Son's family

19.6.3. Daughter's family: ⲓⲟⳑ- *muj-*

Core value			Family, spouse		Younger		Older		Same age	
unspecified, general	u	muju	daughter's family	muji	daughter's children	mujw	daughter's spouse's parents	mujwi	daughter's spouse's siblings
female	e	muje	daughter's wife	mujei	daughter's daughter	mujwe	daughter's spouse's mother	mujwei	daughter's spouse's sister
any gender	a	muja	daughter's spouse	mujai	daughter's child	mujwa	daughter's spouse's parent	mujwai	daughter's spouse's sibling
male	o	mujo	daughter's husband	mujoi	daughter's son	mujwo	daughter's spouse's father	mujwoi	daughter's spouse's brother

*Dₚ 19.15: SPECIES **Muj**- 'Daughter's family'*

19.7. Complications

Life is never simple, and there are many events and alliances that can complicate a straight-forward family tree. The fragility of life and of the marriage bond are prime factors in family complications. Families can certainly come about without the societal formality of marriage, so SPECIES ⳑⲟⳑ- *muf-* has been assigned to represent associations between unmarried people and their unformalized children (elsewhere referred to as "illigitimate" or "bastard" offspring).

Death or departure of one or the other parent can enable second (or more) marriages, as can societal approval of multiple spouses ("polygamy" and "polyandry"). The resulting relationships (sometimes known as "half" brothers or sisters) are represented in NN with two SPECIES, depending on whether the mother (*Mub-*) or the father (*Mur-*) of children is different.

19.7.1. Non-formalized relations: ⲓⲟⳑ- *muf-*

Core value		Current generation		Next generation		Previous generation		General	
social status	u	mufu	Informal sexual relationship	mufi	Unformalized childhood, bastardy	mufw	Unformalized parenthood	mufwi	relatives of sex partner
female	e	mufe	Female sex partner, girlfriend, mistress	mufei	Unformalized daughter	mufwe	Unmarried mother	mufwei	female relative of sex partner
any gender	a	mufa	Sex partner, lover	mufai	Unformalized child	mufwa	Unmarried parent	mufwai	relative of sex partner
male	o	mufo	Male sex partner, boyfriend (sexual)	mufoi	Unformalized son	mufwo	Unmarried father	mufwoi	male relative of sex partner

*Ꝺρ 19.16: Sᴘᴇᴄɪᴇs **Muf**- 'Non-formalized sexual relations'*

19.7.2.　First and second marriage overview

Each species in this category provides detailed vocabulary for second-marriage relations, but requires some searching to provide general terms for common relationships. Ꝺρ 19.17-19 brings them together for reference. Consider a child whose parents divorce and both re-marry. What does the child call her relatives in her original family (Ꝺρ 19.17), her father's new family (Ꝺρ 19.18), and her mother's new family (Ꝺρ 19.19)?

		Original family		Either step-family	
Parents		ꟼꞮꞀꟼ	muma	ꞀꞀꞀꟼ	miya
	Mother	ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	mume	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ	miye
	Father	ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	mumo	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ	miyo
Siblings		ꟼꞮꞀꟼ	muxa	ꞀꞀꞀꝗ	miywi
	Sister	ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	muxe	ꞀꞀꞀꝗ	miywei
	Brother	ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	muxo	ꞀꞀꞀꝗ	miywoi
Half-sister				ꟼꞮꞀꝱ-ꞮꞀꞀꝪ	muxe-huyai
Half-brother				ꟼꞮꞀꝱ-ꞮꞀꞀꝪ	muxo-huyai
Grandparents		ꟼꞮꞀꝯ	mumwa	ꞀꞀꞀꝯ	miywa
	Grandmother	ꟼꞮꞀꝴ	mumwe	ꞀꞀꞀꝴ	miywe
	Grandfather	ꟼꞮꞀꝴ	mumwo	ꞀꞀꞀꝴ	miywo
	Mother's mother	ꟼꞮꝴꝴ	mutwei	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miye-mume
	Mother's father	ꟼꝴꝴ	mutwoi	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miye-mumo
	Father's mother	ꟼꞮꝴꝴ	mukwei	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miyo-mume
	Father's father	ꟼꞮꝴꝴ	mukwoi	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miyo-mumo
Parents' siblings					
	Mother's sisters	ꟼꝴꞮ	mute	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miye-muxe
	Mother's brothers	ꟼꝴꞮ	muto	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miye-muxo
	Father's sisters	ꟼꝴꞮ	muke	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miyo-muxe
	Father's brothers	ꟼꝴꞮ	muko	ꞀꞀꞀꝱ-ꟼꞮꞀꝱ	miyo-muxo

Ꝺρ 19.17: Original family and either step-family terminology

Parents		New Step-father's family	
	Step-	�[ᴵᴦᴵ	*muru*
	Step-Father	ᴵᴸ[ᴴ	*miyo*
Siblings			
	Step-Sister	[ᴵᴦᵷ	*murwei*
	Step-Brother	[ᴵᴦᵷ	*murwoi*
	Half-sister	[ᴵᴦᶑ	*murei*
	Half-brother	[ᴵᴦᵷ	*muroi*
Grandparents			
		[ᴵᴦᵡ	*murw*
	Step-Father's mother	[ᴵᴦᵷ	*murwe*
	Step-Father's father	[ᴵᴦᵷ	*murwo*
Parents' siblings			
	Step-father's sister	[ᴵᴦᶑ	*mure*
	Step-father's brother	[ᴵᴦᴴ	*muro*

Dₚ 19.18: Step-father's family terminology

Parents		New step-mother's family	
	Step-	[ᴵ][ᴵ	*mubu*
	Step-Mother	ᴵᴸ[ᶑ	*miye*
Siblings			
	Step-Sister	[ᴵ][ᵷ	*mubwei*
	Step-Brother	[ᴵ][ᵷ	*mubwoi*
	Half-sister	[ᴵ][ᶑ	*mubei*
	Half-brother	[ᴵ][ᵷ	*muboi*
Grandparents			
	Step-Mother's mother	[ᴵ][ᵡ	*mubwe*
	Step-Mother's father	[ᴵ][ᵷ	*mubwo*
Parents' siblings			
	Step-mother's sister	[ᴵ][ᴴ	*mube*
	Step-mother-s brother	[ᴵ][ᵷ	*mubo*

Dₚ 19.19: Step-mother's family terminology

19.7.3.   Same mother, different father: ᛁᛏᚱ- *mur-*

This Species provides words to refer to relationships some of which in English are called "half-" ("half-brother", "half-sister" …). NN distinguishes between step-father's and step-mother's relations. The corresponding SPECIES for children of a different mother is ᛁᛏᚤ- *Mub-*.

If my mother partners with a man who is not my father and has children with him, I would share half my DNA with those children. This SPECIES provides words to refer to those children and to the family of their father, with whom I share no (close) DNA, but with whom I may be in a close social relationship.

My mother in this case would be technically "polyandrous". Polyandry is of two types:

- Sequential: one husband followed by another at a different time;
- Simultaneous: more than one husband at the same time.

Various cultures may have different ways of handling these types of polyandry, but NN terminology is the same for both types.

"Step": In modern English, the mother's newer partner is called "step-father" in a sequential polyandrous situation. For convenience, I have used "step" to identify all the "step-father's" relatives. (I don't know if it is normally applied in simultaneous-polyandrous situations.)

"Shared DNA": Of course, all humans share most of their DNA with other humans. In the notes here, "sharing DNA" is shorthand for "sharing individual or familial genetic traits".

Core value		General + same generation		Half-siblings		Ancestors		Children by women other than my mother	
unspecified, general	u	muru	step-father's family	muri	Children of my mother and step-father	murw	step-father's older relatives	murwi	step-father's other children
female	e	mure	step-father's sister (step-aunt)	murei	half-sister	murwe	step-father's mother (my step-grandmother)	murwei	step-father's daughter (step-sister)
any gender	a	mura	step-father's sibling	murai	half-sibling	murwa	step-father's parents	murwai	step-father's other child
male	o	muro	step-father's bother (step-uncle)	muroi	half-brother	murwo	step-father's father (my step-grandfather)	murwoi	step-father's son (step-brother)
Notes:		**muru** step-father's family: this word can also be appended to titles of relatives not listed here to indicate 'step' status; I share no DNA with this group		**muri** Children of my mother and step-father: I share my mother's DNA with this group. This word referes primarily the group of descendants of the mother and step-father, while murai refers to individuals.		**murw** step-father's older relatives: I share no DNA with this group		**murwi** step-father's other children: I share no DNA with this group. Murwi refers to the group of step-father's other children, while murwai refers to individual members of that group. Similar to muywi 'step-mothers other children' and more specific than miywi 'child of any gender of step-parent'	

*D͏ₚ 19.17: SPECIES **Mur**- 'Same mother, different father'*

Same father, different mother

Core value		General + same generation		Half-siblings		Ancestors		Children by women other than my mother	
unspecified, general	u	mubu	step-mother's family	mubi	Children of my father and step-mother	mubw	step-mother's older relatives	mubwi	step-mother's other children
female	e	mube	step-mother's sister (step-aunt)	mubei	half-sister	mubwe	step-mother's mother (my step-grandmother)	mubwei	step-mother's daughter (step-sister)
any gender	a	muba	step-mother's sibling	mubai	half-sibling	mubwa	step-mother's parents	mubwai	step-mother's other child
male	o	mubo	step-mother's bother (step-uncle)	muboi	half-brother	mubwo	step-mother's father (my step-grandfather)	mubwoi	step-mother's son (step-brother)

Notes:

mubu step-mother's family: this word can also be appended to titles of relatives not listed here to indicate 'step' status; I share no DNA with this group

mubi Children of my father and step-mother: I share my father's DNA with this group

mubw step-mother's older relatives: I share no DNA with this group

mubwi step-mother's other children: I share no DNA with this group. Similar to murwi 'step-fathers other children' and more specific than miywi 'child of any gender of step-parent'

*Dₚ 19.18: Species **Mub**- 'Same father, different mother'*

19.8.   Societal quasi-kinship

This group includes the relationships commonly ordained by sociocultural groups rather than by genetics. The three species listed under "Complications" (§19.7) address three cases in which biological and societal factors overlap, but there are several relationships that are given the status of kinship by wholly social rather than biological norms. These are:

- Marriage itself, including:

    - initial or original marriage: ⌐∟⌐ - *Mir*- (§19.8.1)

    - later or further marriage ("step-" relatives): ⌐∟⊏ - *Miy*- (§19.8.2)

- "God-parents" and "god-children": ⌐∟⌐ - *Mim*- (§19.8.3)

- Adoptive parents and children are also included in ⌐∟⌐ - *Mim*-

19.8.1.   Marriage relations

This group is used for people of the same generation. Final -*i* refers to future and -*w* to past relations.

Final -*w*- indicates "former", either through death or divorce; adding -*i* specifies divorce or separation, so -*w*- by itself carries an implication of the former spouse's death.

Core value		Current		Future		Deceased		Divorced	
social status	u	miru	Marriage, matrimony	miri	Betrothal	mirw	Bereaved spousehood	mirwi	Divorce
feminine	e	mire	Wife	mirei	Fiancée	mirwe	Deceased wife	mirwei	Divorced woman, ex-wife
any gender	a	mira	Spouse	mirai	Betrothed	mirwa	Widowed spouse(s)	mirwai	Divorced spouse, "Ex"
masculine	o	miro	Husband	miroi	Fiancé	mirwo	Deceased husband	mirwoi	Divorced husband

D$_P$ 19.19: Species Mir- 'Marriage relations'

19.8.2.　Different-marriage relations ("Step-")

There is partial overlap between species *Miy-* and both *Mur-* and *Mub-*. Words in series ⌐⌐⌐⌐ m*iywi* refer to step-siblings, and so overlap somewhat with series ⌐⌐⌐ *murwi* and ⌐⌐⌐ *mubwi* which also refer to step-siblings. However, the overlap is not complete, because series ⌐⌐⌐ m*iywi* refers to children of either the step-father or the step-mother, while series ⌐⌐⌐ *murwi* refers only to children of a step-father, and series ⌐⌐⌐ *mubwi* refer specifically to children of a step-mother.

		Step-parents		Step-children i		Step-grandparents w		Step-siblings w-i	
Core value									
unspecified, general	u	miyu	Second-marriage kinship	miyi	Child of a different marriage	miyw	Step-Parenthood	miywi	Step-Siblinghood
female	e	miye	Step-Mother	miyei	Step-Daughter	miywe	Step-Grandmother	miywei	Step-sister
any gender	a	miya	Step-Parent	miyai	Step-Child	miywa	Step-Grandparent	miywai	Step-sibling
male	o	miyo	Step-Father	miyoi	Step-Son	miywo	Step-Grandfather	miywoi	Step-brother

Notes							
miyu	Second-marriage kinship: this word can also be appended to titles of relatives not listed here to indicate 'step' status; I share no DNA with this group	**miyi**	Child of a different marriage: I share no DNA with this group	**miyw**	Step-Parenthood: I share no DNA with this group	**miywi**	Step-Siblinghood: I share no DNA with this group. Can be either step-mother's or step-father's children. More general than mubwi 'step-mothers other children' and murwi 'step-fathers other children'

D$_P$ 19.20: Species Miy- 'Different-marriage relations'

19.8.3.　Godparents and children, adoptive parents and children: species ⌐⌐⌐- Min-

Various social "backup" systems exist for providing children with parental care in case biological parents are unable or unwilling to raise a child, or as backup support for childrearing. One such system is adoption, in which an adult or couple legally assume guardianship or parental status over a child. This is often a result of the death, disability, poverty or abandonment by the biological parents.

Another such system is known in Christian cultures as "Godparents", "padrinos" and similar terms, in which others usually nominated by the biological parents agree to support the upbringing of a child or children. Though I am not familiar with them, I have seen mention of similar practices among other people-groups. The NN terminology is not specifically associated with spiritual or religious practice, and so is available for use in both secular and religious contexts.

Core value		Adopting Parents		Adopted Children i		Godparents w		Godchildren w-i	
		Adopting		Being adopted		Backup Parents		Backed-up Children	
Relationship	u	mimu	Adopting	mimi	Being adopted	mimw	Godparenthood	mimwi	Godchildhood
Female	e	mime	Adopting mother	mimei	Adopted daughter	mimwe	Godmother	mimwei	Goddaughter
Flex- or Gender-neutral	a	mima	Adopting parent	mimai	Adopted child	mimwa	Godparent	mimwai	Godchild
Male	o	mimo	Adopting father	mimoi	Adopted son	mimwo	Godfather	mimwoi	Godson

Ɖρ 19.21: Species Mim- 'Godparents and children; adoptive parents and children'

19.9.   Geneology

Within the structure of NN, it is not possible to provide unique words distinguishing between mother's and father's sides and relative brith order of siblings beyond three generational levels. Instead, NN provides SPECIES ⊥ᒐ- *Min-* with words that can be used in combination to express the desired relationships over multiple generations.

19.9.1.   Generational relationship terms

In this system, generations are counted using negative numbers for ancestral generations and positive for descendants, prefixed to a word indicating the type of relationship. Counting begins with a reference-person, often the speaker, but not necessarily.

Core value		Same Generation		Younger		Older		Spousal	
general	u	minu	Family relationships	mini	offspring	minw	ancestor	minwi	joint parenthood
Female	e	mine	sister of	minei	daughter of	minwe	mother of	minwei	wife of
Any or flex	a	mina	sibling of	minai	child of	minwa	parent of	minwai	spouse of
Male	o	mino	brother of	minoi	son of	minwo	father of	minwoi	husband of

Ɖρ 19.22: Species Min- 'Generational Calculus Terms'

Ɖρ 19.23 (spread over the next pages) provides several illustrations of how these terms are used to describe the relationship between two sexually-reproducing entities, A and B:

minu	Family relationships: the general term for family tree relationships between A and B Ex: 'This is my family relationship.' *Hwike xufa himei minu.* (Notes follow)
mine	sister of: A is female born to the same parents as B Ex: 'My sister Laura' *Laura mine hwmei*
mina	sibling of: A is any gender, born to the same parents as B Ex: 'Helen is Laura's sibling' *Helen mina Laura*
mino	brother of: A is male born to the same parents as B Ex: 'I am Helen's brother' *Himei xufa mino Helen*

Notes

minu   *Hwike*: definite article inanimate close 'this'

Himei: pronoun meaning 'me' with message focus. It is not necessary to add a relational marker from Species *hufu*, because Species *minu* carries relational meaning.
In this type of Message, an explicit verb would function as a copula and is not needed in NN.

mine   Names are often marked with a variant of *humu* to indicate that they refer to an animate being, not a NN word; but this is not necessary when followed by a word in the *minu* Species, which apply only to animate beings
Hwmei: 'me' like *himei* but without focus

mini	offspring: general term for begetting children Ex: 'Offspring are a blessing' Mini xufu nuxo.
minei	daughter of: A is female born to B and C Ex: 'Amy is the daughter of Bill and Carol.' Amy minei Bill suku Carol.
minai	child of: A is person of any gender born to B and C Ex: 'Charles, Anne, Andrew and Edward are offspring of Elizabeth and Philip.' Charles, Anne, Andrew, suku Edward minai Elizabeth suku Phillip
minoi	son of: A is male born to B and C Ex: 'Andy is the son of Bob and Crissa' Andy minoi Bob suku Crissa

Notes

mini   *Nuxo*: excellent

Suku: general connective 'and'

minw	ancestor: general term for forebears of an older generation Ex: 'His ancestors were reprobates.' Himoi minw nugwo.
minwe	mother of: A is female parent of B Ex: 'Elizabeth is Anne's mother.' Elizabeth minwe Anne. - or - Elizabeth Anne-hufe mume.
minwa	parent of: A is parent of any gender of B Ex: 'Amy and Hubert are parents of Bascom.' Amy suku Hubert minwa Bascom.
minwo	father of: A is male parent of B Ex: 'Andy is Burgess's father.' Andy minwo Burgess.

Note:

minw   *Nugwo*: 'flawed character and socially unacceptable'

     himoi: animate pronoun with focus

minwi	joint parenthood: general term for the relationship between a male and female giving rise to offspring; social relation is not relevant to this word - only the physical relationship of begetting offspring together
minwei	wife of: A is female in a parenting relatioinship with B; no social contract implied. Ex: 'Andrea = Bosco's wife.' Andrea minwei Bosco.
minwai	spouse of: A and B have a parenting relatinship with each other. Ex: 'Angie and Balthasar = parents (of someone).' Angie suku Balthasar minwai.
minwoi	husband of: A is male in a parenting relationship with female B; no social contract implied. Ex: 'Art has kids with Bess.' Art minwoi Bess.

Longer examples

My relationship with my cousin Robert:
Himei minoi William minoi Laurence suku Helen minwa Jeanette minwe Robert. 'My father William son of Laurence and Helen parents of Jeannette mother of Robert'

My grandson Robert's relationship with my mother's brother John W. Campbell Jr.:
Robert minai Eric minwoi Katherine minei Martha minwei Laurence minoi William minwoi Philinda minai John W. Campbell Sr. minwoi Dorothy Strahorn minwa John W. Campbell Jr. 'Robert child of Eric husband of Katherine daughter of Martha wife of Laurence son of William husband of Philinda daughter of John W. Campbell Sr. husband of Dorothy Strahorn parents of John W. Campbell Jr.'

Dᵖ 19.23: Species Min- 'Generational Calculus Notes and Examples

19.9.2.   Counting generations with numbers

NN provides another way of explaining family relations by using generation numbering. This is based on four terms in SPECIES ⵊⵐⵑ- *Min-*:

	Female					Male	
ⵊⵐⵑ⅄	*minwe*	mother of	father of		ⵊⵐⵑ⅊	*minwo*	
ⵊⵐⵑⴸ	*minei*	daughter of	son of		ⵊⵐⵑⴜ	*minoi*	

Generational distance is counted by prefixing numbers to these terms. Negative numbers indicate generations past (ancestors), and positive numbers indicate generations future (descendants).

For example, "Wilhelm Krieg was [certainly] my great-great-grandfather"

> Wilhelm Krieg � ⵊⵐⵑⴸ-ⵉⵉⵑⴸ ⵗⵕⵉⵔ ⵊⵐⵑ⅊.
> *Wilhelm Krieg xohw himei-hufei twiha minwo.*

Or, "Lucy [certainly] is Wilhelm Krieg's great-great-great-great-granddaughter."

> ⴺⵗⵑⵊ ⵊⵑⵔ ⵗⵊⵕⵉⴷⵑ ⵙⵔⵑⴷⵙ-ⵉⵉⵑⴷ ⵗⵊⵉⵔⵌ ⵊⵐⵑ⅄.
> *Lwsi xoha Wilhelm Krieg-hufe tihai minwei.*

How to do it:

- The system is based on a perticular person, which may be the speaker or anybody else; this person is the FOCUS and is placed first in the sentence. It may be helpful to spell the name in latin letters, as in the first example above.

- The verb follows the FOCUS, and would normally be in the past ⴺⵜⵑⵗ *xufw* if the FOCUS is an ancestor, or in the present ⴺⵜⵑⵔ *xufa* if the FOCUS is someone now living. In the example, I used the EVIDENTIALITY aspect 'certainty' ⴺⵑⵜⵗ *xofw* and ⴺⵑⵜⵔ *xofa*, though if the speaker is not sure other degrees of EVIDENTIALITY can be used or left unstated.

- The name of the related person comes next, again spelled in latin letters if appropriate.

- To the related person's name is attached a RELATIONAL FUNCTIONAL expressing the gramatical relationship to the FOCUS person. The most appropriate is usually ⵉⵉⵑⴷ *hufei* for an ancestor, indicating the source of the FOCUS; and ⵉⵉⵑⴷ *hufe* for a descendant, indicating an inalienable relationship with the FOCUS; though generic -ⵉⵉⵑⵉ -*hufu* is certainly acceptable.

- The FOCUS individual is generation 0 (zero). The parents are generation -1 (minus one), but that number does not need to be used, since ⌐⌐⌐ *minwe* by itself means 'mother of' and ⌐⌐⌐ *minwo* means 'father of'. In determining the number further back, avoid confusing the English system where the number of "greats" starts with the grandparent, wheras NN starts with the FOCUS individual and hence has two more negative numbers than the number of "greats" in English: 'great grandmother' is ⌐⌐⌐ *twihei* (-3) ⌐⌐⌐ *minwe* .

- Likewise in describing descendants, the daughter or son is +1, but that number does not need to be expressed in NN; and the number further down the tree is two higher than the number of "greats" in the English description.

- The numbers used can be either hexadecimal or decimal, according to the custom of the speaker and the group. As a quick reminder:

	Positive (descendants)			Negative (ancestors)	
	NN Hexadecimal	NN Decimal		NN Hexadecimal	NN Decimal
1	*tihi*	*tehi*	-1	*twihi*	*twehi*
2	*tihe*	*tehe*	-2	*twihe*	*twehe*
10	*tihwe*	*texu*	-10	*twihwe*	*twexu*
16	*tixu*	*texo*	-16	*twixu*	*twexo*

Ɖρ 19.24 (following page) illustrates how to count generations in NN.

Counting Generations with Numbers

ᘓ Nwehu Nuswei

English	Numeric	Female		Focal		Male	Numeric	English
				Individual				
							Ancestors	
g-g-g-g-g-grand-	-7	twihoi minwe				twihoi minwo	-7	g-g-g-g-g-grand-
g-g-g-g-grand-	-6	twiho minwe				twiho minwo	-6	g-g-g-g-grand-
g-g-g-grand-	-5	twihai minwe				twihai minwo	-5	g-g-g-grand-
great-great-grand-	-4	twiha minwe				twiha minwo	-4	great-great-grand-
great-grand-	-3	twihei minwe				twihei minwo	-3	great-grand-
grandmother	-2	twihe minwe	mumwe		mumo	twihe minwo	-2	grandfather
mother	-1	minwe	mume		mumwo	minwo	-1	father
sister	Current 0	mine	muxe	**himi | humu**	muxo	mine	Current 0	brother
daughter	1	minei	mumei		mumoi	minei	1	son
granddaughter	2	tihe minei	mumwei		mumwoi	the minoi	2	grandson
great-grand-	3	tihei minei				tihei minoi	3	great-grand-
great-great-grand-	4	tiha minei				ttha minoi	4	great-great-grand-
g-g-g-grand-	5	tihai minei				tihai minoi	5	g-g-g-grand-
g-g-g-g-grand-	6	tiho minei				tiho minoi	6	g-g-g-g-grand-
g-g-g-g-g-grand-	7	tihoi minei				tihoi minoi	7	g-g-g-g-g-grand-
	Descendants						**Descendants**	

Note 1 With parent and child generations, -1 and +1 are assumed

Note 2 Since gender is inseparable from procreation, only male and female word-forms are shown. Flexi/neutral forms exist, with the final central vowel being ɾɑ.

Dₚ 19.24: Species Mim- 'Counting Generations'

This concludes the discussion of kinship terms in Nwehu Nuswei.