# Part 8: Kinship and Family

## Key Terms and Definitions

**Black strategic mothering**: framework developed by Riché Barnes that accounts for the myriad ways in which black mothers navigate their relationship to work in ways to best accommodate the needs of their families and communities.

**Descent**: socially recognized kinship connections traced through the generations.

**Fraternal polyandry**: a form of plural marriage where a woman marries more than one man at a one time.

**Intimate ethnography**:an approach to research in which anthropologists are deeply personally connected to the people they are writing about, through their dual relationship of family member and ethnographer.

**Kinship**: refers to the social relationships that are publicly recognized and based on descent and marriage

**Lifeboat ethics**: Garrett Hardin’s model for resource distribution that describes a lifeboat with limited space and compares the lifeboat to rich nations and swimmers to poor nations.

**Marriage**: a socially approved institution that formalizes relationships—economic, political, and sexual—between adult partners within a family.

**Matrifocal**: family structure headed by women.

**Matrilineal descent**: tracing descent through women of the same founding ancestors.

**Model minority**: a stereotype about a demographic group who are perceived to have a high degree of socioeconomic success compared with other demographic groups; often used in reference to Asian Americans.

**Monogamy**: the practice of having only one spouse at one time.

**Passive infanticide**: indirect act of causing death to an infant, usually through inadequate nutrition or neglect of a sick baby.

**Patrilineal descent**: tracing descent through males of the same founding ancestors.

**Polyandry**: a form of plural marriage where a woman marries two or more brothers at one time.

**Polygamy**: plural marriage.