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Using the Family Group Record - Handout

Introduction
1. Family Group Record available in various formats
2. All computer genealogical database programs include a form of Family Group Record

Using the Family Group Record form
1. Prepare a Family Group Record for each couple on the Pedigree Chart
2. Show Husband and Wife and all their children
3. Does not matter if couple is not formally married
4. The Family Group Record allows researcher to organized information about siblings, aunts & uncles, cousins
5. The Family Group Record shows direct ancestors and collateral relatives
6. Leave spaces blank where information is missing

How to Enter Information about Husband and Wife
1. For each parent, show date & place of birth
    a. Only show year for living persons
    b. Show date & place of christening, if known
    c. Can list name of town and name of church
2. For each parent, show date & place of marriage
    a. This information generally listed under "Husband's" portion of the form
    b. Provides clue to when individual relocated from place of birth
    c. Can show name of town and name of chapel
    d. Older age at marriage may indicate prior spouse(s)
3. For each parent, show date & place of death, if applicable
    a. Show date & place of burial, if applicable
    b. Place of burial may be different than place of death
    c. Can show name of cemetery or indicate cremation
    d. Can show installation of memorial plaque or other commemoration

e. Place of death might show a different geographic location from birth & marriage

4. Review places of birth, marriage & death for clues to migration and relocation
5. Use spaces provided to indicate places of residence
    a. List places of residence in chronological order, if possible
6. Use spaces provided to indicate occupation(s), church affiliation(s), military service
    a. Ancestor may have had several occupations over a lifetime
    b. Note changes in occupation for clues about ancestor's career and geographic locations
    c. Woman's occupation may be unusual in earlier eras
    d. Ancestor may have more than one religious affiliation over a lifetime
    e. List branch of service, and era of military service

7. Use spaces provided to indicate earlier or subsequent spouses
8. Use spaces provided to indicate names of father & mother for Wife and Husband
    a. Show surnames in all capital letters
    b. Note differences in surname spelling between Husband or Wife and their respective fathers for clues to ethnicity or national origin
9. Use space provided to enter additional information for Husband and Wife
    a. Example, show year Wife came to California
10. Examine places of birth, marriage & death for clues to geographic relocation of individuals and family

11. Note "Add info on Husband" and "Add info on Wife" boxes
    a. May use to list time frame for individual's later relocation from place of birth or marriage
    b. May show year of divorce from other spouse(s)
12. Form provides opportunity to summarize lots of information
13. Space is limited on the Family Group Record
    a. Prepare detailed notes to accompany the Family Group Record

How to Enter Information about Children

1. List children in chronological order by date of birth
   a. List full names: first, middle, last
   b. Show surnames in all capital letters
2. Indicate sex of each child
   a. Child's sex not always obvious from given names
3. Show date & pace of birth for each child
   a. Note places of birth of children for clues to family's possible relocation
   b. Can help to narrow down time frame for family's relocation

4. Show full name of first spouse for each child
   a. List first spouse of each child under that child's name
   b. List spouse's surname in all capital letters
   c. List date & place of marriage of child and first spouse in space provided
   d. Note places of marriage for children-may provide clues to where children resided
   e. Review names of the children and their spouses for clues to possible sources of names in found in later generations
5. Show dates & places of death & burial for each child, where applicable
   a. For children who died in infancy or childhood, enter "died young" in space for spouse

6. Note "Add info on children" box
   a. Use to list subsequent spouse(s) for that child
   b. May include date & place of subsequent marriage
   c. For children who remarry several times, prepare a separate Family Group Record for that child and each spouse with whom he or she had children
   d. May also use "Add info on children" box to list child's occupation, where that child resided, details about child's tragic death, or other information
   e. Note places where children married & died for clues to where they lived
7. Use a second Family Group Record if more than ten children