***Family types in Jamaica***

According to Sealy (2010), “a family may be defined as a group of people related by blood, marriage or a strong common bond, such as those descended from a common ancestor, or a husband, wife, and their children.” There are several types of families that are in existence. The nuclear, single parent, extended and sibling family are family types that are prominent in Jamaica.

Nuclear Family is a family that consist a pair of adults and their child/children.

* Nuclear families typically center on a married couple, but not always. Sometimes you will find that persons that are not married are living together with their child/ children.
* However, the nuclear family may have any number of children, but only one mother and one father.
* These persons in this family type are mainly persons of the working class.

Single Parent Family is when a child or children are raised in a household with only one parent present.

* This family type is popular among many Jamaicans. These are mostly persons of the lower class.
* However, the result of this family type maybe caused by: death, divorce or separation from a partner; or, no established relationship with the other parent of the child.

Extended Family consists of the nuclear family with other near relatives living in one household.

* Parents and their children's families often may live under a single roof.
* Multiple generations in the family.

Sibling Family is a family where children are living alone without parents.

* Children living together without parents, as a result of death or their parents abandoning them.

The eldest child/children manages the household