Expanding the Family Circle
Module IV

The Macro Level
We’ve talked about the framework of practice, and have applied the Mezzo level to your cases.

Now we’re going to apply the Macro level of the framework to your work with families.
Macro Level

MACRO LEVEL

MEZZO LEVEL

MICRO LEVEL
ECOMAP: Macro-level

• Remember - the Macro level includes the following:
  - historical events,
  - social issues
  - social trends
  - cultural factors
  - economic issues
Macro Level

In addition to the previous list, the Macro level includes social norms and values.

Thinking back to earlier discussions, what social norms and values might we include at the Macro level?
Think about the family you brought today:

Based on their story, what do you think would go in the Macro Level?
Values and ideas about diversity and tolerance affect us and the families we work with.

In some places around the world, diversity is not tolerated at all.

Society is strictly segregated by class, religion, or by other characteristics.
Macro Level

Here in the U.S., we have a much more fluid social system. However, there are many “isms” that still circulate in the air and can hit us at any time.
"isms"

What do we mean by an "ism"?
Macro Level

Can anyone think of an example where they or someone on your caseload or someone you know or heard of has been impacted by an “ism”? 
“isms”

We are going to view a video of a 20/20 episode that highlights the presence of racism in our culture.

As you are watching, think about how this “ism” has an impact on your own life as well as how it may affect families that you work with.
Video:  Racism in Retail
“isms”

Did this news report reflect any of your own experiences?

How do you think you would react in a similar situation?
“isms”

• “Isms” are a part of western and US culture
• Oppression exists and we experience it directly and indirectly, no matter who you are and how you view things

The important thing to realize about “isms” is
• They were part of the world in which we live long before we were born.
• They were here long before our grandparents were born.
“isms”

We did not create racism
However, we do have the power to decide how we want to respond to it

Think back to the sales clerk in the video, who was peeking into the dressing room

*What did you think about her behavior?*
“isms”

The sales clerk did not invent her bias toward the woman of color

She learned it as a result of how or where or with whom she grew up

She probably learned the bias at a very young age and not from people that wished her any harm, but from people who learned things from their families, etc..
What are some of the other examples of “isms”? 
Your Cases

Let’s take a few minutes to assess the impact of “isms” on the cases that you brought

1. Look at the list of “isms” we have developed
2. Choose at least two that have had an impact on the case that you brought today
3. Think of how “isms” might relate to that family’s story
Your Case

Would someone like to volunteer to share what they identified as an ism that has had an impact on the case they brought?

First, let’s draw the household

Then, explain the ‘isms” that you identified
“isms”

How has the “ism” become part of the family’s story?

How do you think this ism might effect the couples in this family? (i.e., if you deal with racism every day, and so does your wife or partner)

What strengths do you see in how they manage the “ism”?

What role might an ally such as yourself or another member of the community play in lessening the negative impact of that “ism” on the family?
Social Perspectives

- The couple
- The father
- Domestic violence