

The Roman Family

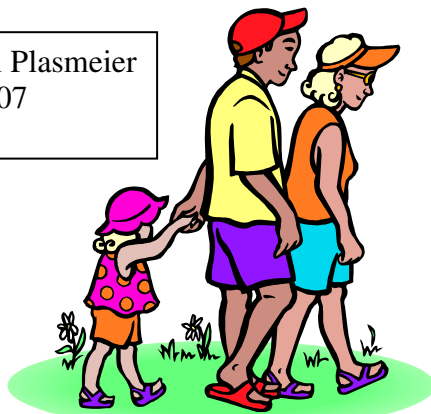
8 Facts

- Their life expectancy is more than half of ours.
- 50% of children did not live past their 10th birthday.
- They had a lot of half-families back then.
- However, that was because of the death of family members, not divorce.
- The dad had all legal control over his family.
- He could even kill his adult son.
- Children often did not see their mothers.
- Sons could order around their mothers.

Summary

The Roman family is both different and similar to our families. However, in Rome the father had total control over his family. The father also remarried a lot because his wife died often from child birth. Men were definitely valued much higher than women. Both parents loved their children, but the mother especially. Over time mothers have always been pictured as sweeter, and the father, as the drill sergeant. The Roman family fit this image perfectly.

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Response

- I didn't like that the fathers had that much control. What if you had an abusive father?
- Why do sons have control over their mothers?
- In the textbook, why does it just talk about rich families?
- I learned that the Romans did care about their daughters, more so than even some modern-day countries.
- In the textbook, they only write 1 ending sentence about Flavia, why not write more about her?
- In the textbook, the importance of slaves was not really portrayed in the way that they helped their family.

Discussions

- Why did the father have so much control over the family?
- How did we more than double life expectancy over the years?

