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Nota di contenuto	part ONE Concepts and Methods -- chapter 1 Introduction / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 2 Describing Variation: The Family Developmental Cycle / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 3 Explaining Family Variation / Stevan Harrell -- part TWO The B-Cluster: Nomadic Foraging Bands -- part Prelude: Children in an Mbuti Camp / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 4 Band Societies: The Family and the Larger Community -- chapter 5 The Developmental Cycle of the Family in Band Societies -- part THREE The A-Cluster: Family Systems of Sub-Saharan Africa -- part Prelude: Sebei Elders Discuss Cattle Claims / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 6 The Logic of African Social Organization -- chapter 7 Family Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa -- chapter 8 Conceptualizing the Structure of African Families -- chapter 9 African Developmental Cycles: Part One -- chapter 10 African Developmental Cycles: Part Two -- part FOUR The O-Cluster: Islands of Micronesia and Polynesia -- part Prelude: An Argument Over Teen Sexuality / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 11 The Nature of Oceanic Societies -- chapter 12 Making a Living and Making a Name on an Island -- chapter 13 Oceanic Family Structure -- part FIVE The N-Cluster: Societies of the Northwest Coast of North America -- part Prelude: Growing Up in a Kwakiutl House / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 14 The Logic of Social Organization on the Northwest Coast -- chapter 15 Family Activities in Northwest Coast Societies: Similarities

and Generalities -- chapter 16 Family Structure on the Northwest Coast -- part SIX The C-Cluster: Premodern, Complex Societies -- part Prelude: Dowry Negotiations in Lahore, 1925 / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 17 Introduction to the Family in C-Cluster Societies -- chapter 18 A Tour of C-Cluster Family Systems: Part One -- chapter 19 A Tour of C-Cluster Family Systems: Part Two -- chapter 20 Explaining Variation in C-Cluster Systems -- part SEVEN The M-Cluster: Families in Modern Society -- part Prelude: The Debate About the Family / Stevan Harrell -- chapter 21 Modernity and the Embattled Family -- chapter 22 What Families Do and Don't Do Anymore in Modern Societies -- chapter 23 Modern Family Process -- chapter 24 Modernity and Critiques of the Family -- chapter 25 Conclusion.

Sommario/riassunto

This detailed study maps variations in family systems throughout the world, focusing on the ways families cooperate and interact with their societies. Harrell describes families in nomadic bands, traditional African societies, Polynesian and Micronesian societies, native societies of the Pacific Northwest coast, preindustrial class societies, and modern industrial societies. His extensive case studies are clearly illustrated with unique diagrams that allow comparison of complex groups and family processes extending over a generation. This detailed study maps the variations in family systems throughout the world, focusing on the ways families interact with their societies. Tracing the developmental cycle of families in a wide range of times and places, Stevan Harrell shows how family members in different societies must cooperate to perform various activities and thus organize themselves in particular ways. Within six major divisions, the book describes families in nomadic bands, traditional African societies, Polynesian and Micronesian societies, native societies of the Pacific Northwest coast, preindustrial class societies, and modern industrial societies. Within each group, the authors copious examples demonstrate the variation from one family system to another. His case studies are clearly illustrated with a unique set of diagrams that allow comparison of complex groups and of family processes extending over a generation. Scholars and advanced students alike will find this ambitious book an invaluable resource.