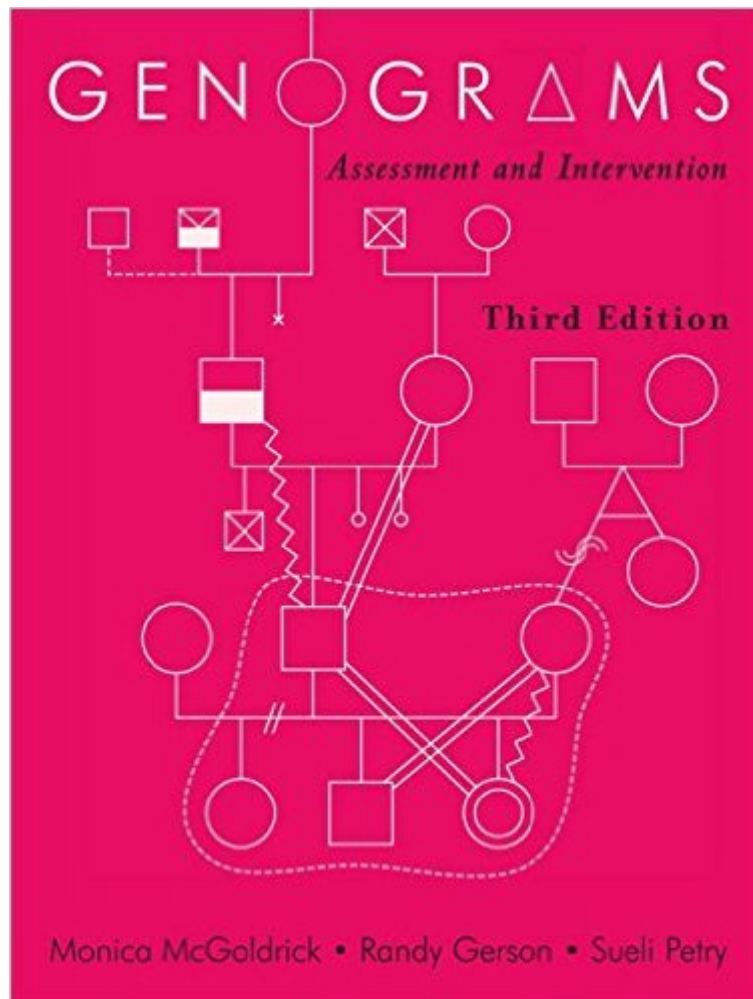


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# Genograms: Assessment And Intervention (Third Edition) (Norton Professional Books (Paperback))



## Synopsis

Widely used by both family therapists and all health care professionals, the genogram is a graphic way of organizing the mass of information gathered during a family assessment and finding patterns in the family system for more targeted treatment. Now updated and expanded in its third edition, and featuring revised genograms for easier reading, reflecting the growing and widespread use of genograms for clinical intervention, this best-selling text provides a standard method for constructing a genogram, doing a genogram interview, and interpreting the results. Genograms of famous families—Sigmund Freud, Woody Allen and Mia Farrow, the Kennedys, Jane Fonda and Ted Turner, Bill Clinton, Princess Diana, the Roosevelts, and Thomas Jefferson, to name a few—bring the text to life, and help to elucidate the principles of family systems theory and systemic interviewing, which form the basis of genogram work. Once these principles have been explained, the authors go on to present the important clinical applications of genograms in both family therapy and family medicine. These applications include the effective assessment of patients' risk for emotional problems such as anxiety or depression; structural patterns among families such as divorce and remarriage; relationship patterns such as enmeshment, conflicts, and cut-offs; recent and chronic life stressors such as pregnancy, acute illness, poverty, and racism; and family life cycle transitions and developmental crises, among other uses. By providing a fascinating view into the richness of family dynamics, McGoldrick and her coauthors provide an invaluable guide to clinicians for accurately charting a family's structure, making it easier to scan for potential problems and take proactive steps to utilize resources when necessary. 32-page color insert

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. McGoldrick is the mother of genograms and how to see family dynamics. She writes such interesting items because she uses the rich and famous to illustrate her examples. You will see how John Adams treated his children and how FDR was enmeshed with his mother. Anyone who wants to work with families needs this book.

The book gives you a place of evolution in the world of genograms. I studied genograms as a tool in counseling addiction. It is a very good tool for structure, organization and as a hand out. Genogram software is where we are going. I have tried some software programs and they are where you want to go. If you are reading this, then your interest may be in genograms as a tool. The tool may be best expressed through software. This book is a grounding for your further explorations in genograms.

This is an excellent book for family and individual therapists. It allows you to get a visual picture of the client's family, both close and extended. This aids other therapists who may also help this client in the future understand what was discovered during the therapy process for the client. A great addition to any therapist's library. It is also a useful tool for those who are interested in recording their family genealogy as you don't need to know the person's native language to read the genogram.

Excellent book, easy to understand and put to use, even for first timers. I would recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in learning about or preparing genograms.

Monica McGoldrick has provided family therapists with an invaluable tool for outlining family dynamics and interrelational processes within the family structure. As she is often referred to as the "god-mother of the genogram" she has derived her theory of family systems theory from the Bowenian model - from Murray Bowen the "father of the emotional unit". McGoldrick has given us a tool for assessment and intervention that displays the family as structural, relational, and historical. All students aspiring to study and practice family therapy or wish to learn more about themselves using a family systems perspective will find this text an indispensable resource to add to your library.

I noticed that some who reviewed this book were less than complimentary, but I found it to be a wonderful and easy-to-understand guide to creating genograms. I am very pleased to have it and have already used it several times. The inside front cover is great "cheat sheet" of symbols!

One of the many difficulties found in psychotherapy is communicating with relative ease what one professional does with a patient (or client) to another professional. Our notes and comments will always be biased and limited to what we can see, therefore handicapping another person from getting as clear a picture as possible on a person's family. Genograms have helped greatly in this area and this book, now in its third edition, has gone a long way towards creating clear and singular criteria for creating a family picture with iconography that everyone in the mental health profession can adopt. It has personally helped me better understand the clinical applications that the genogram has as well as giving me tips and offering insight into family systems therapy. It is likely that we will all be using some sort of computer software that better helps to illustrate the family and its interaction, but no computer (at least not yet) will be able to interpret the subtleties involved in family dynamics. That's what this book, and lots of practice, will help with.

This book is an outstanding review of Genograms, their construction and use. The diagrams of historical cases like Princess Diana, British royal family (Windsors), President Jefferson, Kennedy, Clinton and George Bush, psychologists / psychiatrist's Freud, Jung and Erickson were most interesting. The book provides symbolic codes for mapping family structure, socioeconomic status, religious/spiritual genograms, patterns of family clinical functioning like substance abuse or mental or physical health problems. The chapters provide remarkable insight into psychosocial family structure that individuals, therapists and physicians will find most useful. This is an excellent, well written, highly rated textbook on Genograms. Buy it if you want to learn about Genograms. Rick, MS Psychology.

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