

# Kinship Diagrams

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# Unit Learning Objectives

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- Differentiate between nuclear & extended families.
- Distinguish between family orientation & family procreation.
- Define and differentiate between kinds of descent groups and postmarital residence rules.
- Differentiate between lineages and clans
- Differentiate between genealogical kin types and kin terms.
- Demonstrate your understanding of kinship diagrams through an activity.

# Kinship (a.k.a)

## ‘Basic Building Block of Society’

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- Basic principle of organizing individuals into social groups, roles, and categories
- Considerable diversity observed across cultures

# Kinship Calculation

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- How people in a particular society reckon kin relations
  - Ego: position from which one views an egocentric genealogy
- Kinship is culturally variable
  - Terms will differ from culture to culture
  - BUT there are a limited # of patterns in which people classify their kin



# Genealogical Kin Types & Kin Terms

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- Genealogical Kin Types vs. Kin Terms
  - Genealogical Kin (e.g. father's brother)
  - Kin Terms (e.g. uncle)
- See p244, Figure 10.6 (and the following slide)

# Kinship Diagram Symbols

Male



Female



Nonspecific gender



Married to



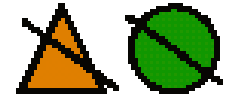
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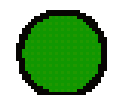
Connect parents and children



Deceased



Female EGO



Male EGO



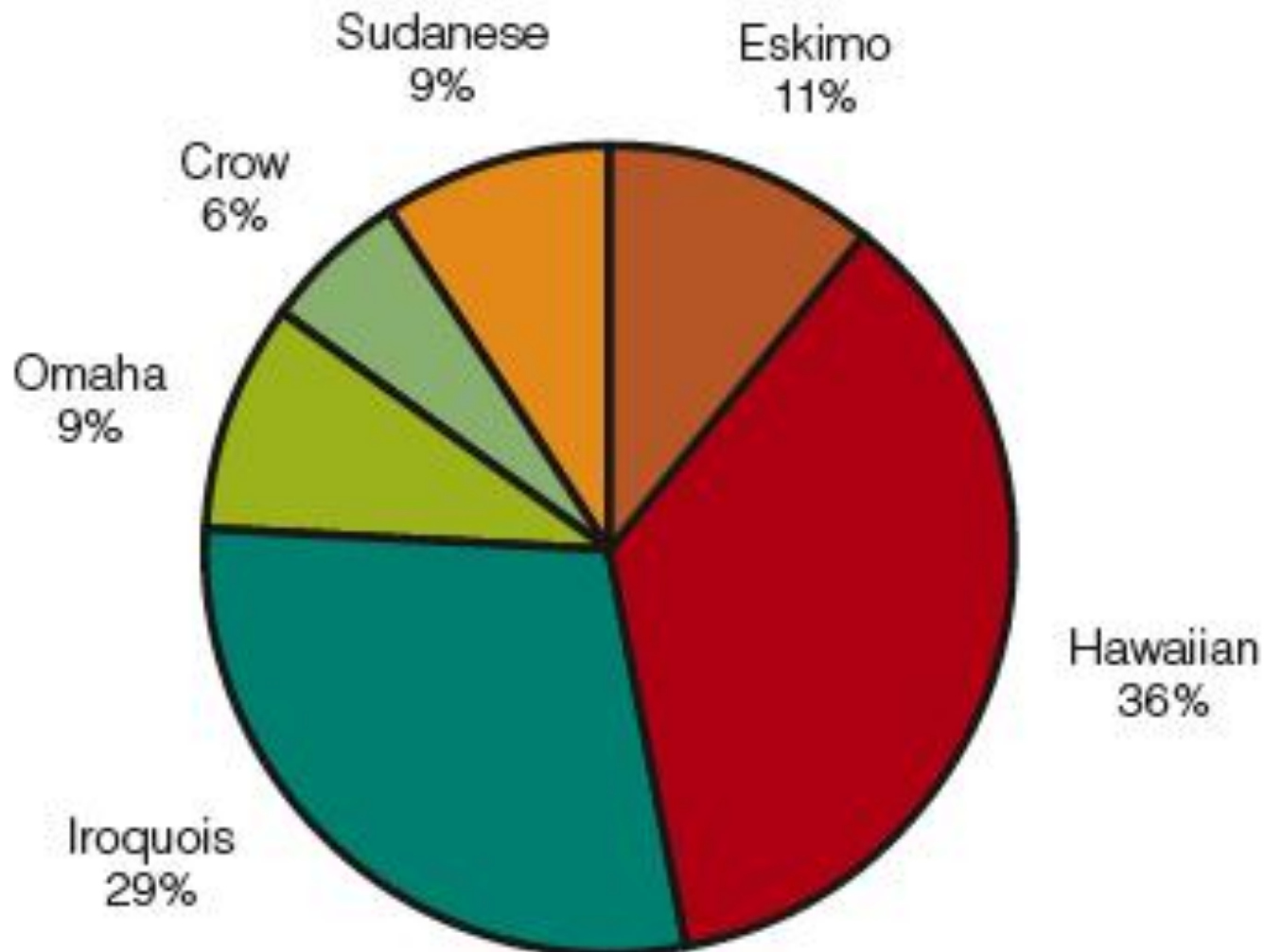
Connect siblings



Mother	M
Father	F
Son	S
Daughter	D
Brother	B
Sister	Z
Husband	H
Wife	W

Disregard colors!

# World Distribution of Kinship Systems



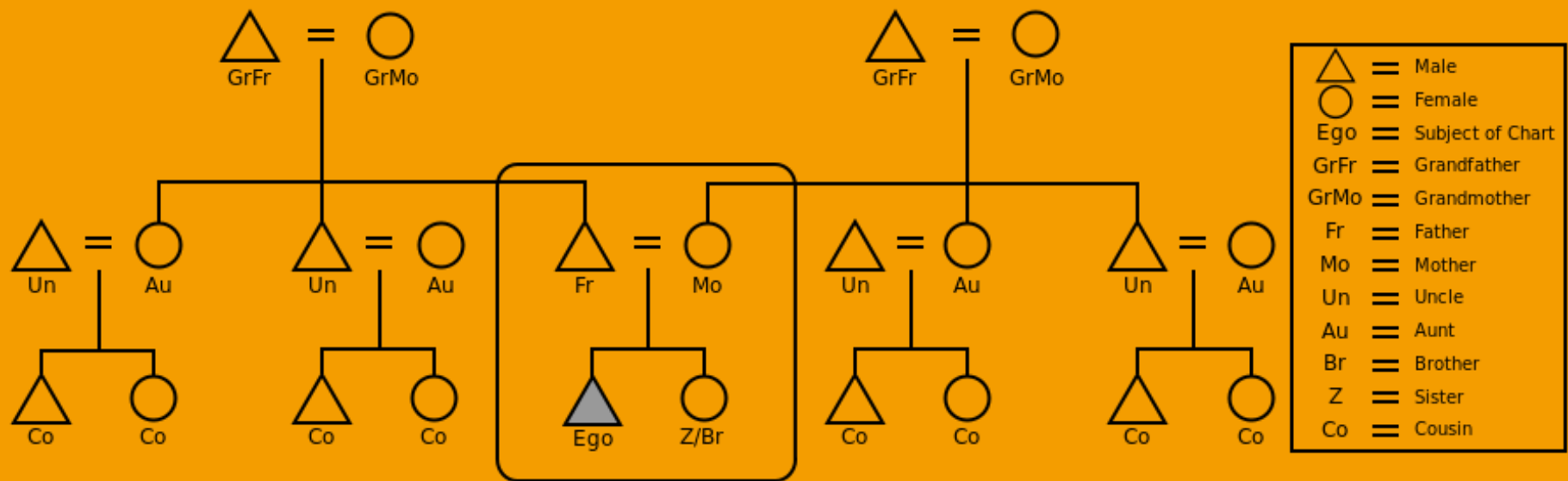
# Eskimo System

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- 1/10th of the world's societies
- Associated with bilateral descent
- Emphasizes the nuclear family by using separate terms (mother, father, sister, brother) that are not used outside the nuclear family.



# Eskimo Kinship System

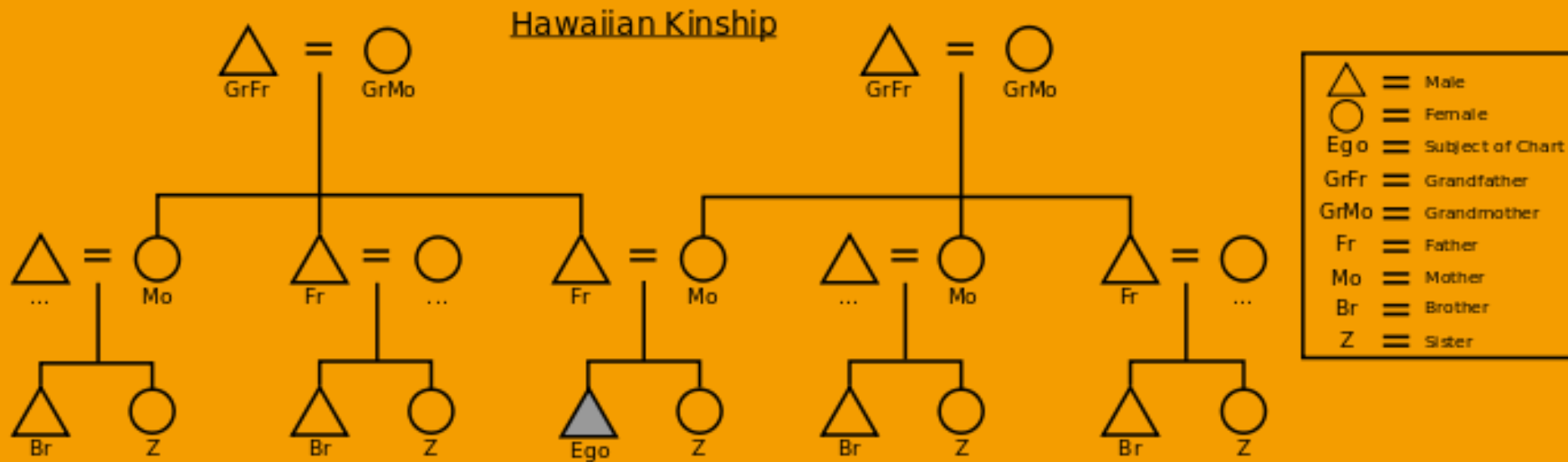


# Hawaiian System

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- Found in 1/3 of the societies in the world.
- Uses a classification system based on sex & gender:
  - A person's father, father's brother, and mother's brother are all referred to as father.
  - In EGO's generation, the only distinction is based on sex
- Nuclear family members are roughly equivalent to more distant kin.

# Hawaiian System



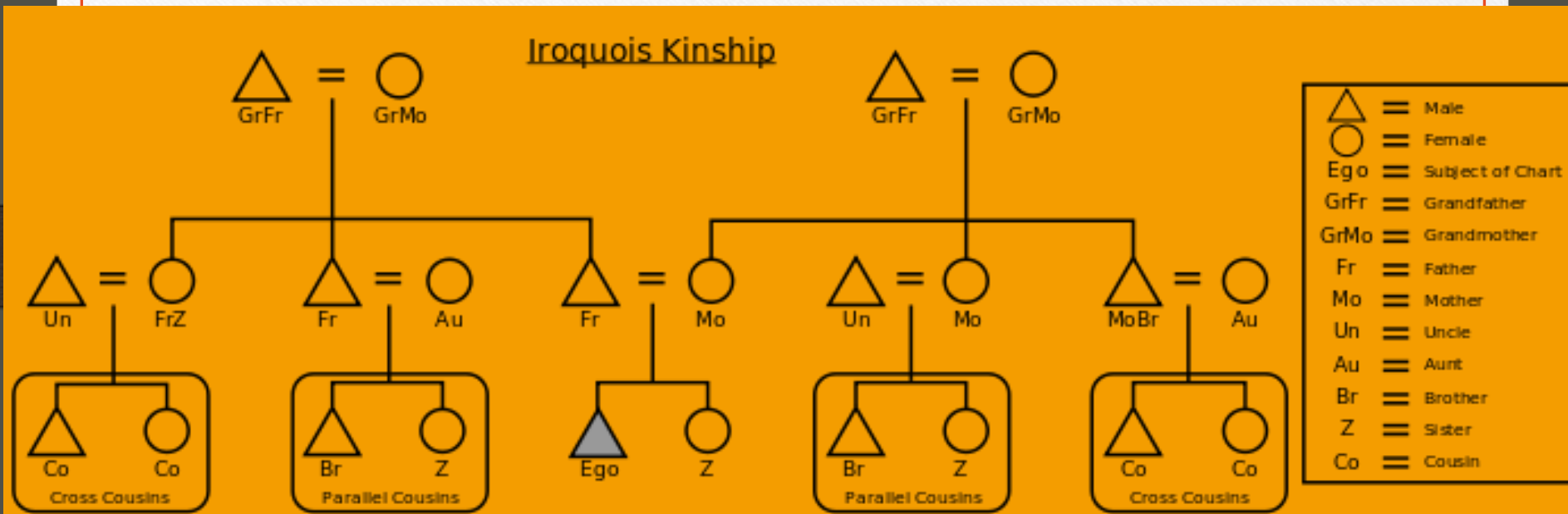
# Iroquois System

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- EGO's father and father's brother are called by the same term, mother's brother is called by a different term.
- EGO's mother and mother's sister are called by one term, a different term is used for EGO's father's sister.
- EGO's siblings are given the same term as parallel cousins.



# Iroquois System



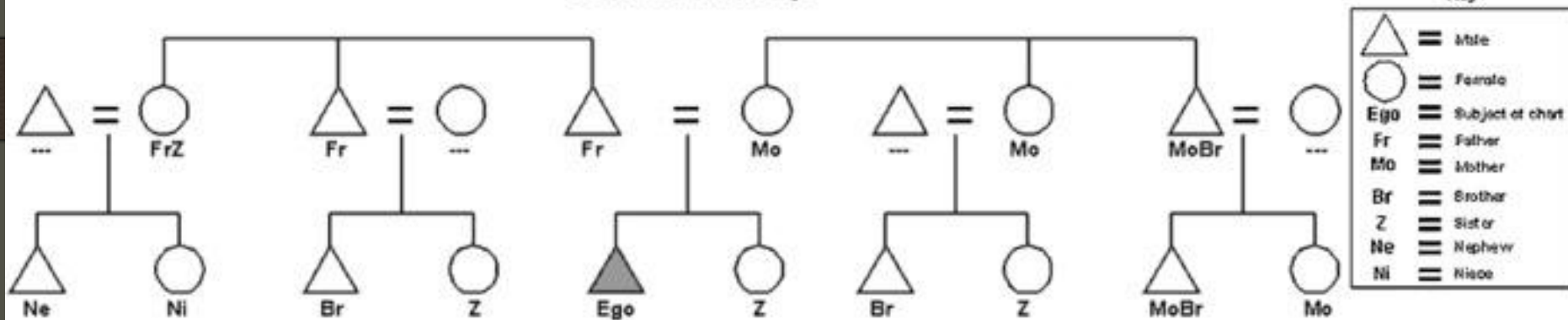
# Omaha System

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- Emphasizes patrilineal relationships
- EGO's father and father's brother are called by the same term, and EGO's mother and mother's sister are called by the same term.
- On the mother's side of the family, is 'lumped' across generations
- That merging of generations does not occur on the father's side

# Omaha System

Omaha Kinship



# Crow System

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- Concentrates on matrilineal kin
- Mirror image of the Omaha system.
- The father's side of the family are 'lumped' across generations
- On EGO's mother's side of the family, which is the important descent group, generational distinctions are recognized.

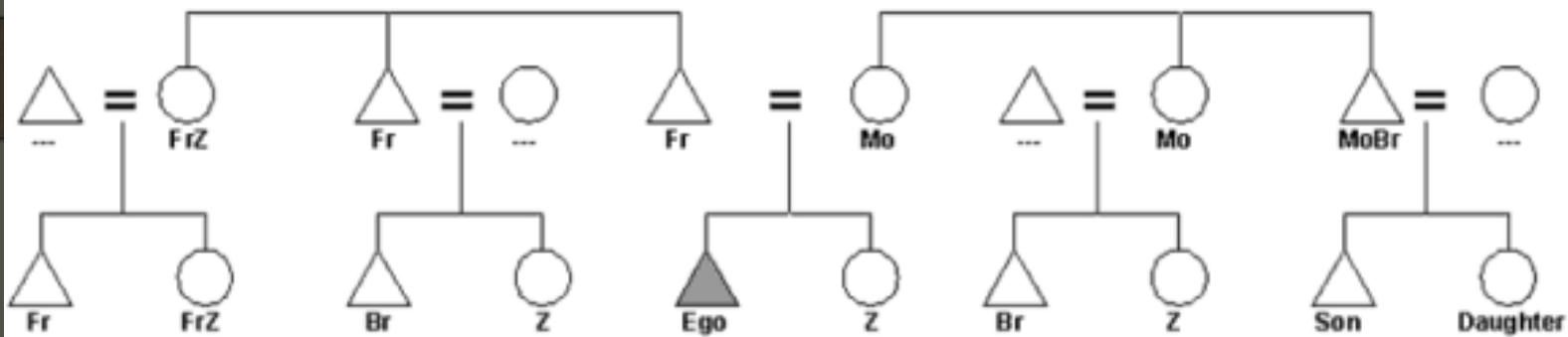


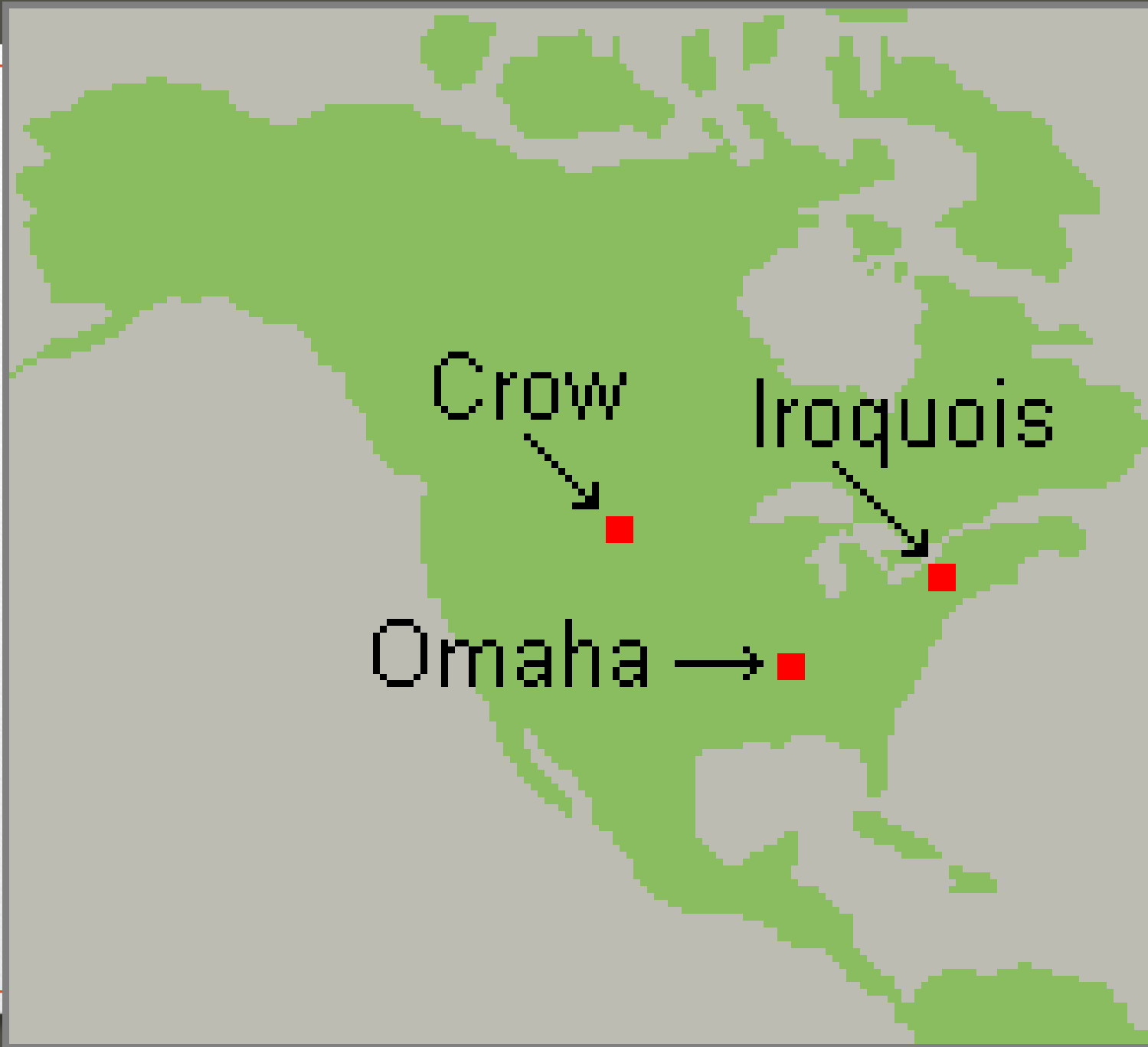
# Crow System

## Crow Kinship

### Key

△	=	Male
○	=	Female
Ego	=	Subject of chart
Fr	=	Father
Mo	=	Mother
Br	=	Brother
Z	=	Sister





Crow

Iroquois

Omaha

# Sudanese

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- The most complex naming system.
- Each category of relative is given a specific term.
  - Therefore there can be as many as 8 different terms for cousins.
- This naming system is found in Sudan and Turkey
  - It mirrors the society in how naming can reflect class, occupation and political power.