

Chapter 15: Society and Economy Under
the Old Regime in the Eighteenth Century
Section 4: Family Structures and the Family
Economy

By Dallin F. Hardy

- Family Economy
 - Pre-industrial Europe
 - Developed
 - Farms
 - Merchant shops





Households

- Households
 - Northwestern Europe
 - *Neolocalism*
 - Teens leaving their homes to
 - Marry
 - Establish households



- Marrying Age
 - Northwestern Europe
 - Men
 - Over 26
 - Women
 - Over 23



- Households

- Eastern Europe

- Russian Rural Household

- 3-4 Generations



- Marrying Age
 - Eastern Europe
 - Men and women
 - Before 20



- Family Economy
 - Everyone worked
 - Income benefited the family
 - Dominated life of
 - Skilled urban artisans
 - Eastern Europe
 - Functioned in the context of serfdom



Women and the Family Economy

- 18th-century Women
 - Dowry
 - Contributed to household's capital
 - Concerned with
 - Ensuring adequate food supply



Children and the World of the Family Economy

- 18th-century Children
 - Most infants
 - Sent to wet nurses
 - Months to years
 - Not always welcome
 - Illegitimate births
 - Increased
 - Child abandonment
 - Associated with rising food prices



- 18th-century Education
 - Became more valuable for children

