

## **PEDIGREE COLLAPSE**

A common problem but helps to explain why the world gets smaller going back in time

The one thing about genealogy that my children get a kick out of  
Being pruned from the family tree

## **NAMING PATTERNS AMONG THE NORWEGIANS**

Where do we start searching?

Always begin with yourself  
Vital records and church records  
Printed materials  
Federal records  
Local sources—cemetery, library, genealogical societies

Norwegian names are different than American names

˘ Norway historically did not have permanent surnames  
Norway used the patronymic system  
First name  
Fathers first name plus son (sen) or daughter (datter)  
Farm name served as a “locator” to indicate where this person lived

When the Norwegians came to America they needed to change to fit into society

Created permanent surnames  
The father’s patronymic  
The children’s patronymic  
The name of the farm  
When choosing the farm name which did they use?  
Farm at birth?  
Last farm they lived on before departing?  
A farm they liked?

Traditional naming patterns in Rural Norway before 1900

Norway historically used a variety of names for their children  
Mythology  
Christian  
Variety of above  
See handout page #2

Norwegian spelling

Norwegian vs Danish  
Church books may be Latin, Danish or Norwegian  
2 languages in Norway

## Traditional Naming Patterns in Rural Norway before 1900

Common traditions for given names—those given at baptism using the patronymic system

Names after grandparents

Rural districts – man had allodial rights to a farm or had purchased right to farm

1 <sup>st</sup> son father's father	1 <sup>st</sup> daughter father's mother
2 <sup>nd</sup> son mother's father	2 <sup>nd</sup> daughter mother's mother
3 <sup>rd</sup> son father	3 <sup>rd</sup> daughter mother
4 <sup>th</sup> son father's grfather	4 <sup>th</sup> daughter father's grmother
5 <sup>th</sup> son mother's grfather	5 <sup>th</sup> daughter mother's grmother

If wife wealthier than husband, order may be reversed with her parents being honored first

Naming a child after the death of a same sex child

The same name may be used over if child(ren) die until a child reaches adulthood or mother is past child bearing age

Named for former spouses

1<sup>st</sup> daughter of new marriage after previous wife

1<sup>st</sup> son of new marriage after previous husband

If there had been 2 previous spouses – child given double name

If living on ancestral farm 1<sup>st</sup> male or female after parents' (that inherited farm) grandparents, 2<sup>nd</sup> named after previous spouse

Naming child born or baptized after death of its father or mother

Son or daughter automatically given name of deceased parent If of opposite sex similar name used or male name changed to feminine version or feminine name changed to male version

Naming child born out of wedlock

Son of father who denies being father, given father's name as punishment to father.

Daughter named for someone in mother's family or female version of father's name again as punishment to father

More than one child with same name such as Stor Ola, Lille Ola

Father's father name and mother's father name the same or the mothers have same name

Farm names

All farms in Norway have a name that remains with that farm

While an individual lives on a given farm their "last name" name is the name of the farm

If they move they drop the first farm name and use the new farm name