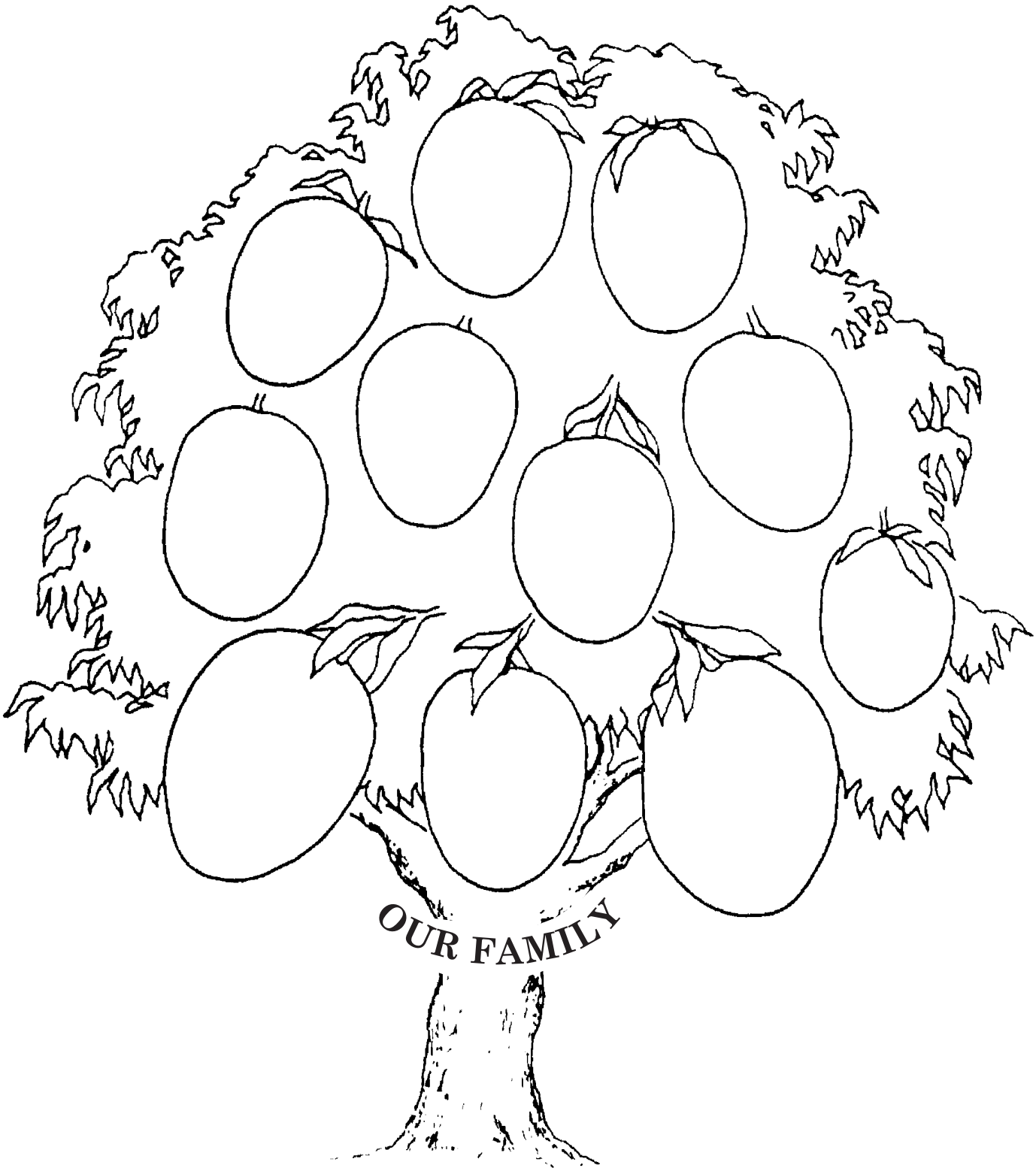
People and Organisations which can help us make plans for our children



MEMORY PROJECT

TOPIC 4 - GROUP ACTIVITY The Mango Tree

The Mango Tree idea can be used in several ways in different parts of the Memory Project. For example:

- When parents are just getting started on collecting information to include in the Memory Book they are making for their children, the Mango Tree can be used to make a list of "people who can be asked for ideas and memories." This is the way it is used in Topic 4.

- When parents are starting to make plans for the future care of their children, the Mango Tree can be used as a way of listing "People and Organisations which can help us make plans for our children." This is the way its used in Topic 7.

- Whenparents and children are working together to write a Memory Book, the Mango Tree can be used as an easy way for the chid to write or draw pictures of "Important people in your life."

Using the Mango Tree in Topic 4.

- Make a copy of the Mango Tree outline for each member of the group.

- Explain the purpose of the activity – in Topic 4 the Mango Tree is being used as a way of helping people to think of who could be asked for information and memories about the family and individual children.

- Divide up into small groups. People will be talking about sensitive personal information so they need to feel comfortable with the people in their group.

- Some people may prefer to work alone or in pairs.

- Ask people to share ideas so they can learn from each other. They don't have to name names but suggest the sort of people who could be asked for help. (a check list is given at the end of this sheet.)

- Here are some questions to help group members focus:
  - Who knows about the family history?
  - Who could fill in memories of a parent who has already passed away?
  - Who can supply stories about individual children?
  - Who knows about family and clan traditions?
  - Who knows where family members are buried?

- At the end of the discussion each person can start to fill in her mangoes with names of people who may be able to help them collect important information.

- It doesn't matter if the Mango Tree isn't full of names. This is just the starting point.

- Remind people that the main purpose of this activity is to start thinking about who has information beyond the obvious circle of family and friends.

- Bring everyone together to share ideas. Be ready to fill in any gaps with ideas from the checklist.

CHECKLIST FOR TRAINERS/WORKSHOP LEADERS:

Here are ideas of people who may have useful information:

- School teachers.
- Parents of school friends.
- Religious leaders and members of congregation.
- Youth and sports club leaders.
- Health workers.
- Community leaders and Clan elders.
- Employers, work friends.
- Extended family including those living overseas
- Grandparents, brothers and sisters.
- People still living in the village where the family came from.
- Relatives of parent or grandparent who has already died.