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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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fil·i·a·tion  (fĭl'ē-ā shən)

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n.

1.

a. The condition or fact of being the child of a certain parent.

b. *Law* Judicial determination of the paternity of a nonmarital child for the purposes of compelling support.

2. A line of descent; derivation.

3.

a. The act or fact of forming a new branch, as of a society or language group.

b. The branch thus formed.

[Medieval Latin *filiātiō*, *filiātiōn-*, quality of being a son, legal right of a son, from Latin *filius*, son; see **dhē(i)-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

fil i·ate' *v.*

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