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# Replacement Naming in Sweden and America

Charles H. Hendricks\*

*(Following up on his excellent treatment of his Swedish ancestors' dealing with the law and the courts, published in SAG in September 1992, Dr. Hendricks here goes a step farther in analyzing the phenomenon of replacement naming of children in Sweden and America. - Editor).*

## How My Ancestors Dealt with Death of Infants and Mothers

For as far back as we can trace, in some cases into the 16th century, almost all of my Swedish ancestors lived principally in the northern province of Skåne; a few more lived along the southernmost margin of the neighboring province of Halland. These provinces were for hundreds of years part of Denmark and often constituted a bloody battleground between Denmark and Sweden. It was not until the Treaty of Roskilde in 1658 that these provinces became a permanent part of Sweden.

Searching the records, it is only rarely that we find any of these ancestors who lived more than fifteen miles from the parish church in the village of Hjärnarp (Krist.). They were Lutherans by law and, with a few exceptions, farmers by necessity. They were not bound to the land but, due to the absence of many other opportunities, most were destined to make their living by agriculture.

In studying the reproductive patterns of my Swedish peasant ancestors from the 17th to the 19th centuries, I began to observe that the children of those families who died in infancy were almost invariably "replaced" whenever it was possible by giving the name of the dead child to the nextborn child of the same sex. There are more than twenty documented instances of this practice in our family. I also observed that when a man's first wife died and the farmer remarried, that the first baby girl in the new marriage would be given the name of the dead first wife.

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Below there will be described some examples of what, to Americans, may appear to be a rather curious Scandinavian practice. The American experience will be outlined. At the end of the presentation are some historical observations and some explanation of why the practice no longer plays a prominent role in modern Swedish society.

### **The Replacement of Cousin Janne Andersson**

Among the first instances of my being aware of this phenomenon was the curious pattern of child naming of my great-great-aunt, Elna Larsdotter. Elna, born in 1820, was the elder sister of my great-grandfather, Henrik Larsson, who was born in 1823. She played a major role in caring for Henrik, after his father died, when Henrik was eight years old. Elna and her mother, Hanna Svensdotter, assumed the duty of raising this fatherless child. When Henrik became twenty years old his mother died, and Henrik continued to live with Elna's family until sometime after his own marriage in 1850.

Elna married Johannes Andersson in 1842. They had been living on the farmstead of Gånarp No. 9 in Tåstarp Parish (Krist.), which had been in the family from before 1709 until her father sold it in 1829. After the marriage, Elna and Johannes rented a part of the property and continued to reside in the same place. The first child, Elna, was born 10 Feb. 1843. The second child, born 2 March 1846, after a 36-month birth interval, was christened Janne. Unfortunately, Janne died two weeks later. Fourteen months after this, on 13 May 1847, a second son was born, and he also was christened Janne after the deceased firstborn son. But the second Janne died 21 June 1848 at the age of thirteen months. The fourth child, a daughter Hanna, was born 25 May 1848 after a 12 month interval. The next child, born 32 months later on 24 Feb. 1851, was a boy, so he also was named Janne. After this came Ludvig, born in Sept. 1853 and then Albertina, born 29 July 1856.

This Janne No. 3 survived. He grew up in the same neighborhood as did my grandfather, Ludvig Henriksson, who was born 11 Nov. 1850, and who was less than three months older than Janne No. 3. The boys must have made great plans for the future. My father stated in his memoirs that Henrik and "a friend" planned at one time to walk all the way around the borders of Sweden. It is highly likely that the "friend" was his cousin Janne No. 3. Soon after Ludvig's and Janne's 21st birthdays, they both emigrated to Osage City, KS. Thus Elna and Johannes had to produce three "Jannes" before they had one who survived to emigrate to America.

### **The Replacement of Mother Tyra Pehrsson and Her Dead Son, Little Henrik Larsson**

I learned more about the naming of newborns in honor of dead antecedents

by studying the ancestors of my grandfather, Ludvig Henriksson. It became apparent that Ludvig's grandfather, Lars Henriksson. (L-II-1),<sup>1</sup> had been married twice. Lars Hendriksson, born in Gånarp No. 9 on 17 March 1760, first married 6 July 1783 Tyra Pehrsdotter, eight years his senior, who also had been born in the little farming village of Gånarp. After six years of marriage, this couple's only child, a son, was born 17 June 1789, when Tyra was 37 years old. They named the child "Henrik". Tragically, little Henrik died from smallpox on 17 Jan. 1790, having lived only seven months. There is no record available to indicate that any further children were born to this union. Nearly a quarter of a century later, in October 1814, Tyra Pehrsdotter was buried at the age of 62. She was reported to have died from "wasting disease", which was another name for tuberculosis. For those who think that that "wasting disease" a curious term for this illness, one might remind them that in America in the 19th century tuberculosis was called "consumption."

So my great-great grandfather, Lars Henriksson, left at age 54 with neither wife nor child, had to begin all over again. On 30 Dec. 1815 Lars married Hanna Svensdotter, 21 years younger, born in Gånarp 4 May 1781. At first fortune seemed ready to smile on the second marriage. On 7 May 1816 their first child was born, about four months into their marriage. She was named "Tyra" in honor of Lars' dead first wife, Tyra Pehrsdotter. But the replaced name was not destined to last very long; poor little Tyra died only six days after her birth.

Four years later, 15 June 1820, a second daughter was born. Since she was a daughter replacing Lars Henriksson's dead wife Tyra and dead daughter Tyra, we would have expected her to have been named Tyra, also; but for reasons not known to us she was named Elna. Perhaps the prior naming of the first child Tyra had fulfilled the etiquette requirements of the situation.

Three years later, 5 April 1823, a third child was born, when the mother was already 41 years of age. This child, a boy, was named Henrik after his dead brother Henrik, born in his father's first marriage. Henrik (L-I-1) became my great grandfather. Lars Henriksson died in 1831 at the age of about 71 and his second wife, Hanna Svensdotter, died in 1843, aged 62.

Thus in this one family we see examples of two customs of naming newborns for dead relatives. In the case of Tyra, the first female child in the second marriage was named for the dead first wife. In the case of Henrik, the first child of the appropriate sex born after the death of the little one was given the name of the dead child. Further study confirmed that these two customs were the rule rather than the exception during those 17th, 18th and 19th century days.

## A Wife and Three Children: Four "Replacement" Attempts in the Family of Lars Svensson (L-IV-11)

Here is another similar case, that of Lars Svensson (L-IV-11). Lars was born in Hasslöv Parish (Hall.) 7 Sept. 1731. On 24 June 1755 he first married Elna Månsdotter, who bore him eight children. The record is summarized in Table 1.

Kersti was the only one of the three children dying in infancy who had a name replacement. Twenty four months after the birth of the second Kersti, Elna Månsdotter, the mother of these eight children, died on 31 Dec. 1772 at the age of 40. The cause of death was given as "some sort of headache."

People don't ordinarily die from "some sort of headache" by itself. Women sometimes used to die from a pregnancy-related condition often associated with a severe headache. That condition is hypertensive disease in pregnancy, which at its worst is associated with headache and also death-causing convulsions. In speculation we might postulate that if this 40 year-old woman happened to be carrying her ninth pregnancy, she might possibly have been susceptible to this disease, but we have no way of knowing at this distance in time. The last birth-to-death interval was just over two years, which would be quite compatible with the birth intervals of her prior pregnancies.

Elna Månsdotter left an estate valued at 300 *daler silvermynt (smt.)*. One silver *daler* was worth three copper *daler*. At this time in Skåne a gun could be purchased for 13 *daler smt*; a blacksmith earned about 9 *daler smt*. a month and a barrel of barley was worth six *daler smt*. As guardians for her five surviving children, two of her brothers were appointed, Jöns Månsson from Vråkär and Per Månsson, both from Hasslöv Parish.

Of Elnas's eight offspring five survived her, leaving the 41 year-old Lars Svensson with five motherless children, ranging in age from fourteen down to four.

After waiting about a year, in accordance with the usual custom, Lars remarried 28 Dec. 1773, this time Troen Pehrsson, born in Rollstorp, Hasslöv 20 March 1747. Troen was fifteen years younger than her husband. See Table 2.

Troen's first child was a girl, born 18 Dec. 1774 and was named Elna as a "replacement" for Lars' first wife. Then came another daughter, Sissa, born 8 Sept. 1777. Tragically, the new Elna died in 1778 at the age of four of smallpox. The next child, also a girl, born 2 Dec. 1779, was appropriately also named Elna as a "replacement" for the first wife Elna. This Elna died in 1784 at the age of five.

The fourth child was a boy, christened Pehr, born 6 July 1782. Next came Bengt, born 6 Aug. 1785, a replacement-named child for the Bengt born in the first

marriage. He died of smallpox in 1790. The family was completed with the birth of Johan, born 24 June 1788. Lars died in Hasslöv in 1810 at the age of 81. I have no information as to when Troen died.

In summary, Lars Svensson had sired fourteen children, eight of whom survived infancy. He had named one daughter in his first marriage as a replacement for Kersti. In the second marriage he named two daughters Elna after his dead first wife, but both of these replacements died. Also in his second marriage he had named a replacement for Bengt, a dead son from his first marriage. The second Bengt also failed to survive his childhood years.

Thus of the fourteen children of Lars Svensson, four were given replacement names for a dead mother or siblings, but only one of the replacement-named infants, Kersti, lived to maturity.

### **Six Child Replacements in the Family of Sone Olsson (T-II-1)**

Sone Olsson (T-II-1), the paternal grandfather of my maternal grandmother, Thilda Olsson, was born in Margretetorp, Hjärnarp Parish (Krist.) 17 Nov. 1769. His father was the innkeeper of Margretetorp Inn, as well as a farmer. Sone himself was a farmer in Margretetorp all of his life. On 29 March 1797 he married Bengta Pålsson, who also was born in Margretetorp in 1774.

As may be seen from Table 3, this couple had a total of eleven children, with an average birth interval of 16.45 months, with seven of the eleven intervals being 16.45 months plus or minus two months. Five of the children died in infancy, two of these deaths being from pertussis and measles, respectively. The sixth death, that of the first son named Pähl, occurred before the boy's 11th birthday. Actually, Pähl probably died well before that, but he could not be replaced earlier because of his parents being occupied with the problem of providing a surviving namesake for Ola, which required the birth of four sons named in honor of the father of Sone Olsson. In addition to the three renamings of Ola, there were two renamings for Pähl and one for Elna. Ola No. 4 was destined to become my great grandfather.

### **Another Instance of Mother and Child Loss: Ola Nilsson (T-III-1)**

My great-great-great grandfather, Ola Nilsson, the son of Nils Andersson, was born in Hjärnarp Parish about 1733. He was both a farmer and an innkeeper at Margretetorp. He first married Troen Sonesdotter in 1760, who was born in 1737. This couple produced four children. The first child was Anders, born 27 Oct. 1761. Next came Nils, born in 1764, who soon died from "pains in the stomach." He was replaced with another son, Nils, born in 1765. Then on 17 Nov. 1769 Sone

Olsson was born, who was to become my great-great grandfather. Troen died 8 Jan. 1775 at the age of 37 of "a gradually consuming illness" (tuberculosis).

On 1 Dec. 1775, after eleven months of being a widower, Ola Nilsson remarried, this time to Troen Salomonsdotter, who was 27 years old, born in Barkåkra Parish (Krist.) about 1748. She died in Margretetorp 16 Feb. 1803 at the age of 55. Death was said to be from "gout", which might be thought to be appropriate for an innkeeper's wife. But gout is not usually the principal cause of death in a fifty year-old woman; it might more likely have been due to some sort of disabling kidney disease.

Ola Nilsson died 19 June 1805, two years after the passing of his second wife. He was aged 72 at this time and death was said to have been due to senility. In this instance there was no need for a wife name replacement, since both of his wives were named "Troen" and, at any rate the second wife did not give birth to any daughters. The name replacement for Nils was successful in that Nils lived to adulthood.

### **A Further Instance of Maternal and Child Death: Sven Olsson (L-V-13)**

Sven Olsson was born in Munka-Ljungby Parish (Krist.) about 1649. He was first married, probably in the early 1690s to Gertru(d), who was born about 1665. Their first child, Olof, was born in March 1692 and died in 1710. Twenty-one months later, on 24 June 1694, Peder arrived. Next came Jöns, born 10 July 1698. Jöns died at/or soon after birth. Then Gertru(d), the wife, died 30 April 1705, aged 40.

In January 1707 Sven Olsson married again, this time Maria Nilsdotter from Ellenberga, Munka-Ljungby Parish. The first child was a girl, born 23 Feb. 1708, named Gertru(d) after Sven's dead first wife. Sören was born 7 Jan. 1712 and Marna was born in 1714. Sven Olsson died in Heagård, Munka-Ljungby 4 Sept. 1720, aged 71. In this instance the renaming for the dead first wife was successful.

### **Where the Renaming System Failed, Due to Age and Death Factors: Nils Pålsson (T-II-3)**

We have considered in the above discussion many instances where the names of some of the dead infants, and also two of the dead wives, were passed on to living successors. Now we shall mention an example in which the system failed, regardless of whether or not the parents would have wished to pass on the names of dead relatives.

Nils Pålsson (T-II-3) was the maternal grandfather of my own grandmother, Mathilda Olsson Hendricks. He was born 26 Feb. 1780 in Borrstorp,

a tiny village in Hjárnarp Parish, located just over a mile south of Margretetorp. He was first married 22 June 1805 to Gunnill Andersdotter of Borrstorp, born in Össjö Parish (Krist.) 15 Dec. 1778. At the time of his marriage, Nils was residing at Ängeltofta in Barkåkra Parish. He was having a successful career, holding the responsible position of farm overseer (*ladufogde*) at Vegeholm, one of the huge estates located in Hjárnarp Parish in the 17th and 18th centuries. Nils was 34 years old and Gunnill was somewhat older. See Table 4.

The first pregnancy, which terminated 7 July 1805, about two months after the marriage, resulted in twins, a boy named Anders and a girl named Ingar. Unfortunately, both of the children died the following day. It seems likely that they were born prematurely and that their deaths were inevitable.

The next child was named Pernilla (also known as Petronella), born in Norrdala, Barkåkra Parish 1 July 1806, probably the home of Gunnill's parents. On 16 April 1809, a daughter Anna was born in Norrdala, Barkåkra Parish. It is a matter of interest that neither of these little girls was named in honor of their dead twin sister, Ingar.

Then came a second set of twins. These were born 26 Feb. 1812 and were named Anders and Pähl. Anders was as replacement name for the dead twin Anders, who had died perinatally in 1805. Unfortunately, these infants, also, failed to survive. We do not know the exact date of their deaths, but we do know that they never were listed among the living family members in the Hjárnarp household examination roll. It is likely that these boys, like their elder twin siblings, perished from having been born prematurely.

Comment: Having two sets of twins born in the same family was somewhat of a rarity, before ovulogenic drugs. For example, the chances of a mother having one set of twins in those days was perhaps one out of 60 births, while the chance of a mother having two sets of twins in direct succession was perhaps about one in 3,600 births. Among the more than 260 infants born to my Swedish ancestors of whom I have documentation, there was another couple who also had two sets of twins, and one couple who had a single set of twins. Thus there was one set of twins per fifty pregnancies.

The final childbirth in the family took place 6 August 1813. The daughter was named Johanna, and she would grow up to become the mother of my own grandmother, Thilda Olsdotter, whom I knew as Mathilda Olsson Hendricks.

Gunnill Andersdotter, now 32 years old, had given birth to seven children. The three boys were all dead, but three of the four girls survived. Gunnill lived for another twenty years. Why she failed to bear more children can only be conjectured. At any rate the records show that on 22 May 1833 Gunnill Andersdotter of Heagård, Hjárnarp, died at the age of 54. The cause of death was not



given.

The husband, Nils Pålsson, now 53 years old, was left with three adult daughters, aged 27, 25 and 20. It was usual for the bereft man to remarry about a year after the death of his first wife. This also proved to be the case of Nils Pålsson.

On 27 June 1834, thirteen months after the death of Gunnill, Nils took a new wife, Hanna Olofsdotter, a widow, to live with him at Turagården No. 9 in Lerbäckshult, Hjárnarp Parish. Since Hanna was 59 years old at the time of her marriage to Nils, it was obvious that there would be no further children, and thus no opportunity for replacement naming of Nils Pålsson's first wife nor any of his four dead infants.

### **Documented in My Family, a Total of 46 Infants Named as Replacements for Dead Siblings or Dead First Spouses**

I surveyed all of the renamings of newborn infants for a person who had died. In births among my ancestors between 1700 and 1847, there were a total of 46 such renamings, with 37 bearing the names of a dead sibling (Table 5), and nine bearing the name of a dead first spouse of the parent (Table 6).

Among these 37 renamings, which I had at first believed to be renamings primarily for dead siblings, I was able to identify a parent or grandparent progenitor of the same name for 31 (84%). There may have been even more named for a close relative, but my data on progenitors were not complete enough to allow me to make a more complete search. I then came to realize that the great majority of the "renamed" infants had been given their renamed names not in the first instance for the dead sibling per se, but in honor of a parent or other relative. Of course, after the immediate progenitors had been properly honored, the parents were free to use more original names in later pregnancies.

At first I was surprised to find infants being given the names of their parents' dead first spouses, but then I realized that the same principles apply in this instance. Among the renamings in this group, seven were so named out of respect for dead first wives, but only two were named out of respect for dead first husbands.

While in my entire family history more husbands died before their wives than the reverse case, there were only two names given in the husband's honor in subsequent pregnancies of their wives in later marriages. There may be some possible biological or social explanations for this disproportion between husband and wife renamings. One needs to note that the husband tended to die when his wife was already at an age, where her remaining reproductive potential was already very limited, while if the wife died first he could (and often did) marry a younger

woman who would be more able to provide a son in a second marriage to whom she could give the name of her first husband. I had wondered if second husbands would tend to be less likely to consent to naming their sons after the new wife's first husband, but it appears that the custom was indeed commonly accepted and practiced in Sweden during those years, according to my Swedish informants. While this special group of renamings sounds different from the primary infant namings in honor of dead progenitors, one may note that in family terms the dead first spouse continues to be a member of the "family history" and thus be a candidate for later name-honoring.

The unanticipated event of death in infancy or very young childhood automatically made the next like-sexed sibling a candidate for receiving the same name. In other words, when the child named for an ancestor perished at a tender age, it was customary (almost "socially obligatory" in those generations) to name the next available same-sexed child after the same ancestor whose name had been borne by the dead child. Replacement naming, then represented a continuing effort by the parents to pass on the name of the progenitor to later generations.

### Origin of the Scandinavian Practice of Renaming.

Concerning such a cultural practice, I found limited information in Fraser's *The Golden Bough*.<sup>2</sup> That book refers to dozens of cultures where any mention of the dead is taboo. However, when it comes to naming a newborn after a dead person, there are few references. One of these may be of historical interest: "Among the Lapps, when a woman was ... near the time of her delivery, a deceased ancestor or relation used to appear to her in a dream and inform her what dead person was to be born again in her infant, and whose name the child was therefore to bear (p.298)." Two additional tribal references are cited. It would be a matter of interest if the ancient practice among the Lapplanders could be shown to relate in any way to the much later inhabitants of Skåne, but at present one cannot make that assumption. Any such connection would be unlikely, however, in view of the wide historical and cultural divergence between the Lapps and the non-Lapp Swedes.

In response to my query about the practice in Sweden, Birgitta Nobring wrote: "About replacement names for dead infants, I don't think it is a custom only in Skåne. I have found the same custom among my own relatives in the provinces of Halland, Västergötland, Småland and even Värmland and Bohuslän.

The custom of renaming a child after a dead husband or wife in a new marriage was used very early (in about 1000 A.D.) among the Vikings of Scandinavia, according to Carl Gustaf Liljenberg.<sup>3</sup> Perhaps this originated in a pagan rite.

I can't tell when the this custom stopped (in Sweden), but I think

sometime during the late 19th century. The custom of naming children after their grandparents stopped at the same time, but we still sometimes use it at least for the middle name of a new baby. My children and grandchildren have such names."<sup>4</sup> (See my comment below about middle names).

## American Naming Practices

I next inquired of Ross W. Beales, Jr. of the Department of History at Holy Cross College, about replacement naming. Prof. Beales kindly gave me a rich supply of references to this and related subjects recently published in America.

I learned that what I had been calling "name replacement" has been termed by the more formidable name of "necronym", from the Greek meaning "name of the dead" and the process itself is known as "necronymic succession."<sup>5</sup>

The practice has been widespread in New England and other American areas in past generations. Smith noted that, in colonial Hingham, MA, "during the 18th century necronymic succession occurred for nearly 90 % of dying children with the same name as one of their parents and for over three-fourths of dying children not named for a parent." Beales<sup>6</sup> observed the same pattern in Westborough, Massachusetts, in births occurring in the period 1710-1849. The process declined during the 19th century in both Hingham and Westborough.

Fischer,<sup>7</sup> who had found equivalent data in a study of the Concord community in Massachusetts, emphasized that the survival of chosen forenames in New England was of such critical importance that "... when a child died, its name was used again in a way that startles the modern observer." As an illustration of the persistence of this practice he cited a dramatic example of the Hartwell family, where, in October 1740, all five children then in the family died from "throat distemper" (diphtheria). Each of the five dead children was given a "replacement name" at the very first opportunity among the nine succeeding Hartwell children, in order of the like-sexed birth of their new siblings!

Throughout New England, replacement naming of infants for their dead siblings played an important role in supplying names for newborns until about 1820, after which time the practice went into decline.

The most frequent namings were for the parents of the newborn, which made it more likely that renamings for dead siblings would also be, in effect, renamings of dead family members of previous generations.

Waters<sup>8</sup> found that, in a study of naming practices in Guilford, CT 1693-1759 82 % of fathers and 72 % of mothers named children after themselves.

## The Use of Middle Names

A fresh source of opportunity for supplying newborns with family names came about with the introduction of the practice of giving middle names. Fischer noted that the use of middle names was rare in New England before 1770. At first, only the elite of society adopted middle names, after which the custom spread so rapidly that by 1820, 80 % of the Concord children had received middle names. In his Westborough study, Beales found middle names to be absent for the first half of the 18th century. By 1810 half of the children were given middle names, and the practice increased rapidly toward 90 % after 1830.

Fischer reported that historically the pattern of middle-naming had become widespread in previous centuries. It was common in Florence, Italy in the 14th and 15th centuries, had spread to southern France in the 16th century and to northern France in the 17th century.

As to middle names in Sweden, Birgitta Nobring informed me that the members of the upper classes in Sweden had used middle names for many generations. The practice spread to the burgher classes (more prosperous city dwellers) early in the 19th century, and then progressively through the various layers of population down to the proletariat, which included all of my ancestors.

In my own family, the first middle name of which we have record on my paternal grandfather's side was given the last child of Henrik Larsson (L-I-1). That child was born in 1864. On the side of my paternal grandmother (L-I-2), the first middle name was given to only one of her seven siblings (Carl Peter, the sixth child, born 1850). In the succeeding generations, all descendants of the family have received middle names. Thus we note that while the practice of replacement naming has come and gone, the practice of giving middle names is alive and well. With the passage of time, however, the middle names have been more likely to be forename-type names such as Cynthia, Judith and Paul, rather than family surnames such as Olson, Hurlburt and Mead.

### A Custom No Longer Desired, Practiced or Needed

Of necessity, the practice of replacement names entails two very disparate requirements. First, the family must desire to continue the name of a child who had died. Second, there must be sufficient deaths of young children in the family so that the process can be identified and quantified.

As to the first "requirement", we have already noted the diminishing inclination on the part of the parents to continue giving family names to their newborn. As to the second "requirement," the frequency of deaths of early childhood and at childbirth has diminished so dramatically over the past century that, even if

and at childbirth has diminished so dramatically over the past century that, even if the parents would be prepared to give a new child a "renaming", the likelihood of a death in early childhood has become remote and there would be little need for the parents to activate the renaming mechanism.

Concerning deaths in childhood and childbirth vast changes have been brought about in the last century. The incidence of infants born in Sweden dying at birth or during the first year of life has become one of the lowest rates in modern industrialized society. Deaths from what used to be considered childhood infectious diseases (diphtheria, smallpox, pertussis, scarlet fever, measles or rubella) are now virtually zero. Likewise, maternal mortality, while still occurring, has become a rarity in Sweden.

There are many people in our modern society who bear the names of older relatives, but not in response to the death of a child already bearing the name of a certain ancestor. The "obligatory" phase of the custom has now disappeared for all practical purposes, leaving only what might be termed a "facultative" opportunity for its employment by those parents who still wish to pass on to their children the names of forebears whose names they wish to perpetuate.

Thus the whole subject of replacement naming has become obsolete, and today is merely a matter of historical interest.

## Tables

*Table 1. Children of Lars Svensson (L-IV-11) and his first wife, Elna Månsdotter (L-IV-12).*

Birth Date	Name	Birth Interval	Remarks
4 June 1756	Sven	11 months marriage to birth	
19 Sept. 1758	Boel	27 months	
23 Aug. 1760	Christer	23 months	Infant death
15 Dec. 1762	Anna	28 months	
5 Feb. 1765	Bengt	27 months	Infant death
25 Feb. 1766	Kersti	13 months	Infant death
1 Sept. 1768	Karin	31 months	
3 Dec. 1770	Kersti	28 months	Replacement name

*Table 2. Children of Lars Svensson and his second wife, Troen Pehrsdotter.*

Birth Date	Name	Birth Interval	Remarks
18 Dec. 1774	Elna	12 months marriage to birth	Renaming for first wife; died at 4.

## Replacement Naming in Sweden and America

Birth Date	Name	Birth Interval	Remarks
8 Sept. 1777	Sissa	33 months	
2 Dec. 1779	Elna	27 months	Renamed for first wife; died at 5.
3 July 1782	Pehr	31 months	
6 Aug. 1785	Bengt	37 months	Renamed for first Bengt; died at 5.
24 June 1788	Johan	34 months	

*Table 3. Children of Sone Olsson (T-II-1) and Bengta Pålsson (T-II-2).*

Birth Date	Name	Birth Interval	Remarks
Nov. 1798	Påhl		Died in childhood
13 Nov. 1799	Ola	12 months	Infant death
8 March 1801	Ola	16 months	Replacement name; died at 5 months.
24 July 1802	Troen	16 months	
24 Sept. 1804	Elna	23 months	Died at 7 months.
19 April 1806	Ola	19 months	Replacement name; died in infancy.
19 Aug. 1807	Elna	16 months	Replacement name.
23 Feb. 1809	Ola	18 months	Replacement name.
14 June 1810	Påhl	16 months	Replacement name; died at 3 months.
16 Oct. 1811	Påhl	16 months	Replacement name.
27 Dec. 1814	Pemilla	18 months	

*Table 4. Children of Nils Pålsson and Gunnill Andersdotter.*

Birth Date	Name	Birth Interval	Remarks
7 July 1805	Anders	2 months marriage to birth	Died after 1 day
7 July 1805	Ingar	2 months marriage to birth	Died after 1 day
1 July 1806	Petronella (Pemilla)		
6 April 1809	Anna	32 months	
26 Feb. 1812	Anders	34 months	Renamed; died in infancy
26 Feb. 1812	Påhl	34 months	Died in infancy
6 Aug. 1813	Johanna	16 months	

*Table 5. Infants renamed for dead siblings who were named for dead ancestors.*

Father	Identification	Year of Birth	Child Name	Ancestor Honored	Identity of Ancestor
	Sister of L-I-1	1847	Janne	Father = Johannes	?Johannes variant?
	Sister of L-I-1	1851	Janne	Father = Johannes	?Johannes variant?
	L-II-1	1823	Henrik	Grandfather	L-III-1*
	L-III-1	1764	Elna	Mother	L-III-2
	L-III-3	1770	Pehr	Great grandfather	L-V-9
	L-III-5	1800	Elna	Grandmother	L-IV-12
	L-IV-9	1758	Lars	Grandfather	L-V-17
	L-IV-11	1770	Kersti	Grandmother	L-V-24
	L-IV-11	1785	Bengt	Great grandfather	L-VI-43*
	L-IV-13	1785	Troen	No ancestor data*	
	L-IV-15	1782	Pernilla	Mother	L-IV-16
	L-V-13	1710	Olof	Grandfather	L-VI-25
	L-V-19	1725	Jöran	Grandfather	L-VI-37
	L-V-23	1723	Ingegerd	No older parental record	
	L-V-23	1730	Ola	Maternal grandfather	L-VI-47
	L-VI-35	1706	Pehr	Great grandfather	L-VIII-137
	L-VI-41	1703	Pehr	No ancestor data	
	T-I-1	1840	Sofia	None found	
	T-II-1	1807	Elna	Grandmother	T-III-4
	T-II-1	1801	Ola	Grandfather	T-III-1
	T-II-1	1806	Ola	Grandfather	T-III-1*
	T-II-1	1809	Ola	Grandfather	T-III-1
	T-II-1	1811	Påhl	Grandfather	T-III-3
	T-II-3	1812	Anders	Grandfather	T-III-5
	T-III-1	1765	Nils	Father	T-III-1

T-III-3	1767	Pernilla	Grandmother	T-IV-6
T-III-3	1782	Pernilla	Grandmother	T-IV-6**
T-III-3	1774	Bengta	?Grandfather Bengt?	T-IV-5?
T-III-3	1777	Anders	Grandfather	T-IV-7
T-III-5	1772	Påhl	Father	T-III-5
T-IV-13	1738	Sissa	Not identified	
T-V-27	1708	Anders	Grandfather	T-VI-55
T-V-27	1716	Anders	Grandfather	T-VI-55
T-V-31	1717	Nils	Grandfather	T-VI-61
T-V-31	1722	Kristina	No earlier parental data	
T-V-31	1720	Gunda	Maternal grandmother	T-VI-64
T-V-31	1726	Gunda	Maternal grandmother	T-VI-64

\*Renamed in father's second marriage

\*\*Renamed in mother's second marriage

*Table 6. Infants of fathers' second marriage who were named for dead first wife.*

Parent Identification	Year of Birth	Name	Identification of First Spouse
Henrik, L-II-1	1816	Tyra	Tyra, wife of L-II-1
Lars, L-IV-11	1774	Elna	Elna, L-IV-12
Lars, L-IV-11	1779	Elna	Elna, L-IV-12
Sven, L-V-13	1708	Gertru(d)	Gertru(d), wife of L-V-13
Anna, L-VI-38	1707	Jöran	Jöran, L-VI-37
Elna, T-III-4	1778	Påhl	Påhl, T-III-3
Bengt, L-V-31	1745	Boel	Boel, wife of L-V-31
Bengt, L-V-31	1749	Boel	Boel, wife of L-V-31
Nils, T-IV-15	1759	Gunnel	Gunnel, T-IV-16



## Notes

<sup>1</sup>The genealogical naming system used in this paper is as follows: My grandfather, Ludvig Hen(d)riksson (late Charles L. Hendricks) is the starting point in this system; he is designated as L-O-1. His wife, Thilda Olsdotter, is the starting point for her ancestors; she is designated T-O-2. Ludvig's father, Henrik Larsson, is L-I-1, and his wife, Johanna Månsdotter, is L-I-2. Ludvig's grandfather, Lars Henriksson is L-II-1, and his wife, Hanna Svendsdotter, is L-II-2, and so forth.

<sup>2</sup>James G. Frazer, *The Golden Bough* (New York 1922), p. 298.

<sup>3</sup> Carl-Gustaf Liljenberg, "Die spätgermanische Namengebung. Einige Grundzüge in Skandinavien" in *Genealogie (Familie und Volk)*, II, 1964.

<sup>4</sup> Communication from Birgitta Nobring, Margaretagatan 22, 260 34 Möarp, SWEDEN.

<sup>5</sup> Daniel Scott Smith, "Child-naming practices, kinship ties and change in family attitudes in Hingham, Massachusetts, 1641 to 1889" in *Journal of Social History*, XVIII (1985), pp. 541-566.

<sup>6</sup> Ross W. Beales, Jr., "Naming Patterns in Westborough, Massachusetts, 1710-1849." - Unpublished manuscript 1991.

<sup>7</sup> David Hackett Fischer in *Generations and Change: Genealogical Perspectives in Social History*, ed. by Robert M. Taylor, Jr. and Ralph J. Crandall (Macon, GA 1986), pp. 215-241.

<sup>8</sup> John J. Waters, "Naming and Kinship in New England: Guilford Patterns and Usage 1693-1759", *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. 138 (July 1984), pp. 161-181.