

Families: Perspectives

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Nuclear Family</i>	A family of two generations (parents and children) related by blood or marriage who live together
<i>Extended Family</i>	Any family containing relatives other than parents and children e.g. aunts, uncles and grandparents
<i>Female Carer-Core</i>	Mothers and children, sometimes seen as the most basic family unit
<i>Primary socialisation</i>	Earliest and arguably most important part of socialisation
<i>Stabilisation of adult personalities</i>	The role of the family in maintaining the psychological health of adults by providing warmth and security and allowing them to act out childish elements in their personality
<i>Primitive communism</i>	Very early communities in which no surplus was produced and no classes existed. Because of this there was no need for families
<i>Forces of Production</i>	Those things required to produce goods such as land, machinery, capital, technical knowledge and workers
<i>Alienation</i>	A process in which people come to feel detached from themselves, from other people or from things
<i>Patriarchal</i>	A society or group dominated by and run in the interests of men

Families: Family Diversity

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Secularisation</i>	The decline of religion and the process whereby religious beliefs and institutions lose their importance or influence
<i>Cohabitation</i>	A couple live together under one household but are not married
<i>Marriage Rate</i>	Number of people marrying per 1,000 unmarried men or women aged 16 or over each year
<i>Divorce Rate</i>	The number of divorces per thousand married couples
<i>Individualisation</i>	Increasing emphasis on the individual rather than the group
<i>Cultural Diversity</i>	Variations in the lifestyle and structure of families of different ethnic origins
<i>Connectedness</i>	It is important to understand individuals through the networks of personal relationships they are involved in rather than simply as isolated individuals
<i>Perverse Incentives</i>	The welfare state encourages lone parent families and discourages people to seek work
<i>Negotiated Families</i>	Families that do not conform to traditional family norms but vary according to wishes and expectations of its members
<i>Neo-Conventional Families</i>	Slightly different in that most families are Dual worker families, most people still live in essentially traditional families performing similar functions to the nuclear family.

Families: Couples

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Joint Conjugal Roles</i>	Partners share responsibility for domestic tasks and both do paid employment
<i>Segregated Conjugal Roles</i>	Different roles within marriage- one doing housework and childcare and other concentrating on paid employment
<i>Instrumental Role & Expressive Role</i>	Expressive: Role focusing on care and emotion Instrumental: Role focusing on providing income and financial support
<i>Social Construction</i>	Feature of society most people take to be natural but has been produced by society
<i>Dual Earner Families</i>	A family in which both partners do paid employment
<i>Materialist Explanations</i>	Explanations that focus on financial aspects
<i>Cultural Explanations</i>	Explanations that focus on learned, shared behaviour of members in society
<i>Emotion Work</i>	Work involving trying to influence emotions of other people (in the family)
<i>Triple Shift</i>	Three types of work women are required to do- paid employment, housework and emotion work

Families: Childhood

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Information Hierarchy</i>	Some groups have superior access to information than others
<i>Toxic Childhood</i>	Digital and commercial content in the world make childhood increasingly harmful to children
<i>Age Patriarchy</i>	A system of dominance involving adults, exercising control over children
<i>New sociology of children</i>	Version of sociology which views social life in terms of the perspectives and interests of children
<i>Social Construction</i>	The view that things that appear natural are shaped by society
<i>Adultist</i>	Biased in favour of adults rather than children

Families: Demographics

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Natural Change</i>	Change in population size which takes place as a result of there being more births than deaths (or vice versa)
<i>Birth Rate</i>	Number of live births per year per thousand of the population
<i>Death Rate</i>	Number of deaths per year per thousand of the population
<i>Net Migration</i>	The differences between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants resulting in a net loss or net gain of population
<i>Dependency Ratio</i>	The ratio of those who are not working age to those of working age (19-64)
<i>Ageing Population</i>	Increase in the average age and a greater proportion of older people in the population
<i>Assimilationism</i>	Policies which encourage immigrants to integrate into the culture of the society they have moved to
<i>Multiculturalism</i>	Policies which encourage minority ethnic groups to retain or celebrate their cultural distinctiveness.

New Media

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>New Media</i>	Mass communications that use digital (as opposed to analogue) technologies.
<i>Convergence</i>	Merging together. Media/Technological convergence refers to how technologies have come together
<i>Synergy</i>	Two or more media institutions work together to create a consistent media image of a product
<i>Participatory Culture</i>	Citizens are actively engaged in the creation of media
<i>Digital Divide</i>	Gap between different groups or regions in terms of access and quality of digital technology
<i>Neophiliacs</i>	Those who are optimistic about the impact of new media
<i>Cultural Pessimists</i>	Those who are concerned about the impact of new media
<i>Democracy</i>	A system of rule by the people
<i>Traditional Media</i>	Also referred to as old media or analogue media- outlets that existed before digital media

Ownership

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Ideology</i>	A set of ideas
<i>Dominant ideology</i>	Shared ideas that serve to justify the interests of the dominant groups
<i>Preferred Reading</i>	The audience interprets the text in the way the producers intended (as opposed to a negotiated or oppositional reading)
<i>False consciousness</i>	The proletariat do not realise the way they are exploited by the bourgeoisie
<i>Hegemony</i>	The processes by which dominant culture maintains its position
<i>Gatekeeping</i>	People who control access to information
<i>Agenda-setting</i>	To decide what subjects people discuss and how it is framed

Globalisation

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Globalisation</i>	Growing inter-connectedness between societies
<i>Culture</i>	All that is socially learned from others within society (rather than biologically). Includes norms, values, rules and traditions.
<i>Popular culture</i>	Cultural products liked and enjoyed by the masses.
<i>High culture</i>	Cultural products of lasting artistic or literary value, which are admired and approved of by intellectual elites
<i>Folk culture</i>	Regional and often traditional mode of life
<i>Cultural Homogenisation</i>	The loss of cultural diversity
<i>Cultural Imperialism</i>	Imposition of Western (Especially American) cultural values on non-Western cultures
<i>Hybridisation</i>	Creation of a new culture when aspects of two or more cultures combine

Representation

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Media representations</i>	The way people, places or events are presented to us
<i>Stereotypes</i>	A stereotype is a generalised belief about a particular group of people that is shared by many
<i>Symbolic annihilation</i>	Lack of visibility and limited roles of social groups
<i>Male Gaze (gender)</i>	The way media often presents women from a heterosexual male (sexualised) gaze
<i>Tokenism (mostly ethnicity)</i>	A symbolic effort to include under-represented groups.

Audiences

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Active Audience</i>	Audience are engaged and actively making sense of the message
<i>Passive Audience</i>	An audience that accepts messages
<i>Preferred Readings</i> <i>(Negotiated)</i> <i>(Oppositional)</i>	Interpretation of messages that those producing media content would prefer their audiences to accept. Audiences may amend these messages to suit their values Audiences may reject these messages and values
<i>Disinhibition</i>	Normal restraints are loosened after exposure to media violence
<i>Catharsis</i>	Media can be used as an emotional release (to vent aggression, for example)

Sociological Debates: Science

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Induction</i>	Start with evidence and develop a theory
<i>Verification</i>	Establishing truth, accuracy or validity
<i>Causal Relationship</i>	Cause and effect relationship between two variables
<i>Deduction</i>	Starting with a theory and then verifying or falsifying
<i>Falsification</i>	Looking for evidence to disprove a theory
<i>Verstehen</i>	Method for interpreting meanings and motives that direct behaviour
<i>Social Constructs</i>	Something that is a product of social processes
<i>Meta-Narrative</i>	Grand stories that claim to explain things
<i>Paradigms</i>	Framework of concepts and theories that states how the natural world operates

Sociological Debates: Values

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Objectivity</i>	Value-free, unbiased view
<i>Subjectivity</i>	Personal view based on individual's values and beliefs
<i>Reflexivity</i>	When researching reflecting in yourself and how values may have influenced your feelings
<i>Committed Sociology</i>	Using values to improve society through their work
<i>Value-Laden</i>	Influenced by personal opinions

Sociological Debates: Policies

Key Terms (AO1)

Key Concept	Definition
<i>Sociological Problem</i>	Any pattern of relationships that calls for explanations
<i>Social Problem</i>	Social behaviour that causes public friction and/or private misery and calls for collective action to solve
<i>Neoliberalism</i>	Economic theory that favours free markets and minimal government intervention
<i>Social Democratic</i>	Practical middle course between capitalism and socialism