

# Diversity in Families and Households

## Explanations of family diversification

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Name and date begun:

### **Time allocation:**

3 lessons

### **Learning objectives:**

- Students should understand that families are changing form
- Understand that we have changing notions of masculinity and femininity.
- Recognise that kinship patterns and notions of the obligations of kinship are undergoing change.

### **Key Concepts and vocabulary**

See your lesson notes for a list of the key terms. These must be learned in addition to the following:

- Ethnicity and family
- British empiricism
- Dual career families
- Domestic labour
- Conjugal roles
- Kinship

### **Additional reading and references**

Haralambos and Holbourn (1995) *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives 4<sup>th</sup> Edition* p 351 - 66

Taylor *et al.* (1996) *Sociology in Focus* p 247 - 69

Jorgensen *et al.* (1997) *Sociology: An interactive approach* p 102 - 121

Marcus and Ducklin (1997) *Success in Sociology* p 131 - 52

**Make a note of any additional sources that you have used below**

## **Personal Development ideas**

- Ask some of your friends what relationships they have with relations who are outside their close domestic families.
- Ask some of your friends what rules they would lay down before choosing to make a life partnership with someone.
- Ask a variety of people to discuss with you their notions of what it is to be a man or a woman. Speak to people of different generations and compare their responses to see if notions of masculinity and femininity have remained static.
- Who does the family work in your household? Is there a gender division of labour?

## **Overview of the debate**

- What are the implications for the future of the changes that are taking place in gender roles?
- What are the implications for older people if their children no longer feel it their duty to support parents in old age?
- What factors are creating change in British society?

## **Revision tips**

- Be sure that you fully understand what changes are taking place in British society
- Be sure that you have a list of the factors which are implicit in the changes.
- Be certain that you can discuss feminism and post modernism with some confidence.
- Can you make predictions for future change in British society on the basis of your understandings?
- What social policies may Governments have to review or consider in the light of the changes that are taking place in our society?

## **What you should have in your folder when this work has been completed correctly:**

- A clear explanation of each of the glossary terms
- Acceptable lesson notes.
- Evidence that you have looked at least two textbooks and made notes.
- Evidence that you have shared notes with a friend
- A list of all of the relevant writers in this area with summary notes of 50 words about each.