

Diversity in Families and Households

Dimensions of diversity: class, gender, ethnicity, life style, location

Name and date begun:

Time allocation:

3 lessons

Learning objectives:

- Students should understand that family forms in our society vary according to a variety of dimensions.
- Students should be able to recognise factors of differentiation which will affect family forms.
- Students should recognise that theoretical perspectives offer insight into this diversity of form.

Key Concepts and vocabulary

See your lesson notes in addition to the following:

- Class
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Lifestyle
- Location
- Ideology
- Critical analyses of family
- Feminism

Additional reading and references

Jorgensen et al. (1997) *Sociology: An interactive approach* p 115, 99

Haralambos and Holborn (1995) *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives 4th Edition* p 344 - 8

Marcus and Ducklin (1997) *Success in Sociology* p 139

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

Personal Development ideas

- Go to the Internet and collect notes on feminism and the family.
- Use Social Trends CD Rom to pick out data relating to families that identify class, gender, ethnicity or geographical location as indices of difference.

Overview of the debate

- To what extent are the changes which are taking place in the family to do with the whole of society or the fragmentation of society and groups within it?
- What factors are implicit in the diversity of family form?
- Is the diversity of family form linked to a social rejection of family as an institution?
- What criticisms are made of family and family forms?

Revision tips

- Make sure that you are aware of the social variables that can affect choice of family form and have notes on a variety of studies
- Make sure that you have clear notes on the following: Marxism and the family, feminism and the family

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 on the main Marxist and neo- Marxist theorists.
- Evidence that you have evaluated critical views of the family and considered their impact on family form.