
SOCIOLOGY

9699/12

Paper 1 The Family

May/June 2017

1 hour 30 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **2** printed pages, **2** blank pages and **1** insert.

Section A

Answer Question 1.

- 1 In pre-industrial societies, the family performed many functions for its members. These functions included education, health care, work and the provision of food and shelter. According to functionalists, as societies industrialised, specialist institutions developed to perform some of these functions. Parsons, for example, argued that institutions such as the education system developed because the needs of society were changed by the process of industrialisation. This means that families experienced a *loss of function*.

Functionalists concentrate on the ways in which individuals are linked to society. For example, the family acts like a bridge connecting the individual with the wider society. The family provides a secure base for the individual where they share emotional commitment with others and learn the rules of society. Marxists reject this harmonious view and instead see the family as an institution that reproduces ruling class ideology.

- (a) What is meant by the term *loss of function* in relation to families? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** ways in which children learn the rules of society through the family. [4]
- (c) Explain the ways in which the family connects the individual with the wider society. [8]
- (d) Assess the view that the family reproduces ruling class ideology. [11]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

- 2 Explain and assess the view that females now have more freedom to reject traditional family roles. [25]
- 3 Explain and assess the view that there is no dominant family structure in modern industrial societies. [25]

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