

## THE FUTURE FAMILY

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### Part 1

1. What aspects of the family does the lecturer intend to discuss?
2. What example does he use to show that families issues are critical, that the family is in danger?
3. What is the origin of the word 'family'?
4. What two functions of the family does he mention?

### Part 2

5. In what way does your identity in the family change, according to the lecturer?
6. What kinds of tasks does he describe that are performed by the family?
7. He discussed three kinds of families including nuclear and extended. What is the third kind?

### Part 3

8. What is the annual growth rate of population in Western European and North American countries?
9. In what way is immigration related to the crisis of family?
10. The lecturer refers to four stages of changes of the family. Two are mentioned below. What are the other two?
  - 1) Stage 1 - birth and death rates are roughly the same (until about 300 years ago)
  - 2) Stage 2 - the death rate begins to decrease rapidly as a result of more food being available due to agriculture, as well as medicine for what used to be fatal diseases (1700 - 1800)

#### Part 4

11. What reason does the lecturer give for the behavioural changes happening in the modern Western family?
12. What examples does he give of these changes?
13. What extreme changes have there been in population in the last 10 - 20 years?
14. Which two regions in the world have the highest population growth rate?

#### Part 5

15. What does the lecturer mean when he states that Latin America has a largely Stage 3 kind of society?
16. How does the lecturer define detraditionalisation?
17. In what way has the family changed from being a unit of production to one of consumption?
18. How much does it cost (approximately) to raise a child in the Western world?
19. What is the average number of children per family in Europe?

#### Part 6

20. In what way does the lecturer say the attitude towards having children has changed?
21. What is the second big change he mentions which has affected how the family is seen?
22. What is the 'new man' the lecturer refers to?

#### Part 7

23. What does the lecturer mean when he says people have more control over biology?

24. The lecturer says that power relations within families are very different from a few generations ago. What does he mean by this?
25. What data does the lecturer give about future divorces in the UK?
26. Why are policy-makers so focused on the family?

## Key

1. The structure of the family of the future, the historical development of the family, and the issues of family which are important for government policy makers (i.e. the 'global family').
2. He uses the example of gay marriages, referring to President Bush's attempt to make them illegal.
3. It comes from a word meaning 'slave', and originally family members were slaves of the man who ruled them; it was not based on a blood relationship or love.
4. The first one 'intimate independence' he mentions is about the emotional support family members give each other, and the second one is about 'selective boundary maintenance', which refers to the connection between the world of the family and the outside world i.e public and private.
5. You have your role as a child, then adult, as well as aunt etc., and 'family tasks' also change.
6. Physical maintenance, socialisation and education, control of social and sexual behaviour, family support/morale, etc.
7. The attenuated family, which refers to people not living with their parents or grandparents, but being in daily contact with them e.g. by e-mail. This is a new phenomenon made possible due to IT.
8. 0.3%
9. Western Europeans have fewer children, just enough now to keep the population level, but not increase it, so people from other countries are needed to come in and supply a workforce.
10. 1)Stage 1 - birth and death rates are roughly the same (until about 300 years ago)

2)Stage 2 - the death rate begins to decrease rapidly as a result of more food being available due to agriculture, as well as medicine for what used to be fatal diseases (1700 - 1800).

3)Stage 3 - death rate still decreasing, but birth rate beginning to decline and children live longer (time not mentioned, but 1800 - now implicit).

4)Stage 4 - death rate the same, but birth rate beginning to go down (now).

11. People now have more control over their lives and can choose if/when to have children. Before they used to be more passive about what happened, e.g. about the number of children they had. The lecturer says 'We've moved away from a fatalistic attitude'.
12. The use of contraception, size of families, and choosing when to have children.
13. The drop in fertility rate had increased dramatically during this time, and migration and immigration has increased considerably, e.g. in Italy and Spain.
14. Sub Saharan Africa and Middle East.
15. The stage of the model where the death rate is decreasing, and the birth rate is beginning to decline.
16. It is the rejection of traditional culture, of many conventions and traditional morality. This is being rejected by many young people, replaced by Western-style images, The lecturer suggests this may be partly a result of young people travelling abroad.
17. Having children used to be an economic benefit, for example, they used to work in family, but now they are an economic cost. It is not expected that they will have a job, and in fact it costs a lot to have a child.
18. £250, 000
19. 1.2 children per family.
20. They used to be 'seen but not heard', but now they are considered main assets, and given considerable importance. For example, they are dressed in designer clothes. Infanticide used to be common but it would be an outrage today.
21. The traditional role of women at home no longer exists. Now more women than men work fulltime. Women have more control over biology. They can decide when or even *if* they want to have children. Women don't have to 'stay at home' anymore. They have a choice.
22. It refers to the changing role of men, now being more caring and sharing, spending more time with family, and caring for children. This is unlike the traditional view of male power and female submissiveness.

23. 1)They have more control over reproduction, e.g. through contraception. Also technology allows women to have babies much later.  
2)It is now possible to 'choose' your sex, for example.
24. The kinds of relationships allowed in families has changed, e.g. same-sex marriages. Women in general are asserting their right to equal power. There are also many more divorces.
25. In 10 - 12 years, there will be a 50% divorce rate.
26. For countless generations the family was the main social unit of organisation in society. Now this is breaking down, especially in the last 30-40 years. Society is changing rapidly, and a way of absorbing these changes needs to be found.