
SOCIOLOGY

9699/13

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 Consensus theorists believe that societies are made up of different parts or sub-systems. All of these sub-systems depend on each other and each has a specific role. One sub-system is the family. Murdock identified four *functional prerequisites* linked to the family which he believed were necessary for the smooth running of society. Murdock stressed the importance of the family in maintaining social order. Similarly, New Right theorists see some family structures as better for society than others. They argue that the state should act to support these structures.

Conflict theorists also adopt a systems approach to understanding the relationship between the family and capitalist society. They see the family supporting capitalism in three ways: ideologically, politically and economically. This support, according to conflict theorists, benefits the more powerful groups in society by reproducing social inequalities and presenting inequality as normal.

- (a) What is meant by the term *functional prerequisites*? [2]
- (b) Describe **two** ways in which the state may influence family life. [4]
- (c) Explain how the family meets the needs of society, according to functionalists. [8]
- (d) Assess the Marxist view that the family serves the interests of capitalism by reproducing an obedient workforce. [11]

Section B

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

- 2 Explain and assess the view that in modern industrial societies the nuclear family has been replaced by other family structures. [25]
- 3 'Families are becoming more child-centred because children are no longer part of the workforce in modern industrial societies.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

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