

GCSE Sociology of Family Key Word List

1. **Nuclear Family:** A family unit consisting of two parents and their children.
2. **Extended Family:** A family that includes relatives beyond the nuclear family, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.
3. **Cohabitation:** Living together without being married.
4. **Civil Partnership:** A legally recognized union of a same-sex couple, with rights similar to those of marriage.
5. **Conjugal Roles:** The roles played by the husband and wife within a marriage, particularly in relation to the domestic division of labor.
6. **Symmetrical Family:** A family in which roles of husbands and wives are similar and shared equally.
7. **Patriarchy:** A social system in which men hold primary power and predominate in roles of political leadership, moral authority, and control of property.
8. **Matriarchy:** A social system in which women hold primary power.
9. **Functionalism:** A sociological perspective that views society as a complex system whose parts work together to promote stability and social order.
10. **Marxism:** A sociological perspective that views society through the lens of conflict between different social classes, particularly the bourgeoisie and the proletariat.
11. **Feminism:** A movement and perspective that advocates for the rights of women and seeks to achieve gender equality.
12. **Secularisation:** The process by which religious institutions, practices, and beliefs lose their social significance.
13. **Empty Shell Marriage:** A marriage in which the couple continues to live together but without love or affection.
14. **Beanpole Family:** A family that is vertically extended but not horizontally extended, with fewer children and more generations alive at the same time.
15. **Dual Burden:** The situation in which a person, typically a woman, has the responsibility of both paid work and unpaid domestic work.
16. **Triple Shift:** The situation in which a person, typically a woman, has the responsibility of paid work, domestic work, and emotional work.
17. **Household:** A group of people living together in the same residence, sharing living arrangements.
18. **NEETs:** Young people who are Not in Education, Employment, or Training.
19. **Serial Monogamy:** The practice of engaging in a series of monogamous relationships, one after the other.
20. **Life Course:** The sequence of socially defined events and roles that an individual enacts over time.

21. **Joint Conjugal Roles:** Roles within marriage where both partners share domestic tasks and responsibilities.
22. **Segregated Conjugal Roles:** Roles within marriage where the husband and wife have distinct and separate responsibilities.
23. **Expressive Role:** The role typically associated with women, focusing on emotional support and nurturing.
24. **Instrumental Role:** The role typically associated with men, focusing on providing financial support.
25. **Warm Bath Theory:** The idea that the family provides a comforting and relaxing environment for its members.
26. **Role Models:** Individuals who serve as examples for others to emulate.
27. **Stigma:** A mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person.
28. **Moral Panic:** A widespread fear, often irrational, about an issue that appears to threaten the social order.
29. **Child-Centeredness:** A family structure or society that prioritizes the needs and interests of children.
30. **Democratic Family:** A family where all members have a say in decision-making processes.
31. **Life Expectancy:** The average period that a person may expect to live.
32. **Fertility Rate:** The average number of children born to a woman over her lifetime.
33. **Vertically Extended Family:** A family that includes multiple generations living together or in close proximity.
34. **Horizontally Extended Family:** A family that includes relatives of the same generation, such as siblings and cousins, living together or in close proximity.
35. **Modified Extended Family:** An extended family that maintains close ties despite living apart.
36. **Underclass:** A social group that is at the bottom of the social hierarchy, often experiencing long-term unemployment and poverty.
37. **Cereal Packet Family:** An idealized image of the nuclear family, often depicted in advertising.
38. **Ideology:** A system of ideas and ideals that forms the basis of economic or political theory and policy.
39. **New Right:** A political perspective that emphasizes traditional family values and a free-market economy.
40. **Househusband:** A man who stays at home to manage the household and care for the children while his partner works outside the home