62,000 men in the UK were classified as economically inactive

From 1996 to 2011, economical inactivated increase from 21,000 to 62,000.

Rise in percentage of women ages 16-64 in paid employment

 Money and the Power

However a fall in percentage of men (92% to 76%) in 1971

 In this debate, were going to argue for the fact that
money and power within the house hold has become more equal. Over the last
40 years. This progress is directly backed up by the view of “March of progress”

Liberal Feminists

Although in first thought we associate feminism against inequality in the household. Liberal Feminists believe that women’s oppression is still around; however it is being gradually overcome through changings people’s attitudes and most importantly the change in law, the sex discrimination act (1975). This is a valid example of how patriarchy has become less dominant, especially in the last 40 years.

 The March of Progress view:

 Women going out to work are leading to more equal division of labour at home. In the march of progress view, men are becoming more involved in housework and childcare just as women are becoming more involved in paid work outside the home.
 Jonathan Gershuny (1994) argued that women working full time are
 leading to more equal division of labour in the home.
 Similarly, Sulivan (2000) found a trend towards women doing a smaller share of domestic labour and consequently men doing more. These listed trends reflect changes in attitudes to the traditional division of labour. For example, the British Social Attitudes survey (2013) found a fall in the number of people who think it’s the man’s job to earn money and the women’s job to look after the home. In 1984, 45% of men and 41% of women agreed with this view, but by 2012 only 13% of men and 12% of women agreed.

Studies show that gay and lesbian couples attached no particular importance as to who controlled the money as a sign of inequality in there stable relationships.

Symmetrical Family

Family’s and partners that share the same conjugal roles.
This is a functionalist theory where the women take on expressive roles in the house hold, for example nurturing.
The men take on labour at the work place in the social sphere.

In terms of family within the household. Liberal feminists hold a view similar to the march of progress. Although they don’t believe that full gender equality has been achieved amongst the family they argue that there has been **GRADUAL PROGRESS**.