**Parenting roles: unequal**

* 78% of fathers actively played with their children but only 1% would take responsibility for a sick child.
* 65% of men surveyed said they felt women were “naturally” better at childcare.
* Out of 70 families studied only 3 of them was the father the main carer.
* Ferri and Smith found that in less than 4% of households did the father take responsibility for childcare.
* In 2012 70% of women did the laundry.
* Ann Oakley argues that fathers may be involved with children in the evening – but this leaves the wife more able to catch up with other housework
* Most men are background fathers – primary responsibility to partner rather than child
* Wives who did not go to work did 83% of the housework and wives who worked part time did 82%
* Although decisions might seem evenly balanced, more important and less frequent decisions tended to be husband-dominated.
* Boulton demonstrated that, whilst fathers may well help with specific childcare tasks, it is usually mothers who take on the responsibility for the well-being and security of the child.
* More recent researchers have looked again at the issue of violence and emphasised the hidden violence against men within families – not viewing this as simply an indicator of the persistence of patriarchy
* The New Right believe that lone parent families are unnatural and harmful to children.
* **Enforcer dad**- not involved with the day-to-day care of children. What is important is being a role model and setting clear rules as to what is important.
* **Entertainer dad-** plays with children whilst his partner gets on with domestic chores.
* **Useful dad**- helps out, but led by the mother in terms of what needs doing.
* Women were twice as likely as men to be injured by a partner and three times as likely to have suffered frightening threats.
* Points of oppression for women: domestic labour, emotional labour, economic dependency, male dominated households.
* 39% of fathers surveyed by Thompson said that they felt the breadwinner role was the most important aspect of fatherhood.
* Fewer than 20% of husbands in Boulton’s study had a major role in childcare.