***Domestic labour roles are unequal***

Stephen Edgell (1980) researched domestic labour roles and found the following. There are many ways that decision making and power are exercised in the family:

* How financial power is exercised – meaning that decisions such as where to live, which car to buy or where to go on holiday are usually made by the man (seen as the major wage earner.)
* Women only make minor decisions such as food purchases and children’s clothes.

John Pahl (1993) examined who controlled the money within the household. He separated the couples that were being interviewed into two groups.

* Those that had joint named accounts.
* Those that had separate bank accounts.

Pahl later interviewed 102 couples and found that:

* Husband controlled pooling (most likely relationship) 39 out of 102 couples were using this method to control their money. This method means that the couple have a joint bank account and the husband controls the most important decisions.
* Wife controlled pooling (second most common) 27 out of 102 couples were using this method. The couple have a joint bank account but the wife has control over major expenditure. This tended to be the case in middle-class couples, particularly when the woman had a higher income than the man.

Domestic violence is a factor of unequal roles in the household.

Domestic violence refers to the aggressive behaviour of couples within the household, this would be including the abuse of a spouse or partner, most cases of domestic violence is reported by woman.

It is doubtful that the numbers of domestic violence statistics are increasing meaning that there is more domestic violence now days, as reported by Crime Statistics Agency. The dark figure is also significant as it means that many men, in particular, are not reporting violence from their spouse. For example they report that the police in Victoria (Australia) police have recorded 68,000 incidents in 2014 but this has now risen by 70.2% since 2010. (Source – Guardian)

Some believe that it is not that there is more domestic violence but more cases are now being reported.

Domestic is a two sided, this means that beforehand we were to believe that men where the cause of domestic violence within the household because they are acting on natural instincts however now we are shown that woman are not only the victims and can also be the cause to some domestic violence cases.

Although this may be true it is shown that in the U.S males only take up 40% of domestic cases and this shows us that it is not equal even though there may be cases against woman that the men have been subject to domestic violence the majority of the cases are shown to be woman at 60% of those who have been reported.

There are different sections to domestic violence that need to be taken in to account.

Conjugal roles are unequal; there is still a very long way to go until they are equal. This is also affected by domestic violence which is a consequence of domestic labour.