

**TRENDS IN THE FAMILY, 10
MARK EXAM QUESTION
EXAMPLES**

D2 GROUP

Ques 4

Outline and Explain two reasons for the decline in birth rate.

~~One reason for the decline in birth rate is economic issues. Many couples aren't able to afford children, or if they can it would only be one. This is because~~

One reason for the decline in birth rate is the increase of safer contraception. ~~was and~~ There is now a wider variety of contraception available, and it has become less taboo; meaning people are able to openly seek out contraception ~~with~~ meaning it is safer and more effective. This is ~~because~~ due to contraception being allowed by the NHS, first in 1967 to married women only, and then open to all in 1979. This means that more people will seek out contraception, if they're married or not, which reduces the amount of children being born; since contraception allows the choice of when to have a child.

Another reason is that the ~~social~~ ~~view~~ view on abortions have changed; it is no longer as frowned upon as it used to, as people now have ^{more} ~~a~~ choice of ~~when to have children~~ (Alan and Crow) where in they can choose when to begin ~~to~~ ~~have~~ start a family; ~~contraception~~ contraception and more readily available abortions help this. ~~This means that~~

— Add in what the rules are.

women ~~are~~ In 1967 abortion became legalised, meaning the rates of birth ~~are~~ began to decline. ~~It's~~ ~~rate~~ safe for the woman

Both reasons are similar. 2nd point could be on the independence of women.

6/10

Rory Hewitt

Outline and explain two reasons why women are choosing to have children later (10)

It is not clear what your first reason is.

The options have open for women and have changed dramatically over the years and smaller family sizes, the later age at which women are having children and that women are remaining childless shows there is more than being a mother.

In the 1940's the norms and values of women was to stay and look after the house and to bring up the children as the household was patriarchal and economically stabilized by the husband. Is it really a reason in the above?

Another reason that women are choosing to have children later in life is that as norms and values in society have changed as more children are going into higher education like university and college. They have become more financially dependent on their parents. Parents will feel less willing or able to maintain a family as a early ~~stage~~ age.

Society has changed the position of women. Over the years there have been new laws introduced which have enabled women to be legally equal to men which includes the right to vote, laws which ~~also~~ outlaw unequal pay and sex discrimination act. This gives women more control over their fertility which is perhaps a major factor in them having children later. *women working have kids later.*

In 2009, there were decreases in fertility rates for women aged less than 30 and an increase in women over 35. This shows that women

are now being put off having children in the early years and perhaps spending those years in education, careers, travelling. This is a huge contrast from the past years where childbirth was the main factor for women.

Overall, attitudes towards family life had change over the years and have made a big cultural change, which is perhaps a result of economic ~~and~~ changes. Women have undergone and discovered different lifestyle choices in addition to just getting married and having children.

~~end the 2p~~

2/10.

You don't offer 2 clear ways with relevant evidence for each. Remember these questions just need 2 paragraphs with a range of evidence to support.

Tallulah?

Outline and explain two ways in which an ageing population affects family life.

One way in which the aging population may affect family life is that due to an increase in retired people, the dependency ratio grows, this creates a burden on the working population. This burden would affect family life due to an increase in taxes to pay for health and social care supporting the elderly. In 2019, there were 3.2 people of the working age for every pensioner and this is expected to continue due to this ^{being} predicted to fall to 2.8 to one working person by 2033, demonstrating the burden on working people, particularly parents losing more income to taxes. Furthermore, older people consume a larger proportion of services than other age groups, this leads to an increased expenditure on health care providing further evidence of the dependency ratio.

Another way in which the aging population may affect family life is that a parent, as well as caring for their children may also have to care for their elderly parents. This may affect family life positively due to children always having their grand parents around, but it will more likely create a burden and strain on the family due to parents having to focus on the grand parents instead of the children. For younger children this may mean that they are deprived of primary socialisation. Furthermore, this may prevent the parent from going to work, leading to a smaller income for more people within the household. Grundy and Henretta (2006) explain this as 'the Sandwich generation', referring to women aged between 55 and 69 who are sandwiched between their elderly parents and their children, care for both. They also argue that they help their

grown up children with childcare as well as that of their
parents. It is argued that a growing number of
women will be in this position of helping in both directions.
Some women may see it as their duty, but feminists are
likely to be against this burden put on women.

10/10 Good.

Outline and Explain Two Reasons for the Increase in Same Sex Couples with Children.

One of the reasons for the increase in same sex couples with children could be the development of acceptance of gay/lesbian couples. Since, they are more accepted in society they are able to make a family, by adoption, surrogacy or IVF. This has helped broaden the popularity of same sex couple's families because they are open to all these new opportunities.

The Civil Partnership act 2004 - Introduced by new labour, gave gay couples rights and responsibilities equal to marriage. Including rights to inheritance, access to children, pension benefits etc. This gave them new opportunities and a chance to create families, through the eyes of acceptance not disappointment and shame. Supporting evidence would be Weeks et al (1999) where he argues that all increased social acceptance may explain a trend towards same-sex cohabitation and stable relationships that resemble those found among heterosexuals. He says gays are creating families based on 'friendship and kinship' which he calls the 'chosen family' where they have the same stability and security as heterosexual families.

Equality Act 2010- brought together key anti-discrimination in the workplace on grounds of gender, religion, sexual orientation and age. This makes any social situation more comfortable for homosexual partners. Additionally, for children of gay/lesbian couples it makes their childhood perhaps slightly easier, as there is no discrimination against their parents so they are not excluded because of this. In 2013, 13,000 same-sex couples were bringing up children this shows that these new legal changes has made a he difference and provided homosexuals to create a family and live equally to heterosexual couples.

Hannah F

You need to more clearly split into 2 separate points :

- Acceptance
- legal changes.

7/10.

Outline and explain two ways families may differ based on ethnic differences. [10]

One way that families may differ based on ethnic difference could be the types of family structures. A study by Mirza in 1997 shows higher rates of single parenthood in Caribbean families. This study shows the high values that Caribbean women place on their independence. In comparison to South Asian families ~~where~~ where extended families are much more common. Ballard describes this as being a main source of support which in their values is seen as essential.

The types of family structures tends to vary among different ethnic groups because ~~it~~ they form to suit ~~the~~ environment they are in or the social norms. In the Caribbean families it is accepted that they have more increased one parent families. These social norms would not be accepted many other places.

Furthermore, families may differ from each other due to the higher number of arranged marriages.

In recent year arranged marriages have accounted for 53.25% of marriages around the world. Most of these types of marriages occur in the Middle East in countries such as Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan & India. ~~have~~ marriages tend to be less common in those areas. Whereas in Europe it is the completely opposite ~~is~~ and this is due to the social culture in the different countries some place also value religion much more due to their ethnicity. The norms and value of families change so its accepted that in the places that are mentioned.

Outline and explain two ways migration has had an impact on the UK

One way in which migration has had an impact on the UK is that the family size has changed, for example some families have become bigger so that when they move they have support from their family and others are smaller so that it is easier for them to move. Ballard (1982) found that South Asian families tended to be extended as they provided an important source of support for each other. Similarly, Eastern European families tend to be bigger and have contributed to the 'baby boom' in the 2000s. Beck and Beck-Gernsheim (2014) talk of the growth of 'world families' and 'distant love', in which love and other forms of relationships are constructed between people living in different countries and continents. However Mirza (1997) found that Caribbean families brought higher rates of single parent households. 2012; over half of families with depended children headed by a black person were lone parent. This therefore suggests that migration has had an impact on the size of families in the UK as when people move some families are extended whilst others are smaller. This may be because of support or because a smaller families are easier to move around.

Another way in which migration has had an impact on the UK is an increase in the population size. For example the net migration (the difference between immigrants and emigrants) is high, there were 260,000 more immigrants than migrants. Also, 47% of immigrants were non EU citizens and 14% were returning to the UK. The impact of this on the UK could include higher rates of unemployment, a high demand for housing, and a lower dependency ratio as many immigrants are likely to be of working age. This therefore affects the economy as these immigrants would buy UK goods and they would pay taxes bringing in more money for the government. Immigrants would also bring their culture with them, allowing people born in the UK to learn about these different cultures. Therefore, immigrants can have both a positive and negative impact on the UK.

Caitlin Cottam (D2)

10/10
Excellent

'Outline and explain two reasons for the increase in one parent families in contemporary UK.' (10)

One of the main reasons for the increase in lone parent families is the increasing divorce rate in the UK, and the acceptance of it. Since there is no longer such a stigma attached to divorce, more families are splitting resulting in one parent households. Ulrich Beck (1992) and Anthony Giddens (1992) state that in modern society, traditional norms such as the duty to remain with the same partner for life lose their hold over individuals. One key statistic in regards to one parent families is lone parents make up 22% of all families with children. 1 in 4 children live this way. The Divorce Reform Act 1969 allowed couples to be divorced after they had been separated for two years, and they no longer had to prove fault – the marriage could be ended if it had irretrievably broken down. This meant divorce became simpler and available to more people.

Another reason that could be causing an increase in one parent families is that due to feminist movements and working class women now earning for themselves, they do not need to rely on men to support the family. Jean Renvoize (1985) argues that working class women are now able to support children without involvement from the father. This means women are not reliant on men, meaning if they would prefer to bring up their child on their own, they can. In the past, if a pregnancy was unplanned and the couple were not married, they would have a 'shotgun' wedding, as they felt obliged to marry. Nowadays, there is less stigma attached to children born outside of marriage therefore a woman could choose to bring up her child alone – and she would be able to support herself and the baby financially unlike in the past.

Goes a bit off track

Could add in about equal pay etc.

8/10

Outline and explain two reasons for the decline in the marriage rate in the UK (10 marks)

With cohabiting relationships increasing more and more in the UK there has been a decline in the rate of marriage. With 231,490 couples getting married in 2009 - down from 232,990 in 2008 and the lowest total since 1895, however marriage is still relatively popular today as it is still seen as a normal thing for couples to do as in 2005 more than 50% of all men and women in the UK were married.

A British sociologist Anthony Giddens (1992) states that this is down to something called 'confluent love'. Which is a form of love that focuses on intimacy, closeness, and emotion, and doesn't have feelings of obligation which is shown in marriage, for example in the vows 'for better or worse, for richer or poorer'. These vows assume that a couple should stay married no matter what, whereas confluent love relies more on true feelings and doesn't demand the couple stay together even if they don't want to be like marriage does. Giddens theory shows that there is a decline in marriage because more people are just happy to cohabit because they share a confluent love and don't feel marriage is necessary when both partners already know each other and don't have to prove it.

Other sociologists Allan and Crow (2001) pointed out that couples can live together in cohabitation in a sexual relationship and not have to worry about pregnancy because of new inventions in contraception now. Whereas before there was very few methods of contraception and hardly any sex education so couples would often have to get married due to accidentally falling pregnant. There is also a change in norms and values now as it is acceptable to have children outside of marriage whereas before it was viewed as living in sin if they were unmarried with children. So Allan and Crow show that a reason for decline in marriage is because it's more normal now and people are more aware of contraception and having children.

Libby Petrie (D2)

10/10

Essay

Outline and explain two reasons for the growth of LATS (living apart together)

Sociology

→ You've tried to write this more as an essay. You need 2 separate paragraphs that have a reason in each that is supported by evidence.

Couples who decide to live apart but stay together could be influenced by several factors. Their decision to do this could be due to their age, and what they think is acceptable or 'normal' in the society they live in for their age group. More people are deciding to marry at a later age as they want to put their career first and marriage later on. It is hard and expensive to get a mortgage nowadays, which makes it difficult for younger people who are earning less to buy or rent a house. This could mean that they're living with their parents for longer, and away from their partners. It can also be expensive to buy a house with your partner, buy furniture, pay bills etc. when the relationship may fail if the couple move in together too quickly and can't make it work.

Their relationship history could be a major factor which has influenced the couple's decision. They might not have had a solid relationship in the past, and in order to make things work between them, they've decided that it's best to live separately. This might help stop bickering and arguments might be less frequent, or not happen at all. The couple might also benefit from being more independent and being able to have space, which can lead to a healthier and happier relationship. They are more likely to stay together if they have a stronger bond and have a bit of distance as they can't always pick on things to fight about. Living alone mean they are able to maintain the home and sustain family boundaries. Partners can still maintain an intimate relationship with each other without having to move in together, either putting a burden on the other by moving in, or having to make joint purchases on a house. Their decision could also be due to their age, and what they think is acceptable or 'normal' in the society they live in for their age group. More people are deciding to marry at a later age as they want to put their career first and marriage later on.

These couples account for 10% of adults in Britain. It has become increasingly popular because of the shift in cultural norms and values and what couples think is the best for their relationship. The growth is mainly due to these norms and values.

LAT couples remain concentrated among younger people, their reasons for being in this type of couple are usually motivated by constraints—although some are in it by choice, especially among older age groups. The aging of the population could therefore have an impact on this type of relationship in the future.

3/10 - a bit general - there are studies related to this

Outline two reasons for the increase in divorce [10]

For the last 40 years, divorce rates have increased a lot and there are many reasons for that. The Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act (1984) is one of the causes of the divorce rates nowadays increasing. This Act allowed people to divorce their partner after a year of being together. In the last 40 years technology changed a lot and people have more freedom of doing and saying what they want. This Act helps a lot with the divorce rate increasing but in a negative way, because this means couples don't work out their problems together and can just get a divorce. 40 years ago Acts like these were not around and people would only divorce on extreme occasions, for example, adultery, cruelty or desertion. After two years you could divorce in a mutual agreement, and only after 5 years you were allowed to divorce because 1 of you wanted to.

1971
divorce
reform
came

Make the reason 'less social stigma'

Another point that the Matrimonial Act is a reason for divorce rates increasing, is also because 50/60 years ago, women's main job was being a domestic wife. They were also put into forced marriages and people would judge you if you divorced. So women did not really have a choice on whether they could divorce, and being a single mother, people would judge you because around that time, this wasn't seen as a normal thing.

Gabriel (D2)

3/10

Paragraph one could have included details of the Divorce Reform Act 1969/71.
2nd paragraph needed to be made clearer.

9) Outline and explain two ways families may differ based on ethnic differences.

One way that families may differ based on ethnic differences is that some families from certain different ethnic backgrounds may have higher rates of single parenthood. An example of this is Mizra (1997) who argues that there is a higher rate of lone parent families in Caribbean families and Mizra says that this is not the result of disorganisation, but it reflects the value of having independent women. This shows us that people in ethnic backgrounds like these may feel more confident to do things alone, as it is more common and is not frowned upon, whereas in some other ethnic backgrounds, people of an older generation may not approve, so couples will stay together to avoid conflict.

Another way that families may differ based on ethnic differences is that more families may tend to have more extended families than others. Ballard (1982) found that where there is a higher rate of extended families, there is often more support with Asian migrants in the 50s and 60s. This happened because when they would move, they would often move in together because they could afford to live separately. This shows us that because of the past with migration, it has affected people today to stay together, whereas because there hasn't been a lot of English migrants, they don't tend to see having extended families to be as necessary.

Megan (D2)

10/10

Outline and explain two reasons for the increase in the divorce rate over the last 40 years [10]

Divorce has increased over the past 40 years due to legal changes. The Divorce Reform Act 1969 Allowed divorce in cases where the marriage had irretrievably broken down and removed the need for there to be a 'guilty party'. This means that divorce became easier and cheaper, thus more people got divorces as they were accessible to more couples. Evidence of this act increasing the divorce rates is that the number of divorces doubled between 1961 and 1969 and had doubled again by 1972, after the act had been implemented. Furthermore the act widened the grounds for divorce meaning that people could get a divorce for a larger variety of reasons. Jessie Bernard (1976) argues that many women feel a growing dissatisfaction with patriarchal marriage and therefore divorce their husbands, this supports that idea that the divorce reform act is a reason for the increase in divorce as reasons such as dissatisfaction wouldn't be valid before as there needed to be a 'guilty party'. The Matrimonial Family Proceedings act (1984) also made divorce more accessible as it removed the length of time that a couple have to be married before filing for a divorce from 3 years to 1 year. This shows that changes in legislation have led to increased divorce rates, this is because changes in the law have made divorce easier and more accessible, and thus more people file for them.

Divorce rates have increased over the past 40 years due to changes in values. Juliet Mitchell and Jack Goody (1997) note that an important change since the 1960s has been the rapid decline in the stigma attached to divorce. This decline in stigma has led divorce into being normalised thus people feel more free to divorce as it is no longer as much of a taboo subject and couples who choose to get a divorce are not really looked down upon by society, thus more people are willing to get a divorce. Furthermore society is diverting away from traditional values, Ulrich Beck (1992) and Anthony Giddens (1992) argue that in modern society traditional norms such as the duty to remain with the same partner for life lose their hold over individuals this is supported by the fact that in 2012 a third of all marriages were remarriages. Views on marriage have changes and the idea of permanence is no longer a central idea, instead views tend to focus on marriage being a choice Giddens argues that the primary reason given for modern marriage is love, and due to the focus of love and happiness within a marriage people divorce when they are no longer in love. This has led to an increase in divorce rates because as Beck and Beck's study showed increased individualism and emphasis on personal fulfilment mean that if someone is unhappy in a marriage they are able to leave and file for a divorce, furthermore to the reduced stigma the couple won't face as much judgement from society from tis divorce, thus less people are deterred away from the idea.

Nicole (D2)

10/10
Excellent.

Flornie

outline and explain two reasons for the increase in cohabitation in the contemporary UK - 10 mks.

cohabitation is a living arrangement in which unmarried couples live together in a long term relationship that mirrors a married couple.

Diversity in the UK has changed our stereotype of the typical nuclear family however now 1/4 of kids live in single parent families and there has been an increase of cohabiting families. A reason for this type of family increasing is because marriage isn't seen as a necessity any more because of changed norms and values. Chandler 1993 argued the cohabitation is becoming the new marriage. He suggests this can be seen in the increase number of children out of marriage and partners no longer

many due to the fact they unexpectedly became pregnant which was seen as wrong years ago if you weren't married. Another reason for cohabitation becoming more popular is legal changes in the UK.

The Divorce Reform Act in 1969/71 removed the need to prove a guilty party and made irretrievable breakdown the grounds for divorce which made divorce easier thus there was a huge rise in divorce rates. The Matrimonial Family Proceedings Act 1984

reduced the time couples could divorce from 3 years after marriage to 1. This would mean a once married couple who have recently divorced may be living together due to not having enough money to buy separate houses - therefore they would be cohabiting.

The Civil Partnership Act in 2004 gave legal recognition to the relationships of some sex marriage couples who enter a civil partnership, involving similar arrangements to a legal marriage which would have increased the number of cohabitation families.

In the 2nd paragraph divorce doesn't explain cohabitation. You could discuss the changing nature of marriage - people want to wait + make sure their relationship is right.

5/10.

not relevant to cohabiting

separate out your paragraphs

Divorce doesn't really explain the trend

This isn't cohabitation

~~18/01/2017~~
06/03/2017

Val Vadcora

~~Outline and explain two reasons for the decrease in family size over the past 30 years~~

Outline and explain two reasons for the decrease in family size over the past 30 years [10]

Family size has decreased from an average of 3.1 people in 1961 to 2.4 people in 2006. This decrease might have been caused by many ~~so~~ either social or legal changes which have had an impact on it. One of the reasons could be the individualisation theory of Beck and Giddens. The theory argues that the traditional family as well as traditions of social class and gender have changed and are now less influential over us. In the past people felt more forced to follow fixed roles; like having a nuclear family at a young age and getting married before sex, etc. However, in our modern society we are less manipulated by this traditional roles and many chose not to have a big family or a family at all. Many chose not to married or have children. Another reason which has ^{had} an effect on the decrease of family over the past 30 years could be the decrease of infant mortality rate and ^{increased} higher life expectancy as well as a more child centre society. Women now chose to have less children so that they can put all their love and focus in just them. Also, ~~is now~~ before women had loads of children because there was the risk of many of them dying. In 1900, 15% of babies would have died and the death rate was of 19 per 1000 whereas in 2012 it went down to just 8.9 per 1000. As children are now healthy and living longer there is no need for parents to have massive families in order to substitute those children who were dying.

Separate out the paragraph

Amies

9/10

Tabitha Sawa P2

10 marks

8. Outline and explain two types of family diversity in the contemporary UK.

Make this clearer: one type of diversity is organisational

There are different structures and how roles are divided in the household. The family structure someone lives in is not the only way of looking at the nature of family life. People may live in a similar nuclear structure but this does not take account of differences both within and outside the family.

The Rapoport and Rapoport (1982) - The Rapoport's offer a postmodern approach to exploring the nature of the family. They argue that only a minority of families resemble the nuclear family ideal which is a married couple and their children, which is supported by functionalist theorists and Ann Oakley.

Different structures include the fact that $\frac{1}{4}$ of children in the UK live in lone parent families; $\frac{3}{4}$ live in couple headed families.

Other types of families include: married, cohabiting, reconstituted, gay/lesbian, beanpole. Roles can also be diverse such as segregated or symmetrical conjugal roles.

Extended family of residence is becoming a lot more popular and this is where members of the family live in same household, more and more people are doing this for financial reasons. Firstly because everyone can chip in with such things as bills, food and maintenance. Another reason is childcare and care of the elder members. Willmott 1988 found many families which on the outside could be viewed as being nuclear or single-parent etc, were part of complex extended structures. There is also an increase in beanpole families. Study by Brammen describes the particular type of extended family described as long and thin as a beanpole. This is up or down three or more generations, not vertically and includes aunts, cousins. Beanpole families result of two demographic changes increased life expectancy, smaller family sizes.

2nd reason to the extended family
You 2 ~~reasons~~ types need made clear at the beginning 7/10

Natasha Dobbe: 10 marker, on cohabitating families.

The rise of cohabiting families, has increased rapidly since 2001 the numbers going from 2.1 million to 2.9 million. Sociologists argue that one of the main causes for cohabitation, is the change of norms and values within society. As the view of the 1920s house wife and parsons nuclear family have evolved, as society's views have changed, and the 'typical' family is no longer as common; Chandler (1993) argued that cohabitating family's may be becoming an alternative to marriage. He suggests this is reflected in the increasing proportions of children out of marriage, as constantly changing views partners may no longer feel shunned for having children outside of marriage. Another argument that backs up this view is Chester's who suggests people may be delaying marriage, or using cohabitation as a trail marriage, before couples fully commit to marriage. 50% of couples are now cohabitating, and the time period of these cohabitating couples has also increased.

Secularisation has increased.

As norms and values evolve people's faith starts to decline, the Office for National Statistics revealed that the percentage of people following a Christian faith dropped from 71.7 per cent in 2001 to 59.3 per cent in 2011. This could suggest the change in society's attitudes, The British Social Attitudes Survey revealed many people are detaching sex and raising a child from marriage. Furthermore Religion used to regard cohabitation as 'living in sin', but today there is less shame in living with a apretner outside of marriage. Barlow et al found increasing acceptance of cohabitation. Leading to an increase in cohabitation. Some people chose a relationship that's based around love that focuses of on intimacy, closeness and emotion rather than the duties of marriage. Giddens argues that there has been a trend towards confluent love. This love focuses on the intimacy, closeness and emotion of a relationship, rather than the feelings of obligation and duty that is in vows at marriage.

Another additional argument could be the change in divorce policies, in 1969 the Divorce Reform Act was responsible for a massive rise in divorce. This allowed people to divorce if they could prove their marriage had broken down. The law then changed again in 1984 when state no longer required a guilty partner to place the blame on, and they were allowed to petition for a divorce just one year after marriage instead of three years, inevitably resulting in another increase in couples divorcing. Perhaps resulting in more awareness and more cohabitation for a trial basis. AS it does not legally commit them for an extended period of time.

Take out this - it's not relevant and

means you have 3 points, rather than 2.

9/10.