

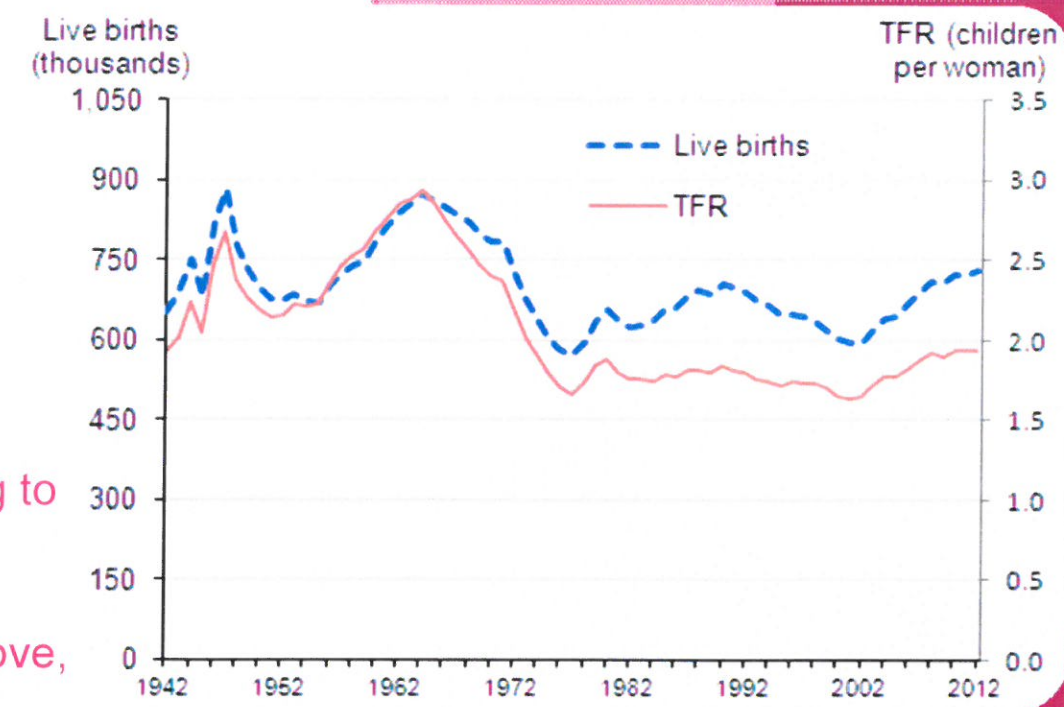
**C GROUP:**

**TRENDS IN THE FAMILY**



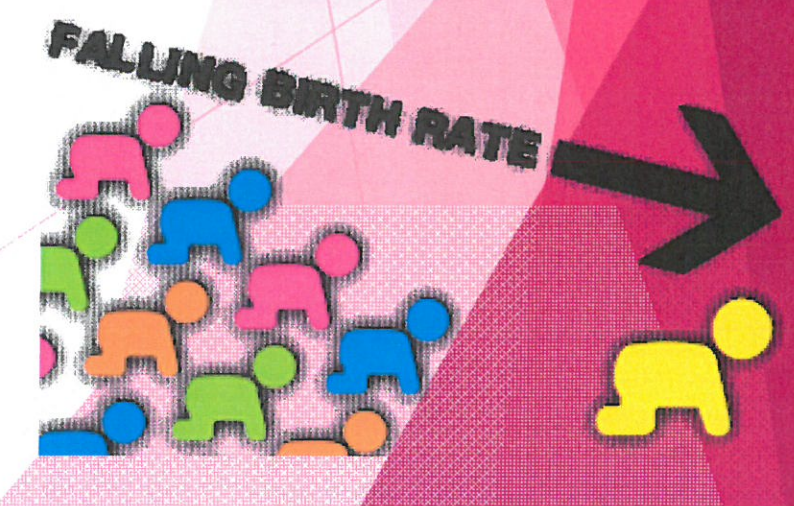
- The changing position of women means that they had started to be more interested in having a career, therefore not as much time to have multiple children
- There had been a significant rise in the cost of having children – raising a child from birth until 21 costs on average £271,000
- Since 1900 the falling birth rate slowed down population growth compared the 19<sup>th</sup> century, from 29 per 1,000 in 1901 to about 13 per 1,000 in 2012.

- Contraception (the pill) was enforced in the year 1974
- In 1974, the girls had low aspirations; they believed educational success was unfeminine and that appearing to be ambitious would be considered to be unattractive. They gave their priorities as 'love, marriage, husbands, children, jobs and careers, more or less in that order'.



**FALL IN BIRTH RATE**

- Paid employment combined with childcare responsibilities causes them to limit their family size (smaller family size)
- Sues sharps interviews with girls in the 1970's and 1990's shows a major shift in the way girls see their future.
- In 2011, 58% of parents with one child stated that 'money' is the reason for not having a second child
- Contraception is the result of not having as many unexpected pregnancies, therefor not as many people are being forced to have children unplanned.
- Parents limit the size of their families to give their child/children a high-quality standard of living
- Some start having their families later, this means they may not have the time to have as many children as you had in the past





# Fin Castell

Bross and Kabir (1978) claimed the falling IMR has led to a fall in birth rates.

As a result of the medical factors, by 1950 the UK's IMR had fallen to 30 and by 2012 it stood at 4.

From 1950's, medical factors began to play a greater role. Eg Mass immunisation against childhood diseases.

In 1990, in the UK, (15%) 15% of babies died within their first year.

IMR has declined. This is said to be due to parents replacing children they have lost.  
- Sarah Harper.

## Infant Mortality Rate

Over the years family has adopted the idea of 'quality' over 'quantity'. There few kids are cared for better as they get more attention.

During the first half of the 20th century, the UK's IMR began to fall for several reasons. • Improved housing and sanitation.

- Better nutrition, including that of mothers
- Better knowledge of hygiene, child health and welfare
- Less married women working Better health for her + baby. + Services eg antenatal and postnatal clinics.

IMR measures the number of infants who die before their first birthday, per thousand babies born alive, per year.





Impact on pensions and care

STATS:  
Dependency ratio in 2015: 3.2 (working age people for every pensioner)  
Dependency ratio predicted for 2033 is 2.8 (working people for every pensioner)

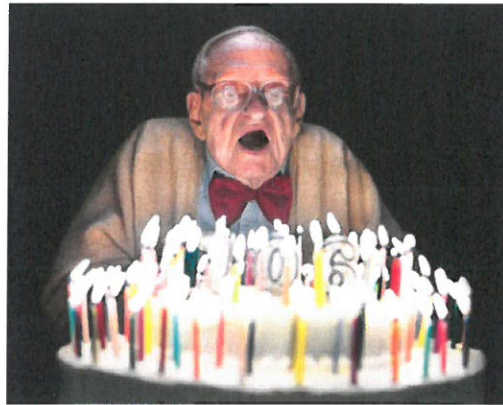
Our dependency ratio is increasing

DEPENDANCY RATIO: Is the amount of working people compared to the amount of unemployed people

**EMPLOYED**



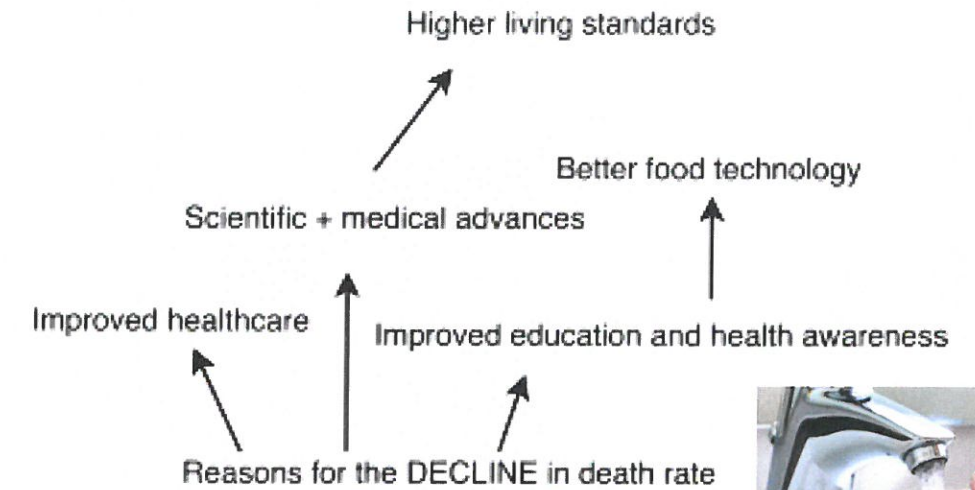
This means there is more time for DIVORCE and MARRIAGES to go WRONG



People live longer today than before the early 20th century

INCREASED LIFE EXPECTANCY/AGEING POPULATION

Definition of LIFE EXPECTANCY: the average period that a person may expect to live



NEGATIVE impacts



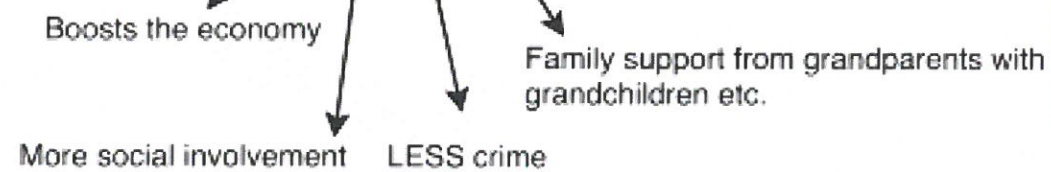
Definition of AGEING POPULATION: is an increasing median age in the POPULATION of a region due to declining fertility rates and/or rising life expectancy.

Britain + most western industrialised countries have ageing population.

Increased average age    Greater proportion of population over retirement age.

By 2012, proportion over age 65 had risen to 17%

POSITIVE impacts





# Policy

The increase in the cost of student loans have stopped people going to university. The people to move because of the debt they're in. <sup>coming from university</sup> tend to live with their parents.



In 2013 one in three men + one in five women aged 20 to 34 were still living with their parents.

By their 30s 1 in 10 men are living with their parents and 1 in 20 women.

## Changes in values

increase of children living with their parents 

This generation is sometimes referred to as 'kids in parents pockets' because it is easier and cheaper to live with parents even though parents may dip into retirement savings.

# Sociological Studies

Young people are choosing to live at home by choice (post modernism) Alan + Crow argue that there's more choice in our lives now.

The increase in housing prices have prevented young people from being able to buy their own houses.

→ The percentage of young adults <sup>25-29 year old</sup> owning a home decreased from 55% in 1996 to 30% in 2015. → People are much more likely to rent now due to the 20% deposit needed for a mortgage.



# Sociological Studies

**Postmodernists** ~ Beck and Beck-Gernstein see rising divorce rates as a product of growing individualisation, all aspects of our lives have more choice within them e.g. negotiating who does what household chores

Griddens - confluent love and personal fulfilment have gained significance and relationships are no longer based on permanence. So people are less willing to stay in an unsatisfactory relationship.

Alan and Crow argue that there is more choice in our lives.

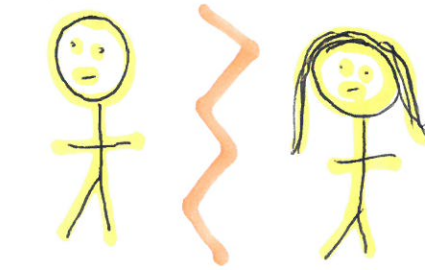
## **Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1984**

Reduced length of time a couple needed to wait to file for a divorce, from 3 years to 1 year.

## Legal Acts

### **Divorce reform Act 1969/71**

Allowed for grounds of wanting to separate to be enough. Before this there needed to be a 'guilty party' and had committed 1 of 3 matrimonial offences: Cruelty, adultery or desertation.



## Increase in \* Divorce \*



118,000 divorces

## Statistics

- In 2012 divorce levels were 6 times higher than in 1961
- 40% of marriages will end in divorce
- Divorce rates are dropping because less people are getting married
- Peaked in 1993 with 165,000 divorces

## Changes in Values

- Permanence is no longer a central idea of marriage so there is less social stigma around divorce.
- Functionalists like Parsons argue that the increase in divorce is due to an increased value placed upon marriage.
- Growing Secularization - Refers to the decline religious influence has on institutions which has led to marriage being less sacred.