

Chapter 4 Families and Households

Topic 2 Childhood

Answers to QuickCheck Questions on page 187

1. Any three of the following: children take responsibility/start work at an early age; less value is placed on children showing obedience to adult authority; children's sexual behaviour is often viewed differently; there is less of a dividing line between the behaviour expected of children and that expected of adults.
2. Any two of the following: parents giving a new born baby the name of a recently dead sibling; parents referring to the baby as 'it'; parents forgetting how many children they had had.
3. As divorce has become much more common, generating feelings of insecurity, relationships with their children become more important as a source of adults' identity and stability, so they become more fearful for their children's security.
4. Because laws restricting child labour and compulsory schooling exclude children from paid work.
5. Any one of the following: poor/lower-class children are more likely to be low birth-weight, suffer from hyperactivity/conduct disorders, die, suffer longstanding illness, be shorter, fall behind at school, be on the child protection register.
6. Inequalities between adults and children; adult domination and child dependency.
7. It sees children as only as 'adults in the making'/'socialisation projects' for adults to shape and develop, not of interest in themselves but only for what they will become in the future.