

Chapter 4 Families and Households

Topic 4 Demography

Answers to QuickCheck Questions on page 209

1. Any two of the following: improved nutrition/diet; medical improvements; reduced smoking; public health measures; the decline of dangerous manual occupations; smaller families; greater public knowledge of the causes of illness; lifestyle changes; higher incomes.
2. Any two of the following: decline in infant mortality; children becoming an economic liability; child centredness.
3. Class differences in: nutrition; housing quality; parental knowledge of health care.
4. For married women, working offers an alternative role to the traditional housewife/mother role and also gives women less time to bring up a larger family. This has resulted in a decline in the birth rate.
5. The negative stereotyping and unequal treatment of people on the basis of their age.
6. The proportion of the population who are of working age compared with the proportion who are not working and therefore dependent others (children and the retired).
7. Identities made up of two or more different sources, e.g. seeing yourself as Muslim *and* Bengali *and* British.
8. It means that the structure of society excludes many old people from paid work (e.g. as a result of laws about retirement age), leaving them economically dependent on their families and/or the state.
9. Citizens have full citizenship rights. Denizens are privileged foreign nationals welcomed by the state. Helots (literally, slaves) are the most exploited group, regarded as a reserve army of labour.
10. Assimilationism encourages immigrants to adopt the language, values and customs of the host culture, to become 'like us'. Multiculturalism accepts that migrants may wish to retain a separate cultural identity.