

TOPIC 2: Families

LI: How do marriages differ in a global context?

Starter – Retrieval Quiz

1. What two problems did Oakley say the conventional family were causing?	
2. What is a symmetrical family?	
3. What is the triple shift?	
4. How do we determine power in the family?	
5. Name one type of sociologist who does not like the family unit?	

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Answers

1. What two problems did Oakley say the conventional family were causing?	Stain, financial inequality
2. What is a symmetrical family?	Family with joint conjugal roles
3. What is the triple shift?	When mother returns home from work and has to do all house work, emotional work etc
4. How do we determine power in the family?	Breadwinner/decision maker
5. Name one type of sociologist who does not like the family unit?	Feminists

Learning Intentions

4/5 (All) – Identify a diverse range of marriage options in different cultures.

6/7 (Most) – Explain the differences between a range of marriage options and discuss their strengths and weaknesses.

8/9 (Some) – Discuss how different sociologists will view different marriage options.

Low

High

What is your initial confidence towards the LIs?

UK and World Marriage

Over the next two pages are lots of key terms about different types of marriage.

Copy them down and ensure that you know the difference between each type.

Ensure you know which ones are legal and illegal in the UK.

UK Marriage – what are the laws?

Monogamy: being married to just one person at a time.

Bigamy: marrying someone when you are already married (a crime in the UK).

Serial monogamy: when a married person divorces, remarries, divorces, remarries and so on.

Same sex marriage became legal in England in March 2014. Before this, same-sex couples could enter a 'civil partnership' (2003-2014) which was not technically a marriage, but gave them the same rights of a marriage.

World Marriage

Polygamy – when a person has more than one husband or wife at the same time. (Illegal in Britain)

Polygyny – when a man has two or more wives at the same time. (Mormon religion, USA; Muslim)

Polyandry – when a woman has two or more husbands at the same time.

Arranged marriages – when the parents find partners they believe to be suitable for their children.

Forced marriages – a marriage when one party does not consent but the marriage goes ahead anyway.

Discussion Point

How do you think functionalists might view serial monogamy?

How do you think feminists might view polygyny?

How do you feel about arranged marriages?

Are there any strengths and weaknesses to an arranged marriage?

Write down the question and write down your thoughts to each question.

Your thoughts should be between 2-5 lines long each.

Marriage Planning

You have some time now to plan a wedding!

Research the things that you need for an impressive wedding and calculate the approximate cost of your own awesome memorable day!

How much did your special day cost?

Research Method Link

You are running a focus group into arranged marriages in the UK.

Identify and explain one ethical issues that you face when running this research. (4)

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Consolidation

From planning a quick wedding, what can you tell me you have learned about weddings? List at least three things you have realised from this process.