2.2 Feminist, New Right and Postmodernist Perspectives on the Family: Test Pack

AQA 7192 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Write full-sentence answers for the questions marked with 'full sentence required' on the paper (at least five). Spend about 15 minutes in total. The final 12-mark question requires a developed evaluation with a conclusion.

1 Which one of the following perspectives emphasises that the nuclear family is best for social stability and welfare, and is critical of welfare policies that encourage lone-parent households? Name the perspective in the context of family sociology.

- ☐ A) Marxism
- ☐ B) Feminism
- ☐ C) New Right
- ☐ D) Postmodernism

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Compare briefly how Marxist feminist and New Right perspectives explain the purpose of the family in society. Give one similarity and one difference.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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3 Explain two ways radical feminists such as Delphy and Leonard argue the family functions to benefit men at the expense of women. Give full-sentence answers.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Outline and explain two feminist criticisms of the family as an institution, referring to radical, Marxist or liberal feminism as appropriate. Full-sentence answers required.

(Total for Question 4 is 6 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.2 Feminist, New Right and Postmodernist Perspectives on the Family: Test Pack

Question 1

C (New Right) **B1**

Answer: C

Question 2

identifies a similarity, e.g. both see the family as serving wider social or economic functions **B1**

identifies a difference, e.g. Marxist feminists see the family as serving capitalism and reproducing labour power, New Right see it as essential for social order and moral stability **B1**

Answer: Similarity: both see the family as serving wider social or economic functions. Difference: Marxist feminists argue the family serves capitalism by reproducing labour power and providing unpaid labour, whereas the New Right argues the family is essential for social order and moral stability, championing the traditional nuclear form.

Question 3

identifies first way, e.g. the family extracts unpaid domestic labour from women **B1**

develops first way, e.g. this unpaid work benefits men directly and supports the male partner's paid employment and wellbeing **B1**

identifies second way, e.g. the family gives men sexual services and emotional support, often taken for granted **B1**

develops second way, e.g. Delphy and Leonard argue this represents a transfer of resources and dependency that advantages men and limits women's autonomy **B1**

Answer: Radical feminists argue the family extracts unpaid domestic labour from women, which benefits men by supporting their paid employment and wellbeing, and that the family provides men with sexual services and emotional support often taken for granted, creating a transfer of resources and dependency that limits women's autonomy.

Question 4

identifies first feminist criticism, e.g. the family reproduces gender inequality through the division of labour or unpaid domestic labour **B1**

explains first criticism, e.g. women perform most housework and childcare, limiting their opportunities and reinforcing male dominance **B1**

identifies second feminist criticism, e.g. the family supports capitalism by reproducing labour power and providing unpaid labour, a Marxist feminist point **B1**

explains second criticism, e.g. women's unpaid work lowers the cost of labour for capitalists and socialises the next generation to accept unequal gender roles **B1**

offers a clear second development or further example, e.g. Delphy and Leonard emphasise patriarchal control and resource transfer to men **B1**

offers a clear first development or example, e.g. the dual burden and emotional labour concepts show multiple ways women are disadvantaged **B1**

Answer: One criticism is that the family reproduces gender inequality through the division of labour, with women doing most housework and childcare, which limits their opportunities and reinforces male dominance. Another is a Marxist feminist critique that the family supports capitalism by reproducing labour power and providing unpaid labour, lowering the cost of labour for capitalists and socialising children into accepting unequal gender roles; Delphy and Leonard add that patriarchal control transfers resources to men and sustains womens dependency.

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