

## GCSE Sociology - Key Words on Families

Family – a group of people related by blood, marriage or adoption

Family structure – how people organise themselves as a family

Kinship – sense of duty to family members

Family ideology – ideas of what a 'proper' family should be like

Cultural universals – social behaviour that can be found in all cultures

Polygamy - marriage to more than one person at a time

Monogamy – marriage to only one person at a time

Divorce – legal end of a marriage

Patriarchy – male domination of society

Matriarchy – where female dominate society

Collectivist culture – where people believe community life is more important than individual needs

Individualist cultures – where people put their own needs before those of the community

Izzat – Asian term meaning family pride

Arranged marriage – where marriage partners are chosen by a parent or matchmaker

Nuclear/cereal packet family – a family made up of a man, woman and their children

Heterosexual – sexually attracted to people of the opposite sex

Feminists – think men and women should be equal in society

Conservative Party – political party with traditional values

Household – group of people who live in one house

Contraception – birth control method

Cohabitation – living together without marrying

Beanpole family – people have more contact with different generations such as grandparents, but fewer siblings and cousins

Homosexual – sexually attracted to those of the same sex

Secularisation – religion becoming less important in society than it used to be

Domestic abuse – controlling or violent behaviour in the home

Gay family – where both parents are of the same sex

Reconstituted/blended family – parents and children from more than one relationship for a family

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IVF – where a child is conceived outside the human body

Lone/single parent – family with only one adult

Empty shell marriages – people live together as a married couple, but do not love each other

Serial monogamy – marriage to more than one person, but only one at a time

Post-familial – worldwide change from traditional family structures to new family forms

Families of choice – people may have deeper relationships with friends rather than family

Toxic childhood – a harmful or unpleasant childhood

Paedophiles -

Abduction -

Child-centred – children are the focus of family life

Life expectancy – how long you can expect to live

Boomerang – adult children who return to home for financial or relationship reasons

Dementia – range of disease that affects the brain, especially short term memory

Sandwich generation – people who care for their children, parents and grandchildren

Segregated conjugal roles – where men and women do separate jobs in the home

Breadwinner – earns the family money

New man – man who does some household chores

House husband – looks after the family home whilst women work

Dominance – power to control others

Dark side of family – abuse and violence that occurs behind closed doors

Contraceptive pill – first form of birth control for women

Triple shift – women work, do the housework and are responsible for the emotional/caring side of family life