Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

SOCIOLOGY **9699/12**

Paper 1 The Family **May/June 2020**

1 hour 30 minutes

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You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
  - Section A: answer Question 1.
  - Section B: answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **4** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

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Section A

Answer Question 1.

1 Functionalists believe that in all societies there is a dominant family type. Parsons, for example, argues that the *extended family* was the most common family type in pre-industrial societies as it performed a wide range of functions. Parsons further suggests that with industrialisation the nuclear family replaced the extended family as the dominant family type.

However, other sociologists question the view that there is a dominant family type. Historical research, such as that by Anderson, has shown that both the nuclear family and extended family were common in pre-industrial societies. Research by other sociologists, such as Thorne, indicates that there is no dominant family type in modern industrial societies as family diversity is common.

(a) Define the term *extended family*. [2]

(b) Describe **two** features of the nuclear family. [4]

(c) Explain the functionalist view that the extended family was the most common family type in pre-industrial societies. [8]

(d) Assess the view that there is no dominant family type. [11]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

2 'The rise in divorce rates is due to individuals having higher expectations of marriage.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

3 'Gender is the most significant factor influencing the experience of family life.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

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