Cambridge International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

SOCIOLOGY **9699/12**

Paper 1 The Family **October/November 2020**

1 hour 30 minutes

7475028174

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 Fletcher believed that people attach more value to marriage today and so have higher expectations of married life. He argued that due to these higher expectations people are more likely to divorce if they are dissatisfied with the reality of their marriage. However, other sociologists have argued that marriage has lost its social significance and is no longer valued in modern industrial societies.

Whether or not people value marriage today, the divorce rate has increased in most societies. At the same time there has been a change in attitudes towards relationships, with alternatives to marriage, such as cohabitation and *civil partnerships*, becoming more socially acceptable in many societies.

(a) Define the term *civil partnership*. [2]

(b) Describe **two** reasons why a person may stay in an unhappy marriage. [4]

(c) Explain why cohabitation has become more common in some societies. [8]

(d) Assess the view that marriage is no longer valued in modern industrial societies. [11]

Section B

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

2 'The family has lost its social significance in modern industrial societies.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

3 'In families today, there is equality between males and females.' Explain and assess this view. [25]

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