

Giddens (1992): Choice & Equality

Couples can define their own relationships based upon romantic love due to the increase in contraception and independence for women



Rapoport & Rapoport (1982): Five Types of Family Diversity

1. Organisational Diversity
2. Cultural Diversity
3. Social Class Diversity
4. Life-stage Diversity
5. Generational Diversity

Therefore even in the nuclear family there is greater diversity between families that first suggested



Jeffrey Weeks (1999): Growth in 'Fictive families'

People are beginning to redefine what is meant by family and this can include friends, co-workers and even pets

Stacey (1998): Divorce-Extended Family



Women are more likely to maintain relationships with ex-in-laws due to access to children – however divorced women are more likely to have fictive extended families to help support them

Beck (1995): Risk Society & the Negotiated Family



More conditions based upon relationships because of uncertainty and need for romantic love rather than financial arrangements

'Post-Modernism' assumes that traditional structures have broken down and that society is much more 'Fluid' & is characterised by choice, variety and diversity

AO3 Evaluation

Chester (1984) Neo-conventional family is the most common type. This is essentially the nuclear family redefined and therefore less diversity than thought

Chester (1984) Due the life-cycle many people will be part of a nuclear family – single parents and reconstituted families are formed from nuclear families

Post-modernism can be seen as a fragmented approach