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| **Learning Table 1: The Functions of the Family: POST-MODERNISM** | | |
| **Analysis** | **Evaluation** | **Application** |
| Postmodernists such as Lyotard (1984) and Baudrillard (2001) believe that contemporary society is rapidly changing and full of uncertainties, with people questioning a whole range of traditionally accepted values, morals and norms. Society has become fragmented into a mass of individuals who are making their own choices about what they choose to believe in, and how they live their daily lives.  **Diversity**  Stacey (1996) argues that the traditional family has been replaced by several other family types. People no longer feel bound by traditional ideas and expectations about marriage, lifelong monogamy, parenthood and family life or traditional sexual identities. People are adopting new lifestyles as a result of rising divorce rates, cohabitation, multiple partners, serial monogamy and birth outside marriage.  **Pick and Mix Culture**  As discussed in the New Right perspective, politicians and policy makers are concerns about a new diverse society and the breaking up of a traditional family; However, Postmodernists see these changes as simply reflecting individuals making their consumer choices. Individuals pick and choose and ‘mix and match’ relationships as it suits them and change these over a period of time. | *Too Broad*  Critics of the Postmodernist view argue that the view they take is too broad. Critics argue that by including a wide range of different kinds of personal relationships, we ignore what is special about relationships that are based on blood and marriage. |  |