**Demography** refers to the study of population and population change; it focuses on patterns of social structure

*The family & Demographic Changes*

**1. Family/**

**Household**

**Structure**

**Definition**

**2. Family/Household**

**Structure**

**Definition**

**3. Family/Household**

**Structure**

**Definition**

Nuclear Family

A family that consists of two

generations parents and

children.

Polyandry

Polygamy in which a woman has

more than one husband

Lone Parent Family

An adult with no partner with

responsibility for a child/

children.

Symmetrical Family

This is family where

Multicultural family

Monogamy

A family that includes more

than one ethnic or racial

group.

conjugal roles are shared be-

tween men and women.

Student Household

A household consisting of

those who are still in full time

education.

Sandwich Generation

People live longer and have chil-

dren later which means

The practice of marrying or

state of being married to one

person at a time

Living Apart Together Couples who have a

people are left responsible for

both dependent children and el-

derly parents.

household each rather than

living together.

**4. Key Names and**

**Research**

**Demographic Changes**

Extended Family

Refers to relatives beyond

the nuclear family as grand-

parents, uncles/aunts & cous-

ins.

Cohabitation

This is where a couple live to-

gether and may choose to not

marry.

Lewis (2012)

Economics

Economics

Flour & Buchanan (2001)

Reconstituted/

Blended

Previously known as step

families.

Forced Singlehood

When a partnership ends e.g.

through death or divorce and sin-

glehood has been forced on the

individual.

Ermisch (1996)

Drew (1998)

Family

Household

Kinship

Refers to people who share a

house and its facilities.

Silva (2009)

Changing Technology

Marriage

Refers to the pattern of rela-

tionship and the sense of du-

ty that people feel towards

those they as family.

Gergen (1991)

Elective Singlehood

Boomerang Family

People who choose to live on

their own regardless of their rela-

tionship status

Lawlor (2012)

Charles Murray (1990)

When adult children return their

parents home after a period

away living independently.

Family

A group consisting of two

parents and their children

living together as a unit

Fletcher (1966)

Wilson (1966)

Divorce

Coast (2009)

Cohabitation

Beanpole Family

An extended family of several Polygamy

generations with few people

in every generation.

The practice or custom of

having more than one wife or

husband at the same time

Morgan (2012)

Smith et al (2005)

Singlehood

Empty Nest Family

A household in which one or

Chandler et al (2004)

more parents live after the

children have left home

Same-sex Family

Gay or lesbian couples with

children.

Klinenburg (2012)

**Demography** refers to the study of population and population change; it focuses on patterns of social structure

*The Family & Demographic Changes*

**1. Explaining Family**

**Change**

**Description**

**2. Important Law Changes**

**Description of Act**

Legal Changes & The

Family

New legislation and laws reflect the changing nature of society and the

norms/values it holds. This has allowed for new family forms and in-

creased family diversity.

Civil Partnership Act (2004)

An Act to make provision for and in

connection with civil partnership.

Same-sex marriage (2014)

It allows same sex couples to marry

in civil ceremonies and ensures

those religious organisations which

wish to do so can opt in to marry

same sex couples.

Economics &

The Family

Changes in the economy have meant that family life has changed i.e.

more women in the workplace, fewer women needing marriage for

economical

stability.

Divorce Law Reform Act (1969)

The first was to restate the three

grounds for divorce that were de-

fined as faults: adultery, cruelty, and

desertion. It also added two

additional grounds for divorce.

These were called "no fault

separation grounds"

Changing Norms & Val- Family changes and diversity reflect the changing norms and values of

ues

society.

Changing Technology Technological advancements in medicine, transport, buildings, work,

computers and many other areas have influenced the functioning of

the

family.

Family Law Act (1996)

This act allowed for provisions to be

made for family members in the

case of a divorce, separation,

Marriage

Divorce

There have been slow declines in marriage rates and there are many

sociological reasons behind this e.g. secularisation.

mediation, domestic or child abuse.

Changes in law and social attitudes has meant that the rates of divorce Abortion Act (1967)

have risen and made way for new family types and forms.

An Act to amend and clarify the law

relating to termination of pregnancy

by registered medical practitioners.

Cohabitation

Singlehood

There have been rises in the number of cohabiting couples as many

do not see the need to be married.

As society becomes more

individualistic and the rise in the cult of the individual means that peo-

ple are choosing singlehood over family life.

Life Expectancy

Fertility

A growth in life expectancy means that there are more beanpole fami-

lies and sandwich generations which has an impact on family life.

Women have more control over their reproduction meaning that they

are choosing when to have children and to have fewer

children also.