

The book raises fundamental questions about whether and to what extent family life in different European societies became more or less similar over the course of the century.

On the one hand there were severe recessions in the early 1800s and in the 1890s and 1930s. There were also two terrible world wars. On the other hand there was a vast improvement in the standard of living of ordinary people. Life expectancy also rose. In Britain it was about 47 for a man and 50 for a woman. By the end of the century it was about 75 and life was also greatly improved by new inventions. Even during the depression of the 1930s things improved for most of the people who had a job. Real incomes rose significantly during the decade. The same was true of the 1950s. Society in 20th Century Britain British society changed greatly during the 20th century. In the 1800s large numbers of West Indians arrived in Britain. Also from the 1800s many Asians came. In the late 20th century Britain became a multi-cultural society. There was another change in British society. In the late 20th century divorce and single parent families became much more common. Also, in the 1950s young people had significant disposable income for the first time. A revolution in music was led by Elvis Presley and Bill Haley. The history of English society Women in the 20th Century In Britain women over 30 were allowed to vote if they met a property qualification. More occupations were opened to women during the 20th century. The first policewomen in Britain went on duty in 1914. A new law allowed women to become lawyers, vets and civil servants. The first female solicitor was Carrie Morrison in 1922. Also in 1922 Irene Barclay became the first female chartered surveyor. Nevertheless in the early 20th century it was unusual for married women to work except in wartime. However in the 1950s and 1960s it became common for them to do so - at least part-time. New technology in the home made it easier for women to do paid work. Before the 20th century housework was so time consuming married women did not have time to work. Manufacturing became less important and service industries grew creating more opportunities for women. In 1967 the law was changed so women had to be paid the same wages as men. In 1973 women were admitted to the stock exchange. From 1976 it was made illegal to sack women for becoming pregnant. Also in 1975 the Sex Discrimination Act made it illegal to discriminate against women in employment, education and training. In 1975 a new law stated that equal pay must be given for work of equal value. Work and Industry in 20th Century Britain In the years 1900-1913 the British economy was stable and unemployment was quite low. However during the 1920s there was mass unemployment. Then, in the early 1930s, the British economy was struck by depression. By the start of 1932 unemployment among insured workers was 25%. However unemployment fell substantially in 1933, and by January 1934 it stood at 17%. However although a partial recovery took place in the mid and late 1930s there were semi-permanent depression areas in the North of England, Scotland and South Wales. On the other hand new industries such as car and aircraft making and electronics prospered in the Midlands and the South of England where unemployment was relatively low. The problems of depression and high unemployment were only really solved by the Second World War, which started industry booming again. Unemployment remained very low in the late 1940s and the 1950s and 1960s were a long period of prosperity. However this ended in the mid-1970s. However shortly afterwards a period of high inflation and high unemployment began. In the late 1970s unemployment stood at around 5%. However in the years 1980-1982 Britain was gripped by recession and unemployment grew much worse. It reached a peak in 1982 when it fell to 11.9%. Unfortunately another recession began in 1992 and unemployment rose again. However unemployment began to fall again in 1993 and it continued to fall till the end of the century. Meanwhile in the late 20th century a change was coming over the British economy, sometimes called de-industrialization. Traditional industries such as coal mining, textiles and shipbuilding declined rapidly. On the other hand service industries such as tourism, education, retail and finance grew rapidly and this sector became the main source of employment. In the early 20th century it was unusual for married women to work except in wartime. At the same time the economy changed. They had just enough money for food, rent, fuel and clothes. The surveys found that the main cause of poverty was low wages. The main cause of extreme poverty was the loss of the main breadwinner. If dad was dead, ill or unemployed it was a disaster. Mum might get a job but women were paid much lower wages than men. Surveys also found that poverty tended to go in a cycle. Workers might live in poverty when they were children but things usually

improved when they left work and found a job. However when they married and had children things would take a turn for the worse. Their wages might be enough to support a single man comfortably but not enough to support a wife and children too. However when the children grew old enough to work things would improve again. Finally, when he was old a worker might find it hard to find work, except the most low paid kind and be driven into poverty again. In the s some women made their underwear from bags that grocers kept rice or flour in. Poor children often did not wear underwear. Some poor families made prams from orange boxes. A Liberal government was elected in and they made some reforms. From that year poor children were given free school meals. In January the first old age pensions were paid. They were hardly generous - only 5 shillings a week, which was a paltry sum even in those days and they were only paid to people over Nevertheless it was a start. Also in the government formed wages councils. The wages councils set minimum pay levels for certain industries. In the first labor exchanges where jobs were advertised were set up. Then in the government passed an act establishing sickness benefits for workers. The act also provided unemployment benefit for workers in certain trades such as shipbuilding, where periods of unemployment were common. In unemployment was extended to most workers although it was not extended to agricultural workers until Things greatly improved in Britain after the First World War. That figure may not apply to the whole of Britain as Liverpool was a poor city. Poverty had by no means disappeared by the s but it was much less than ever before. Pensions and unemployment benefit were made more generous in and in Furthermore prices continued to fall during the s. By absolute poverty had almost disappeared from Britain. Absolute poverty can be defined as not having enough money to eat an adequate diet or afford enough clothes. However there is also such a thing as relative poverty, when you cannot afford the things most people have. There was still relative poverty in the late 20th century and it increased in the s. That was partly due to mass unemployment and partly due to a huge rise in the number of single parent families, who often lived on benefits. During the s the gap between rich and poor increased as the well off benefited from tax cuts. The history of poverty Homes in 20th Century Britain At the start of the 20th century working class homes had two rooms downstairs. The front room and the back room. The front room was kept for best and children were not allowed to play there. In the front room the family kept their best furniture and ornaments. The back room was the kitchen and it was where the family spent most of their time. Most families cooked on a coal-fired stove called a range, which also heated the room. This lifestyle changed in the early 20th century as gas cookers became common.

Chapter 2 : HAPPY FAMILIES?: Realities of family life in twentieth century Britain - Economic History Society

No other century promoted such rapid change in American families than the twentieth century did. Through most of the first half of the century families were two-parent plus children units, but by the 1950s and 1960s divorce was common in half of the homes and many families were single-parent or included step-parents, step-siblings and half-siblings.

People Family life There has never been a typical or single traditional family form in the United States. In the early 21st century, the ideal family is a vehicle for self-fulfillment and emotional satisfaction. The family in early America had different functions as producers of food, clothing, and shelter. There has always been a gap between the ideal family and the more complicated reality of family relationships. While Americans value their families and resent outside interference, they have also been willing to intervene in the family lives of those who seem outside the American ideal. Native Americans had a variety of family organizations, including the nuclear family two adults and their children , extended households with near relatives, clans, and other forms of kinship. In general, Native Americans had a great deal of freedom in sexuality, in choosing marriage partners, and in remaining married. After conversion to Christianity, some of the variety in family forms decreased. In the early 20th century, the United States government broke up many Native American families and sent the children to boarding schools to become Americanized, a policy that was disastrous for those involved and was largely abandoned by the middle of the 20th century. Colonial Families During the 17th century and the first half of the 18th century, when Americans from European backgrounds spoke about family, they often referred to what we would call householdsâ€”people who happen to be living together. In addition to the husband, wife, and children, this could include servants, apprentices, and sometimes slaves. These earliest families were productive units, not sentimental, affectionate groupings. The family performed a number of functions that larger institutions now provide. The father, as head of the family, educated his sons, servants and apprentices. Women instructed their daughters in how to run a household. Both husband and wife were responsible for the religious development of the their household members. Primary responsibility for the order of society fell to the family, including supervising individuals, punishing minor offenses, and reporting major offenses to local officials. There was no other police force. Men and women provided basic health care, food, clothing, and entertainment. In order to fill all these roles, it was expected that obedience to the authorities of master, father, mother, church, and state would be maintained. Individualism was not valued. Everyone was expected to pull his or her weight in order for the family to survive. Marriages were forged primarily for economic reasons, and only secondarily for companionship. Love, if it appeared at all, came after marriage, not before. Husband and wife labored together to sustain the family, but at quite separate tasks. Husbands worked in the fields, tended livestock, worked at a craft, or were merchants. Women often specialized in producing goods, such as dairy products, beer, or sausage, or they provided services like midwifery. They then traded these products or services with other women for their specialties. In the cities, women worked in shops, kept accounts, and assisted their husbands, who practiced a trade or engaged in commerce. Children assisted their parents from an early age. Everywhere, family, business, and social order were combined. Emotional satisfaction was not a function of the family. While men and women both contributed to the success of the farm or family business, men had full legal authority over their families. Only men could hold positions in government, in the church, or in higher education. Women had no property or marital rights, except those their husbands granted, and fathers had custody of children in the rare cases of separation. Divorce was extremely rare and was illegal in many colonies. Boys might also to go to boarding schools and then to college or to sea, but most girls were not formally educated. The individuality of children was not recognized, and if one died, a later child was sometimes given the same name. Daughters received even less, and generally only when they married. Life was hard, and caring parents made sure that their children were obedient, hardworking, and responsible. Life for children in the colonial period could be difficult. Whipping and other forms of physical punishment were commonplace and sometimes mandated by law. Such punishment was considered a sign of parental love, as parents sought to wean their children from their natural tendency toward sin and corruption. Virtually all children saw a sibling die and suffered several

bouts of serious illness themselves. From one-third to half of all children experienced the death of a parent, and the cruel stepmother or heartless stepfather was more than a fairy tale for many colonial children. Orphans were shipped out to relatives, or sometimes local authorities gave them to the lowest bidder—the person who promised tax officials to raise the child most cheaply. Even as adults, sons and especially daughters were expected to obey their parents. Sons were given considerable freedom in deciding whom to marry, but often daughters could only choose to turn down an offensive suitor selected by their father. Life was harsh in the country and for the majority in the city. There were few social services to support the family. Although children were expected to honor their parents, there was no guarantee that adult children would support their elderly parents. Servants and apprentices were often subjected to harsh beatings, coarse food, and deprivation. Slaves were treated even more harshly. The family was concerned with the maintenance of hierarchies and social order. African American Families under Slavery African family traditions, which varied according to national origin and religion, could not be replicated in the New World after Africans were forced into slavery. The slave trade was responsible for breaking up African families, and husbands, wives, and children were liable to be sold separately because U. Enslaved Americans were denied a secure family life. They had no right to live or stay together, no right to their own children, and it was common for slave parents and children to live apart. Parents could not protect their children from the will of the master, who could separate them at any time. About one-third of slave families suffered permanent separation caused by the sale of family members to distant regions. For the majority of slaves, who lived on small plantations with only a few other enslaved people, marriage partners had to be found on other farms. Children stayed with their mothers. Schooling was not an option for enslaved children, and in most states it was illegal to teach slaves to read and write. The most common reason for slaves to run away was to see family members, if only briefly, although slave women rarely took to the roads both because it was not safe for women to travel alone and because it was difficult to travel with young children. For enslaved people on large plantations, it might be possible to find a partner owned by the same master, although couples could be assigned to different parcels of land or different areas of the plantation, or even to the vacation or city homes of the owner. The Christmas holiday, the one break from work during the year for slaves, was anticipated with excitement because it allowed separated family members to meet and spend a week together. Despite the fragility of familial bonds under slavery, enslaved men and women considered themselves married, recognized their kin in the names they gave their children, looked after their relatives and friends in cases of separation, and protected each other as much as possible. Slavery and servitude was virtually abolished between the s and the s in the Northern states. This meant that African Americans could legally establish families in the North. Black churches married couples, baptized their children, and recorded the new surnames that former slaves chose for themselves. Slaves who escaped from slaveholding areas were sheltered and moved to safer locations. Mothers and fathers both worked so their children could become educated. Although African American families in the North faced discrimination and poverty, and worried about being kidnapped by slave catchers, they had hope of maintaining their family ties. These attitudes first took hold among the urban, educated wealthy and middle classes, and later spread to rural and poorer Americans. This change was due to the growth and increasing sophistication of the economy, which meant that economic issues became less pressing for families and production moved outside the home to specialized shops and factories. With more leisure time and greater physical comfort, people felt that happiness, rather than simple survival, was possible. If this blank-slate theory is correct, then goodness can be instilled in children by showering them with kindness and love and by shielding them from the bad things in this world. Additionally, the psychological theory of sensibility, another 18th-century idea, argued that positive feelings such as friendship, happiness, sympathy, and empathy should be cultivated for a civil life of reason. By the 19th century, romanticism and sentimentality put even more emphasis on emotional attachment and the cultivation of feeling. New ideas about human equality and liberty undermined older notions of hierarchy and order. Wives obeyed, not out of force, but out of love. Parents sought the affection of their children, not their economic contributions. This was the new ideal, but old habits died slowly. Authority, inequality, and violence declined but never entirely disappeared. By the end of the 18th century and into the 19th century, marriage was undertaken for affection, not for economic reasons.

Courtship became more elaborate and couples had more freedom. They attended dances, church socials, picnics, and concerts, and got to know one another well. After the wedding, couples went on honeymoons to have a romantic interlude before settling down to daily life. Raising children became the most important job a wife performed, and children were to be loved and sheltered. Physical punishment of children did not disappear, but it became more moderate and was combined with encouragement and rewards. Servants, apprentices, and others gradually dropped out of the definition of family. Servants no longer slept within the same house as the family, and apprentices rented rooms elsewhere. By the 19th century, the nuclear family, consisting of a father and mother and their dependent children, had become the model. The ideal, loving family could be found in magazines, poems, and religious tracts. Novels promoted romantic courtship and warned readers of insincere fortune hunters or seducers when seeking a husband or wife. Love and sincerity were advocated. Still, economic considerations did not entirely disappear. Wealthy women married wealthy men; poorer men married poorer women. Work was less likely to be done in the home, as fewer and fewer Americans lived on farms, and men left the home to work in offices and factories.

Chapter 3 : City Life at the turn of the 20th Century

It places family history and the changing life experience of ordinary people at the heart of the new social history. The twentieth century saw extraordinary events and changes that were without precedent in human history.

Allen, Alfred Reginald, ; Allen, Alfred Reginald, Allen family papers, Collection 57 boxes 13 volumes Samuel Allen sometimes spelled Allan or Allin came to America in and settled in what is now known as Chester, Pennsylvania. The Allen family papers consist of correspondence, photographs, albums, newspaper clippings, volumes, manuscripts, ephemera, and artifacts collected first by Dr. This collection of Allen family papers is rich in personal correspondence, particularly between Dr. Allen and his father in the late nineteenth century, between Dr. There is also a significant amount of genealogical material in the form of historical biographies, family trees and letters. Allen began doing genealogical research and Reggie it. Allen concentrated on the history of the Allens and the Pomeroy's, Reggie expanded the research to include the Howes, the DeWolfs, the Huntingtons, and other related lineages. This genealogical research is particularly interesting as all lines of the family were people who settled in America in the s. The Pomeroy's in particular were some of the original founders of the town of Dorset, Massachusetts. The focus of this collection is the personal and professional papers of Curtis and Nellie Lee Bok. In addition, there is some documentation of their children Derek, Enid, and Benjamin and their Bok and Holt ancestors. There are letters, travel journals, identified files, photographs, and printed materials relating to the illustrious careers of both Curtis and Nellie Lee. Clapp family Clapp family papers, Collection 23 boxes 46 volumes 33 linear ft. Forty six volumes of diaries and scrapbooks, , which document both visually and textually the daily lives of a Philadelphia, Pa. These "memory books" go several steps beyond the typical scrapbook, however. They often include items that are more readily classified as artifacts -- apple stems, dixie cup spoons, and probably most memorably, a wishbone from a turkey. Mary Ann Clapp obviously spent a great deal of time compiling these albums and most items are captioned or refer the viewer to the diaries, take up the latter part of each volume. Dwyer family Dwyer family papers, Collection 60 boxes 34 volumes 26 linear ft. He was also a lawyer. The collection also includes many papers relating to Elizabeth MacLachlan Dwyer. The children of Edward and Elizabeth are also represented. This collection includes correspondence; class notes and thesis of Edward J. Gondos family Gondos family papers, circa Collection 13 boxes 3 volumes 3. Victor Gondos, a civil engineer, immigrated to the United States with his family in , settling in Chicago. In , Gondos joined with his sons to form Gondos and Gondos, an architectural firm headquartered in Philadelphia that designed industrial buildings, schools, and hotels. Both sons garnered engineering degrees, but Victor Jr. The vast majority of this collection is correspondence between family members in the United States and in Hungary. There are also scrapbooks, audio materials, clippings, programs, pamphlets, journals, technical drawings, and photographs. Horstmann-Lippincott family Horstmann-Lippincott family, Collection 32 boxes 79 volumes Primarily the personal papers of several related Philadelphia families, including correspondence, financial records, estate records, diaries, photographs, and much miscellanea. The earliest papers, , are by members of the Shaw, Craige, and Lippincott families, and include: Lippincott, the founder of the publishing house. Horstmann papers include a few personal letters, ; and miscellaneous business records, , of Horstmann Brothers and Company, importers and manufacturers of military uniforms, insignias, and flags. Also included are the European diaries, , , of her daughters Sarah and Elizabeth Horstmann. The bulk of the collection is made up of the personal papers, , of Walter Lippincott, son of J. Lippincott and husband of Elizabeth Horstman. Elizabeth Horstmann is represented by incoming letters, account book, , scrapbooks, school papers, and miscellanea. The papers, , of Bertha Horstman Lippincott Coles, the only child of Walter and Elizabeth Lippincott, include a few letters, some regarding her published writings; financial records on the large estate inherited from her parents and other properties; a diary, ; papers on her work with the U. Service Club; and the manuscript of her book, "Wound Stripes This collection of family papers documents at least two generations, based largely in Wilkes Barre and Philadelphia. It includes a large amount of family correspondence and photographs; marriage records; diaries; financial records; art work and a manuscript by Elizabeth Derr Davisson; research

notes, manuscripts, and published volumes on Philadelphia history by Sarah Dickson Lowrie; and songs, poems, and plays by Thompson Derr. Documentation from is more robust. This collection includes an extensive album of tintypes. Wannemacher family Wannemacher family papers, Collection 1 box 10 volumes 1. These 10 photo albums document the social and political lives of the Wannemacher family and other young Philadelphians in the s and s. Their picnics and other excursions are documented. There is a picture of Eugene V. The other major aspect of this collection is the documentation of various family trips to the Jersey Shore, New York City, Niagara, Wisconsin, and New England, where the family visited the homes and graves of Emerson, Thoreau, Alcott, and Hawthorne. Also of note are a handful of pictures of Philadelphia on Armistice Day. Some albums focused on the childhood of Margaret Wannemacher. The Wright Family Papers recount the story of an American family coming of age in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The story is told through the recollections and writings of Charles Adshear Wright, who began compiling his memoirs in , at the age of twenty-four. Fluehr Funeral Home Philadelphia, Pa. They later changed their name to Fluehr Funeral Home. They were located at W. Susquehanna Avenue and and Cottman Avenue. The bulk of the collection consists of funeral records from , with several years missing. The funeral records include information on the deceased such as name including maiden name for married women , birth date, death date, birthplace, names of family members, the cemetery and burial plot, residence prior to death, and cause of death. The records also include information on the funeral and burial arrangements, such as the type of casket, preparation of the body, clothing, flowers, and the associated costs for these items. Some records include the text of death notices. Each book, or section of a book, corresponds to a calendar year, and the records within are in alphabetical order by last name. There is also one box of miscellaneous materials, including financial records and receipts from the ss, documentation related to a property purchased in Ship Bottom, New Jersey, an honorable discharge from the army for Leslie A. Lynch and estate settlement papers for Harry J. Behr and Robert Licsauer. Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania collection of genealogical records, Collection linear ft. This extensive collection originally was compiled and held by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. Most of the records represent the research notes, reports and correspondence of genealogists. Although most of the material is secondary and often uncited to source, there is a small amount of original documents within the volumes, including legal documents such as indentures and wills, correspondence, photographs, news clippings mostly of obituaries , and receipts. There are also many Photostats and typed transcripts of such documents. While some volumes include documentation regarding multiple families, usually arranged alphabetically, many volumes are devoted to one family and occasionally follow a scrapbook-like format, filled with news clippings, photographs and printed ephemera. There are also several multi-volume subseries of special topics, such as the signers of the Declaration of Independence and their descendants, the "old families" of Philadelphia and by regional groupings, including some of the mid-Atlantic states, New England, and the counties of Pennsylvania. The collection consists of genealogical research and personal papers compiled by Gilbert Cope and his son Joseph. The largest portion of the collection is comprised of surname files from the Gilbert Cope Foundation of Genealogical and Historical Research These files include genealogical worksheets, clippings, correspondence, family charts, printed materials, and some original photographs and documents many of them relating to the Copes. The collection includes a number of volumes of correspondence to and from Gilbert and Joseph Cope, primarily on genealogical topics, with particular emphasis on Cope family history. Some printed materials from Pennsylvania and British institutions and groups are included. Some miscellaneous notes, drawings, and published family histories are also included. Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania Historical Society of Pennsylvania and Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania collection of genealogical records, Collection 76 boxes 35 linear ft. Unlike the other records compiled by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, most of the material in this collection is original. Folders are arranged by family or individual and contain a variety of material. Included are deeds wills and other legal documents, correspondence, account books, bills and receipts, school transcripts, photographs and printed material. Some contain volumes of published family histories. Perhaps more valuable than the genealogical data that can be extracted from these documents is the coverage of contemporary events also highlighted through words and

pictures, including the Civil War and the Korean conflict. Some individuals are represented through more extensive documentation, comprising a mini-collection of its own. One such instance is the collection of Edwin S. Dunkerley, a former HSP volunteer. In addition to material documenting his life, there are letters from an apparent relative who served as a missionary in China during World War I. Sophia Yarnall Jacobs was a civic worker and author. They divorced in , and she served as secretary of the United Nations Council later the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and was president of the National Council of Women from The Sophia Yarnall Jacobs papers contain photocopies of correspondence, photocopies of newspaper clippings, research notes, manuscript drafts, printed materials, letter books, and photographs. All the files relate either to the Coxe family or to the various Coxe mining enterprises. The papers are divided into two series, Coxe family research materials and bound volumes, and date from The collection contains Preliminary Naturalization petition forms "second papers" for Mahoning County, Ohio. These forms were to be destroyed when the final naturalization certificate was completed. This group of records was preserved by a clerk who passed them on to the donor. Two different versions of the forms are represented in the collection. Bair Firm Oliver H. Bair funeral records, Collection boxes

Chapter 4 : Life in the 20th Century

Family Life, 20th-Century Families traditional marriage vows, selfless mother, open marriages, Feminine Mystique, neighborhood volunteer. The Progressive movement supported changes in social policy that would create more nuclear families.

Listen as he reflects back on the changes he has seen over the past forty years: Horse-drawn trolleys provided the main form of transportation and pollution in Washington Square New York City seemed. Horses can produce 20 to 30 pounds of manure a day. By the 1880s, electric streetcars had replaced horse drawn vehicles, running above or below ground to avoid the crowded streets. After Henry Ford introduced his Model T car in 1908, a pedestrian soon had to dodge not only the streetcars, but also a new urban menace--the automobile. Strangely enough, paved streets came about late in the century at the urging of bicyclists, not the automobile drivers. Frederick Olmsted designed it in the 1850s as a refuge for city folk with its open fields and small lakes. Other cities did the same. Any excuse to get away from those tenement buildings. Four to six stories high, with four apartments on each floor, they held two or three families in each apartment, all with no elevator or indoor plumbing. We used cesspools and outhouses for sewage. And people just threw their garbage in the street. But the reformers and scientists Building the City: Workers atop the Singer Building, the tallest in the world at 35 stories New York City, stopped all that with sanitation laws. City planning has helped to make sense of where everything is going. They started it in Chicago after the Columbian Exhibition. According to the most recent census, more people live in urban areas than rural ones for the first time in American history. Millions of immigrants poured into the cities, trying to get jobs and make a better life. The political bosses helped them out with jobs and food when they could, but the reformers keep trying to outdo them with their settlement houses and such. The labor shortage after brought millions more to the cities, but the problems they face are no less difficult than what they left behind on the Southern farms. Up north they face economic discrimination instead of just political. They piled into neglected and overcrowded sections like Harlem, where the white middle-class used to live before they moved to the suburbs. How To Cite This Article:

Chapter 5 : Family Life in the Twentieth Century | David Kertzer

DAILY LIFE IN BRITAIN IN THE 20TH CENTURY. By Tim Lambert. There were two sides to the 20th century. On the one hand there were severe recessions in the early s and in the s and s. There were also two terrible world wars. On the other hand there was a vast improvement in the standard of living of ordinary people. Life expectancy also rose.

Never in English history have so many marriages lasted so long as between the late s and the early s. Marriages lasted longer than ever before or since because they started at earlier ages, were less likely to be broken by death in young adulthood or middle age, as life expectancy grew and divorce was hard to obtain. In particular, divorce, open cohabitation and childbirth outside marriage became more widespread and socially accepted and the reasons for this need to be explored. But the longer-term story is more complex and less well understood. This was partly because women were a majority of the population, not just because of deaths in WW1 but because women had longer life expectancy, at all ages, than men. Similar majority in 19th c. From the end of World War 2 until the early s, marriage, at least once, became almost universal. This is a period which, in present day discourse is often presented as an historical norm of long-lasting, stable marriages. It was actually historically very unusual in the numbers of long-lasting marriages. Unusual also in that average age at first marriage fell from a norm over the previous years of around 27 for men and 25 for women, to a mean in of 22 for women and 24 for men. Marriages lasted longer than ever before or since because they started at earlier ages, were less likely to be broken by death in young adulthood or middle age, as life expectancy grew, and divorce was hard to obtain. Never in English history have so many marriages lasted so long as between the late s and the early s; whether they were contented is another question. The reasons for the earlier marriage ages and higher marriages rates at this time are uncertain. The sex ratio became more even, and improved living standards may have enabled more people to marry and at earlier ages. Marriage rates also fell to historically low levels. This rising marriage age may be easier to explain. From the s more women were getting a good education and access to better jobs. More of them delayed motherhood and long-term partnership until they were established in an occupation. Cohabitation Falling marriage rates from the s did not mean that couples no longer lived, raised children and formed families together. This is generally seen as historically new and, in its sheer extent, it probably was, at least in England. There were similar figures for cohabitation in early twentieth century Scotland where cohabitation was officially registered as it was not in England and Wales. The longer history of cohabitation, in England and Wales, like much else about sexual relationships, is shrouded in secrecy and until the s there are no reliable statistics. But it was not a late twentieth century innovation. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries there was much less research on the middle classes, whose activities remain much more secret, though there were certainly respectable middle class couples who lived together unmarried. Nineteenth and early twentieth century legislators knew that cohabitation was a reality, not necessarily welcome or widespread, but common enough for the law to take notice. The distinguished legal historian, Stephen Cretney, has commented: But the actual number is impossible to assess. During World War I, official recognition of irregular partnerships continued. There is continuing evidence of cohabitation, not just among working class people, through the s and 30s. The couples involved were not necessarily opposed to marriage and might willingly have married had it been legally possible. Often they presented themselves to the world as married people and were accepted as such, even when friends and neighbours knew or suspected otherwise. Many people were not censorious if the couple behaved respectably, did not flaunt their transgression and there was a good reason for it, such as the difficulty of obtaining a divorce. The most frequent reason seems to have been the restrictive divorce laws and the costs of obtaining a divorce. When it was introduced a man could divorce a woman for adultery alone. Women had the additional task of proving not just adultery but an additional offence such as cruelty, bestialityâ€¦ sexual double standard. Scotland had had equal divorce between the sexes since There was no divorce in Ireland. From at least the late nineteenth century, critics argued that the English divorce system discriminated against the poor, because proceedings were costly, and against women. Another disincentive for a woman to end a marriage was that until custody of children over age 7 was vested in the father. Even when he died he could

will the guardianship of his children to someone other than the mother. Not all who separated then cohabited, but many did. A repeated argument for reform of the divorce laws was to enable cohabitantes to regularize their partnerships, and to uphold the institution of marriage. Similar arguments continued until the Divorce Reform Act which simplified procedures and led to a great increase in divorces. Right up to , supporters of reform argued that it would strengthen rather than undermine the stability of marriage, by enabling refugees from unhappy marriages to remarry- and many did soon after the law was passed. But in the longer run, contrary to these hopes, reform was followed by a mass flight from marriage and increased cohabitation. I will return later to the possible reasons for this. Feminists campaigned against domestic violence in the late 19th c. They believed it was widespread but there were no good statistics because it was not a specific offence and the police were reluctant to intervene in what they defined as domestic matters. This remained so until the s. This feminist campaign of the 19th c did lead to the introduction of legal separation in which enabled some women to escape violent marriages. Feminists in the s and 30s campaigned for the appointment of women to police forces so that victims of domestic abuse, and also victims of child abuse, could look to them for protection. They believed that both were still prevalent. But the law against domestic violence was not strengthened until , though of course it has not eliminated the problem. Child abuse was also exposed in the late 19th c. They demonstrated that abuse was extensive. This led to legislation rather more speedily than domestic violence, in Cruelty to cattle had been outlawed in But we need to remember that throughout history, until quite recently, the main reason why marriages ended in early and middle adulthood was death. Widowhood, most often for women, since women have long tended to live longer than men, often leaving them with young children, through the centuries left many children without fathers and led to the formation of complex families of step-parents and step-siblings due to re-marriage- again, such complex families are less novel in the present and recent past than is often thought. Widowers were more likely to remarry. Widows, until the s at least, had an incentive not to, since widows had custody of their children and their property as married women did not, though they were often left in poverty. They might, like other single women, move in with their parents or sisters or friends, forming complex households. Impoverished single motherhood and boys without male role models at home, has a long history, though the reasons have changed over time. Another important change in families from the later 19th c was the fall in the BR and in family size to an average of around 2 by the s. Increasingly births were concentrated early in marriage. In , for the first time, the Registrar â€”General investigated the number of first births conceived before marriage. He estimated, to widespread surprise, that almost 30 per cent of all first children born in had been conceived out of wedlock. Of course some babies will have been born prematurely, but the Registrar â€”General estimated that these were balanced by the numbers of parents who disguised their date of marriage to hide the premarital conception. These relatively high levels of pre-marital conceptions continued through the s and s. Sex before marriage was not an invention of the s. It has a long history. The increases in both wars was attributed by moralizers at the time to outrageous behaviour by young people liberated by wartime conditions. These showed that during the war illegitimacy rose by about the same rate as premarital pregnancy fell. He concluded that what was happening was delayed marriage due to the wartime separation of couples who would otherwise have married and perhaps so did later. Illegitimacy remained until the end of the supposedly very respectable s at levels not seen since the fairly high levels of the s. Then it rose rapidly through the 60s, 70s, and faster of all s. From the s, a growing proportion of births were jointly registered by unmarried parents, suggesting that they were in a stable relationship and that the father acknowledged parenthood: The main reasons for unmarried motherhood over centuries before the s were: Some unmarried mothers gave up their children for adoption. Others lived in a variety of circumstances. Either stably cohabiting with the father about one-third according to surveys in s. Others lived alone in various, sometimes in unhappy circumstances, but many later married and kept their child. Parenting Want to say something now about the history of attitudes to parenting. I pointed out in my talk to the first of these seminars how rare it was before second world war for mothers to give a lot of time to childcare: After WW 2 to s pressure on women to care full-time for their children was strong and unprecedented. This emphasis on maternal care began before the war and was strengthened after the war. It owed much to the growth and the growing influence of psychology and the growth of social research into social conditions and crime. There was

a parallel, new, concern with the importance of fatherhood for the emotional development of children. Fathers were not expected to take the same caring role as mothers, but to be sources of stability and discipline within the home and particularly to provide their sons with good role models of hard work and good behaviour. And often over-crowded homes were no comfortable environments for family life. The absence of good male role models was held to explain why boys were more prone to crime than girls. Fathers in the s often said that they were determined to give their children love support and guidance because they felt that they had suffered from the lack of it when young from fathers too exhausted by work to care for them. What changed by the s was that more families were better off, had better homes and living conditions and fathers and mothers had time and space to think about their children and give them more support than their own parents could have done. And families were smaller and there was optimism about the future- an assumption that children had better future prospects than their parents in an apparently expanding economy. Mothers of school age children were castigated if they were not at home after school and in the holidays. This partly explains the large numbers of women in part-time work at this time. From the s, and even more the 80s, there were increasing numbers of lone mothers, because of increased divorce and separation and increasingly, especially in the early 90s they and absent fathers became objects of blame for youth crime, poor educational performance etc. It remains to speculate about what changed and why from the late s. It can only be speculation because what happened was a major, and international, cultural change which happened very rapidly and which no-one seems fully able to explain, though it appears to be a product of societies which were better off, better educated, less deferential to supposedly traditional values than before, assisted by the emergence of the birth control pill increasing the opportunities for sex without the danger of pregnancy.

Chapter 6 : Life of an Indian Family in the 20th Century by allison mccartney on Prezi

The reader of Family Life in 20th-Century America, whether a researcher or a student, will find much useful and illuminating information."

Timeline of the 20th century Map of the British Empire as of At its height, it was the largest empire in history. Nationalism became a major political issue in the world in the 20th century, acknowledged in international law along with the right of nations to self-determination , official decolonization in the mid-century, and related regional conflicts. The century saw a major shift in the way that many people lived, with changes in politics, ideology, economics, society, culture, science, technology, and medicine. The 20th century may have seen more technological and scientific progress than all the other centuries combined since the dawn of civilization. Terms like ideology , world war , genocide , and nuclear war entered common usage. Scientific discoveries, such as the theory of relativity and quantum physics , profoundly changed the foundational models of physical science, forcing scientists to realize that the universe was more complex than previously believed, and dashing the hopes or fears at the end of the 19th century that the last few details of scientific knowledge were about to be filled in. It was a century that started with horses , simple automobiles, and freighters but ended with high-speed rail , cruise ships , global commercial air travel and the Space Shuttle. These developments were made possible by the exploitation of fossil fuel resources, which offered energy in an easily portable form, but also caused concern about pollution and long-term impact on the environment. Humans explored space for the first time, taking their first footsteps on the Moon. Advancements in medical technology also improved the health of many people: Rapid technological advancements, however, also allowed warfare to reach unprecedented levels of destruction. World War II alone killed over 60 million people, while nuclear weapons gave humankind the means to annihilate itself in a short time. However, these same wars resulted in the destruction of the imperial system. For the first time in human history, empires and their wars of expansion and colonization ceased to be a factor in international affairs, resulting in a far more globalized and cooperative world. The last time major powers clashed openly was in , and since then, violence has seen an unprecedented decline. Summary[edit] Technological advancements during World War I changed the way war was fought, as new inventions such as tanks , chemical weapons , and aircraft modified tactics and strategy. In addition to annexing many of the colonial possessions of the vanquished states, the Triple Entente exacted punitive restitution payments from them, plunging Germany in particular into economic depression. Ukraine, early days of the Nazi invasion. Meanwhile, Japan had rapidly transformed itself into a technologically advanced industrial power and, along with Germany and Italy, formed the Axis powers. After some years of dramatic military success, Germany was defeated in , having been invaded by the Soviet Union and Poland from the East and by the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada , and France from the West. After the victory of the Allies in Europe, the war in Asia ended with the dropping of two atomic bombs on Japan by the US, the first nation to develop and use nuclear weapons. In total, World War II left some 60 million people dead. After the war, Germany was occupied and divided between the Western powers and the Soviet Union. East Germany and the rest of Eastern Europe became Soviet puppet states under communist rule. Western Europe was rebuilt with the aid of the American Marshall Plan , resulting in a major post-war economic boom , and many of the affected nations became close allies of the United States. Allies during the war, they soon became hostile to one another as their competing ideologies of communism and democratic capitalism proliferated in Europe, which became divided by the Iron Curtain and the Berlin Wall. The period was marked by a new arms race as the USSR became the second nation to develop nuclear weapons, which were produced by both sides in sufficient numbers to end most human life on the planet had a large-scale nuclear exchange ever occurred. Mutually assured destruction is credited by many historians as having prevented such an exchange, each side being unable to strike first at the other without ensuring an equally devastating retaliatory strike. Unable to engage one another directly, the conflict played out in a series of proxy wars around the worldâ€™particularly in China , Korea , Vietnam , and Afghanistan â€™as the USSR sought to export communism while the US attempted to

contain it. The technological competition between the two sides led to substantial investment in research and development which produced innovations that reached far beyond the battlefield, such as space exploration and the Internet. Albert Einstein is often regarded as the father of modern physics. In the latter half of the century, most of the European-colonized world in Africa and Asia gained independence in a process of decolonization. Meanwhile, globalization opened the door for several nations to exert a strong influence over many world affairs. Britain also continued to influence world culture, including the "British Invasion" into American music, leading many rock bands from other countries such as Swedish ABBA to sing in English. After the Soviet Union collapsed under internal pressure in 1991, most of the communist governments it had supported around the world were dismantled—with the notable exceptions of China, North Korea, Cuba, Vietnam, and Laos—followed by awkward transitions into market economies. It enacted resolutions on such topics as the conduct of warfare, environmental protection, international sovereignty, and human rights. Peacekeeping forces consisting of troops provided by various countries, with various United Nations and other aid agencies, helped to relieve famine, disease, and poverty, and to suppress some local armed conflicts. Europe slowly united, economically and, in some ways, politically, to form the European Union, which consisted of 15 European countries by the end of the 20th century. In many countries, especially in Europe, the movement was channeled into politics through Green parties. Increasing awareness of global warming began in the 1990s, commencing decades of social and political debate. The computer is a major technological advancement in this century. The nature of innovation and change [edit] Due to continuing industrialization and expanding trade, many significant changes of the century were, directly or indirectly, economic and technological in nature. Scientific research, engineering professionalization and technological development—much of it motivated by the Cold War arms race—drove changes in everyday life. Martin Luther King, Jr. At the beginning of the century, strong discrimination based on race and sex was significant in general society. Although the Atlantic slave trade had ended in the 19th century, the fight for equality for non-white people in the white-dominated societies of North America, Europe, and South Africa continued. During the century, the social taboo of sexism fell. By the end of the 20th century, women had the same legal rights as men in many parts of the world, and racism had come to be seen as abhorrent. The world at the end of the 20th century [edit] Communications and information technology, transportation technology, and medical advances had radically altered daily lives. Europe appeared to be at a sustainable peace for the first time in recorded history. The people of the Indian subcontinent, a sixth of the world population at the end of the 20th century, had attained an indigenous independence for the first time in centuries. China, an ancient nation comprising a fifth of the world population, was finally open to the world, creating a new state after the near-complete destruction of the old cultural order. With the end of colonialism and the Cold War, nearly a billion people in Africa were left in new nation states after centuries of foreign domination. The world was undergoing its second major period of globalization; the first, which started in the 18th century, having been terminated by World War I. Since the US was in a dominant position, a major part of the process was Americanization. Terrorism, dictatorship, and the spread of nuclear weapons were pressing global issues. The world was still blighted by small-scale wars and other violent conflicts, fueled by competition over resources and by ethnic conflicts. Despots such as Kim Jong-il of North Korea continued to lead their nations toward the development of nuclear weapons. Disease threatened to destabilize many regions of the world. Malaria and other diseases affected large populations. The virus was becoming an epidemic in southern Africa. World population increased from about 1. The number of people killed during the century by government actions was in the hundreds of millions. This includes deaths caused by wars, genocide, politicide and mass murders. The deaths from acts of war during the two world wars alone have been estimated at between 50 and 80 million [citation needed]. Political scientist Rudolph Rummel estimated 1.5 billion deaths caused by democide, which excludes those killed in war battles, civilians unintentionally killed in war and killings of rioting mobs. Most likely a comparable number of civilians died of war-induced disease and other indirect effects. World War I led to the creation of many new countries, especially in Eastern Europe. At the time, it was said by many to be the "war to end all wars". Industrial warfare greatly increased in its scale and complexity during the first half of the 20th century. Notable developments included chemical warfare, the introduction of military aviation and the

widespread use of submarines. The introduction of nuclear warfare in the midth century marked the definite transition to modern warfare. Civil wars occurred in many nations.

Chapter 7 : Family Life in 20th-Century America - Greenwood - ABC-CLIO

Such things as longer life spans, the advent of safe and effective birth control, women's increasing participation in the paid labor force, and a dramatic increase in divorce rates are reshaping family life in the late 20th century.

Like their European counterparts, Americans envisioned an ideal family life in which a strong, authoritative father figure was the main breadwinner and a loving mother ran the household and provided its moral center. **New Roles for Women.** For farm women the new domestic ideal had little relationship to reality. While once a merchant or craftsman typically worked in a shop in or connected to his home, by the mid nineteenth century he was more likely to be spending his days away from home, working in a mill, an office, or a shop. As a result women gained more authority over their children and a larger role in running the household. At the same time, however, the woman became divorced from the outside world, in part because of the widespread belief that, as the moral center of the family, she needed to be protected from its temptations and evils. Gradually, nineteenth-century women were relegated to life in a small domestic circle. Women carried on their daily activities in their homes and neighborhoods and did not often venture into business or politics. This shift had just begun in the middle of the nineteenth century and did not become entrenched until the end of the century. Yet most American families—whether rich or poor, free or slave, native-born or immigrant—attempted to approach the new domestic ideal in some fashion. During the first years of my service in Dr. Though this seemed to me no more than right, I was grateful for it, and tried to merit the kindness by the faithful discharge of my duties. But now I entered on my fifteenth year a sad epoch in the life of a slave girl. My master began to whisper foul words in my ear. Young as I was, I could not remain ignorant of their import. I tried to treat them with indifference or contempt. He was a crafty man, and resorted to many means to accomplish his purposes. Sometimes he had stormy, terrific ways, that made his victims tremble; sometimes he assumed a gentleness that he thought must surely subdue. He tried his utmost to corrupt the pure principles my grandmother had instilled. But he was my master. He told me I was his property; that I must be subject to his will in all things. The mistress, who ought to protect the helpless victim, has no other feelings towards her but those of jealousy and rage. Traditionally children had been considered important contributors to the family economy and were later expected to support their parents in old age. As American society began to change, children became more of an expense than a source of income. Although children could help out around the house and farm or in a home-based business, once fathers began working away from the home, they did not bring their children into the workplace unless compelled by economic necessity. Many parents realized that to succeed in an industrial society their children needed more education than children of earlier generations. Poor children, immigrants, and slaves, of course, either did not attend school or left it to work at an early age. A few years in a high school or an academy cost much more than a grammar-school education. As raising children became more expensive, families began to limit the number of their offspring, and as children stayed in school longer and no longer contributed to the family income, Americans developed a new attitude toward childhood itself. While earlier children had been viewed as simply small adults, Americans began to think of childhood and adolescence as important and distinct life phases that should be protected and cherished. Childhood was viewed as a time of irresponsible enjoyment. Since mothers had fewer children to worry about, they could lavish more time and attention on each son and daughter, and the age at which a child took on adult responsibilities grew later. Mothers were advised to correct their children with gentle admonitions, not by applying physical punishment. Another important change that took place during the first half of the nineteenth century was in the size and extent of households. Before the s and s American households included many non-family members. For example, a master craftsman was responsible for the apprentices working under him. They lived in his house, where he supervised not only their work but their moral and religious education. Servants, farm help, live-in distant relatives, and long-term visitors were also considered part of the family unit. As the nineteenth century progressed, however, the American family became smaller and much more private. Now the ideal was the nuclear family: This change took place in the Northeast first and did not reach the South until later in the century. Antebellum Southern Plantation Life. In upper-class plantation families the

father had primary authority over a large extended household that included not only family members but also various servants and slaves. He exerted greater control over his wife and children, including grown children, than in other parts of the country. One of the most complex relationships was the one between plantation mistresses and slaves. Because there were often close physical and emotional ties between the white family and domestic slaves, plantation life held a particular danger for black women. Resistance was usually not possible because there were no laws to prevent these men from resorting to violence to get their way. American slaves could not legally marry, nor could they exercise any control over the destinies of their children. Frequently separated by sale, slave families had to make painful compromises and adjustments. One historian has calculated that during his or her lifetime the average American slave experienced the loss by sale of eleven family members. Most slaves, however, attempted to create and maintain the traditional family structure. Though such unions had no legal standing, slaves did marry, and many marriages lasted twenty years or more. Slave marriages could be ended by the sale of a spouse. In such cases, a husband who wanted to visit his wife had to obtain a written pass from his owner and often had to walk for many miles to see her. Slave families could rarely attain the privacy so prized among nineteenth-century Americans. Gang labor, communal eating, and inadequate living accommodations that forced many people to live together in a single small cabin all tended to break down privacy and individuality. Yet historians have found that most black families, whether enslaved or free, lived in two-parent households. In approximately 64 percent of all slaves lived in two-parent families, and 25 percent were in single-parent families. Around their fragile nuclear families slaves built extensive kinship networks that did not depend on blood ties. Younger slaves addressed these older slaves using the honorific titles aunt and uncle. After emancipation freed slaves attempted to shape their family life according to the nineteenth-century ideal. For the first few years after the end of the Civil War, there was a significant drop in the labor performed outside the home by black women, who tried to create a home life similar to that of other American families. In the South two-parent families were the norm, while in other parts of the country there were more female-headed black households. This difference has been attributed in part to the high mortality rate among black males, which made black women widows at an earlier age than their white counterparts and in part to the disruptive influence of the urban environment on individuals reared in rural surroundings.

Immigrant and Working-Class Households. Nearly all Americans lived in some kind of family unit. About 85 percent of all American households followed the traditional pattern of two parents and their children. Another 10 or 12 percent included distant relatives or unrelated people, and only 1 to 3 percent of Americans lived alone. Unlike the middle-class American family, the working-class or immigrant family needed financial contributions from every family member. Women often did laundry and sewing for more-affluent families. Nearly one third of all working-class families took boarders into their already crowded households. In most immigrant families, attitudes toward children followed the older tradition of expecting children to contribute financially to the family and later to care for elderly parents. Immigrant children usually left school and went to work at an earlier age than native-born white children. Child labor was not recognized as a major social problem until later in the century, but in nearly 13 percent of all American children were working. Among the poorest Americans, family structures broke down completely. Their children took to streets, where they picked pockets or stole from fruit and vegetable sellers. Daughters left home to find work and often fell into prostitution. Alcoholism and spousal or child abuse were rampant, prompting many middle-class women to join the temperance crusade. Several religious groups experimented with alternative family arrangements. They established their first American community at Watervliet, New York, near Albany in 1784 and had eighteen communities in the United States by 1820. They lived communally with men and women, often living in unconnected halves of the same building, and became wellknown for their simple but well-made furniture and handicrafts. By 1820 Shakerism had gone into decline, but some communities lasted into the twentieth century. Almost from the time the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, or Mormons, was founded by Joseph Smith in 1830, its members were attacked and persecuted for their unconventional beliefs. In 1847 they settled in Utah hoping to practice their religion in peace. Fewer than one-fifth of the Mormons actually practiced polygamy, and in two-thirds of those cases the husband had two wives. Their leader formally renounced plural marriage in 1852, and Utah became a state six

years later. A Documentary History, 3 volumes Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, ? Yale University Press, ; Carl N. Oxford University Press, ; Joseph M. Hawes, Children in Urban Society: Oxford University Press, ; Daniel E. Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.

Chapter 8 : BBC Bitesize - KS3 History - Everyday life in the 20th century - Revision 1

Transcript of Life of an Indian Family in the 20th Century Life of an Indian Family in the 20th Century Food Education Living Arrangements Government Policy The government in India is a constitutional republic and representative democracy.

Industrial growth and progressive reform in America in the 20th century Grades 9â€™12 From The 20th century was a time of enormous changes in American life. The beginning of the 21st century seems a suitable time to look back over the past years and see how the United States has developed, for better and worse, during that period of its history. In the early decades of the 20th century the American people benefited from industrial growth while also experiencing its adverse effects. Cheap labor and assembly-line manufacturing made mass production possible. Railroad networks carried the mass-produced goods, many of them the result of new technologies, around the country. Penney, and other retailers expanded their operations and laid the foundation for the consumer-driven society that evolved later in the century. Inexpensive books, magazines, newspapers, and improved public libraries, funded in part through the benevolence of Andrew Carnegie, contributed to their intellectual lives. Sexual fulfillment in marital relationships continued to gain importance, and family life increasingly reflected the ideals of companionship. Silent films and amateur and professional sports helped fill leisure time. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, founded in and , provided recreational and educational opportunities for children. Adverse Effects of Industrial Growth Changes in the workplace reached across social strata. For those in the working class, the effects of industrial growth were often adverse. Crowding of industrial workers and their families in tenement districts worked against the kind of neighborliness that characterized life in small towns. The saloon was the social club for many immigrants. It provided cheap or free lunches, warmth, banking and notary services, gambling, party rooms, and political headquarters. Premature death disrupted many families. At the turn of the century, life expectancy at birth for white males was In the figures for the comparable groups were The maternal mortality rate in was 61 per 1, live births compared to 8 in ; the infant mortality rate stood at per 1, live births compared to 7. Divorce also caused disruptions. The number of divorces was 15 times higher in than in ; by the mids, one in seven marriages ended in divorce. Moral problems evident in the corruption of urban political machines, high juvenile delinquency and crime rates the homicide rate had quadrupled in New York in the last two decades of the 19th century , and widespread prostitution were coupled with health problems: Journalists known as muckrakers took aim at social ills. Lincoln Steffens, for example, described "the shame of the cities," and Upton Sinclair exposed appalling conditions in meatpacking plants. Pragmatic activists worked to improve social conditions. Walter Rauschenbusch led a Social Gospel movement that called for churches to promote social justice. Margaret Sanger opened the first birth control clinic in Brooklyn in Four years later the Youngs Rubber Company introduced Trojan brand condoms. Progressive Reforms Believing in "the promise of American life" the title of a book by Herbert Croly , reformers in what is known as the Progressive Era advocated laws designed to fulfill that promise. The results of their efforts included the Pure Food and Drug Act and Meat Inspection Act , intended to protect consumers against tainted or unsafe products; the Federal Reserve Act , to bring order to the banking industry; the establishment of the Federal Trade Commission , to investigate and prosecute corporations for unfair trade practices; and the Clayton Anti-Trust Act , to curb the power of trusts. To make government more responsive and accountable, reformers promoted practices known as referendum and initiative, as well as direct primaries, the secret ballot, and direct election of senators, the last accomplished by the 17th Amendment to the U. The Progressive movement did little else for women, however, and even less for African Americans. Segregation by race was defended as being "in the interest of the Negro. Washington, the most famous African American, seemed to agree by advocating policies of accommodation.

Chapter 9 : Family life in the USA - www.nxgvision.com

DOWNLOAD PDF FAMILY LIFE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

These are some of the findings of a wide-ranging study of family life in twentieth century Britain by Professor Pat Thane, to be presented at the Economic History Society's annual conference.