

## Politics, Psychology and Sociology Tripos

### **Soc 5: Modern Britain 2014-2015**

Course Organiser: Dr J Miley, ([tjm52@cam.ac.uk](mailto:tjm52@cam.ac.uk))

Dr. Geoffrey Ingham ([gki1000@cam.ac.uk](mailto:gki1000@cam.ac.uk))

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#### **Aims and Objectives**

To provide knowledge and understanding of the political, economic, and social forces underpinning the trajectory and framing the context of modern British society.

To develop an understanding of the relations and interplay among gender, ethnic, national, and class categories in the modern British context.

To develop critical intellectual skills in the analysis of the parts played by, and the relationship between, political ideology and social science in the interpretation of a single society.

The core lectures deal with the following topics: politics and society since 1945; nationalism and devolution; class and work; gender and family; and race and ethnicity.

#### **Modes of Teaching and Supervision Arrangements**

The course is taught by means of lectures, supervisions and classes. Students are advised to write at least five essays over the year. In general, lecturers will give supervisions on their course; but students should consult their College Director of Studies and the Course Organizer.

#### **Mode of Assessment**

EITHER one three hour examination paper from which three questions must be answered; OR two 5,000 word essays.

## **Michaelmas Term**

### **Politics and Society in Modern Britain since 1945**

Dr Geoffrey Ingham

Michaelmas, Fridays 10-12, Weeks 1-6, beginning 10 October

Democracy and capitalism in Britain. The major changes since 1945 in the ideologies, strategies and institutions for governing Britain. Post war reconstruction and the settlement with labour: citizenship and social democracy; the Keynesian Welfare State and consensus politics. Labour in the 1960s: modernisation and corporatism. The crises of the 1970s: 'overload'; 'legitimation crises'; electoral dealignment; the rise of the New Right. The politics of Thatcherism; Conservatism and reconstructing capitalism in Britain, 1979 – 1997. New labour.

#### **Supervision Essay Questions**

1. What was the 'post war settlement' and how did it come about?
2. Do you agree that 'consensus' politics existed in the post-war period? If so, how did it come about?
3. Was the Labour governments' modernisation programme of the 1960s a failure?
4. Is it accurate to describe the 1970s as a decade of crisis? If so what were the causes?
5. Why did the British governments of the 1970s make so many sharp reversals of policy?
6. To what extent did ideology drive the Thatcher governments' policies and legislation?
7. Did the Thatcher governments change Britain?
8. Since 1945 why have political leaders felt it necessary to attempt to 'modernise' Britain?
8. Did social democratic politics fail in Britain or did Britain fail social democratic politics?
9. What has been 'new' about New Labour?
10. 'Our task today is not to fight old battles but to show that there is a third way, a way of marrying together an open competitive and successful economy with a just, decent and human society' (Blair 1997, speech to the European Socialists' Congress, Malmö). How coherent is the third way?

**Reading** (Numbers in parentheses refer to the above essay titles)

\*Marglin, S. and J.B. Schor (eds., 1990). *The Golden Age of Capitalism: Reinterpreting the Postwar Experience*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, chapters 1 and 2. (1, 2)

Helleiner, E. (1994), *States and the Emergence of Global Finance*, Cornell: Cornell University Press. (4)

Coates, D. (1994), *The Question of U.K. Decline*, Brighton: Harvester Wheatsheaf. (3, 4,)

Dearlove, J. and Saunders, P. (2000), *British Politics*, Third Edition, Cambridge: Polity.(All)

Smithin, J. (1996) *Macroeconomic Policy and the Future of Capitalism*, Aldershot: Edward Elgar, chs: 1; 2; 3; 9. (1,2, 4)

Gamble, A. *Free Economy and Strong State*, London: Macmillan, 1988 (5, 6)

Kavanagh, D.(1988), *Thatcherism and British Politics*, Oxford: Blackwell.(5,6)

Kavanagh, D. and Morris, P. (1994), *Consensus Politics from Attlee to Thatcher*, Oxford: Blackwell (2, 3, 5, 8)

King, D. (1987) *The New Right*, London: Macmillan (4, 5, 6)

Sarlvick, B. and Crewe, I. (1983), *Decade of Dealignment*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (4)

Panitch, L.and Leys, C. (1997), *The End of Parliamentary Socialism: From New Left to New Labour*, London:Verso (8)

Leys, C. (1989), 'From the paralysis of social democracy to the crisis of the 1970s' in Anderson, J. and Cochrane, A. (eds) *A State of Crisis*, London: Sage. (4)

\*Marquand, D and A. Seldon (eds) (1996), *The Ideas that Shaped Post-War Britain*, London: Fontana (1, 2, 3, 5.)

Marsh, D. et al (eds) (1999), *Postwar British Politics in Perspective*, Cambridge: Polity Press (All)

Coates, D. (1980), *Labour in Power*, London: Longman. (3,4.)

\*Hay, C. (1996), *Re-stating Political and Social Change*, Milton Keynes: Open University (All)

Tomlinson, J. (1981), 'Why was there never a "Keynesian Revolution" in Economic Policy?' *Economy and Society*, 10: 72-87. (1, 2, 3)

Schott, K. (1982) 'The Rise of Keynesian Economics: Britain 1940-1964', *Economy and Society*, 11: 292-316 (1,2,3)

\*Ingham, G. (1984), *Capitalism Divided?* London: Macmillan (3)

\*Newton S. and Porter, D. (1988) *Modernization Frustrated*, London: Unwin (3, 7)

\*Bulpitt, J. (1986) 'The discipline of the New Democracy: Mrs Thatcher's domestic statecraft', *Political Studies*, 34.(5, 6)

\*Stubbs, R. and Underhill, R. (1994), *Political Economy and the Changing Global Order*, London, Macmillan, Part I: 2; Part II: Intro.; 8; 9; Part IV: Intro. (1, 2)

Leys, C. (1990), *Politics in Britain*, Revised Edition, London: Verso (All)

Ellison, N. and Pierson, E. (eds) (1998) *Developments in British Social Policy* Basingstoke: Macmillan (8)

Pimlott, B (1988), 'The Myth of Consensus' in L. Smith (ed), *The Making of Britain*, London: Macmillan (1, 2, 3)

\*Marsh, D. et al (1999) *Post War British Politics in Perspective*, Cambridge: Polity. (All)

Jessop, B. (1992). 'From Social Democracy to Thatcherism: Twenty-Five Years of British Politics.' In N. Abercrombie and A. Warde (eds.), *Social Change in Contemporary Britain*. Cambridge: Polity (5, 6, 8).

\*Hay, C. (1999). 'Crisis and Political Development in Britain.' In D. Marsh et al., *Postwar British Politics in Perspective*. Cambridge: Polity Press. (4)

\*\_\_\_\_\_ (2001). 'The "Crisis" of Keynesianism and the Rise of Neoliberalism' in Britain.' In J.L. Campbell and O.K. Pedersen (eds.), *The Rise of Neoliberalism and Institutional Analysis*. Princeton and Oxford: Oxford University Press. (4)

\*Grant, W. (2002). *Economic Policy-Making in Britain*. Basingstoke: Palgrave (All)

Krieger, J. (1999). *British Politics in the Global Age: Can Social Democracy Survive?* Cambridge: Polity Press, chapters 1-4, and 10. (4, 5, 6, 8)

\*Shaw, E. (1996). *The Labour Party Since 1945*. Oxford: Blackwell, chapters 7-9. (2, 3, 3, 8)

\*Leach, R. (2002). *Political Ideology in Britain*. Basingstoke: Palgrave. (6, 9).

\*Kavanagh, D. (1997). *The Reordering of British Politics: Politics After Thatcher*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapters 9, 11. (9)

Coates D. and P. Lawler, (eds) (2000) *New Labour in Power*, Manchester: MUP (9, 10).

Driver, S. and L. Martell, (2002) *Blair's Britain*, Cambridge: Polity. (9, 10)

----- (2006), *New Labour: politics after Thatcherism*, Cambridge: Polity. (9)

Callinicos, A. (2001) *Against the Third Way*, Cambridge: Polity. (10)

Blair, Tony (1998) *The Third Way, new politics for the new century*, Fabian Society, 1998. (See also his speeches in *New Britain: my vision of a young country*, Fourth Estate, 1996.) (9, 10)

Hale, S. *et al* (eds), (2004) *The Third way and beyond: criticisms, futures, alternatives*, Manchester: MUP, 2004. (9, 10).

Coates, D (2005) *Prolonged Labour: The Slow Birth of New Labour in Britain*, Palgrave, 2005. (9 ).

Hay, C. (1999) *The Political Economy of the New Labour*, Manchester: MUP. (9, 10).

Heath, A.F., R.M. Jowell and J.K. Curtice (2001). *The Rise of New Labour: Party Policies and Voter Choices*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9. (9, 10).

Fielding, S. (2003). *The Labour Party: Continuity and Change in the Making of 'New' Labour*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, chapters 1, 3, 4. (9, 10)

Dunleavy, P. *et al* (eds) (2006) *Developments in British Politics*, 8, Basingstoke: Palgrave. (9, 10).

## **Nationalism and Ethnicity**

Dr. Thomas Jeffrey Miley

Michaelmas: Fridays 10-12, Weeks 7-8, beginning 22 November

Lent: Fridays 3 p.m., Weeks 1-2, beginning 16 January

The aim of these lectures is to study the politics and sociology of national and ethnic identity in Modern Britain. We begin with an exploration of the relations among Empire, nation and state in the British context. We then examine the “troubles” in Northern

Ireland, with a special focus on the attempt to forge a “consociational” solution to the violence there, before turning to analyze the causes and consequences of the process of devolution in Scotland and Wales.

### **Background Reading Material: Theories of Nationalism**

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities* (London: Verso, 2006)

Eric Hobsbawm, *Nations and Nationalism since 1780* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997).

Earnest Gellner, *Nations and Nationalism* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1983)

### **Lecture One: The United Kingdom, Great Britain, Greater Britain. Empire, State and Nation in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and Beyond.**

\*Krishan Kumar, *The Making of English National Identity* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003).

\*Linda Colley, *Britons: Forging the Nation 1707-1837* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992).

\*Tom Nairn, *The Break-Up of Britain* (Verso, 1977)

\*Eric Hobsbawm, “Some Reflections on the Break-Up of Britain,” *New Left Review* I/ 105, Sept-Oct 1977, pp.3-23.

Richard Rose, “The United Kingdom as a Multinational Regime,” in *Governing without Consensus: An Irish Perspective* (London; Faber and Faber Limited, 1971), pp. 42-73.

David McCrone, “Unmasking Britannia: the Rise and Fall of British National Identity,” *Nations and Nationalism* 3 (4), 1997, 579-596.

John M. MacKenzie, “Empire and National Identities: The Case of Scotland,” *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society, Sixth Series*, Vol. 8 (1998), pp. 215-231.

Hugh Trevor-Roper, “The Invention of Tradition: The Highland Tradition of Scotland,” in Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger, eds., *The Invention of Tradition* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983), pp. 15-42.

Prys Morgan, “From a Death to a View: The Hunt for the Welsh Past in the Romantic Period,” in Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger, eds., *The Invention of Tradition*, pp.43-100.

David Cannadine, “The Context, Performance, and Meaning of Ritual: The British Monarchy and the Invention of Tradition,” in Hobsbawm and Ranger, eds., *The Invention*

of Traditions, pp.101-164.

Supervision Question: What is the relation among Empire, nation and state in the British context?

## **Lecture Two: Devolution in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales**

John McGarry and Brendan O'Leary, *Explaining Northern Ireland: Broken Images* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1995).

Richard Rose, "Is the United Kingdom a State?," in Peter Madgwick and Richard Rose, eds., *The Territorial Dimension in United Kingdom Politics*

\*Brendan O'Leary and John McGarry, "Consociational Theory, Northern Ireland's Conflict and Its Agreement. 1. What Consociationalists Can Learn from Northern Ireland," *Government and Opposition*, 41:1, 43-63 (2006).

\*Brendan O'Leary and John McGarry, "Consociational Theory, Northern Ireland's Conflict and Its Agreement. 2. What Critics of Consociation Can Learn from Northern Ireland," *Government and Opposition*, 41:2 (2006).

Michael Keating, *Nations against the State: The New Politics of Nationalism in Quebec, Catalonia and Scotland*

Michael Keating, "The United Kingdom: Political Institutions and Territorial Cleavages," in Ugo M. Amoretti and Nancy Bermeo, eds., *Federalism and Territorial Cleavages* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004), pp. 155-180.

Tom Nairn, *After Britain: New Labour and the Return of Scotland* (Granta, 2001)

\*Andrew Gamble, "The Constitutional Revolution in the UK," *Publius* 36:1, 2007: 19-35.

Archie Brown, "Asymmetrical Devolution: The Scottish Case," *The Political Quarterly*, Vol. 69, No. 3 (July-Sept. 1998), pp. 215-223

\*Christopher Harvie, "The Politics of Devolution," in Paul Addison and Harriet Jones, eds., *A Companion to Contemporary Britain 1939-2000* (London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2005).

\*Vernon Bogdanor, "Devolution: Britain's New Constitution," in *Developments in British Politics*, vol. 7.

Vernon Bogdanor, *Devolution in the United Kingdom* (Oxford University Press, 1999)

C. Jeffrie, "Devolution and the Lopsided State," in Patrick Dunleavy, et al., *Developments in British Politics*, no.8 (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006).

Enric Martínez, "Liberal-Nationalist Theory, Political Confidence, and Support for the Welfare State: Evidence from Britain"

Supervision Questions: Does the current consociational arrangement in Northern Ireland constitute a fair and stable solution? What are the most important causes and consequences of devolution in Great Britain? Will the referendum in Scotland resolve the Scottish question?

### **Lecture Three: The Challenge of Ethnic Diversity.**

Paul Gilroy, "Nationalism, History and Ethnic Absolutism," *History Workshop Journal* 30 (1), 1990: 114-120.

Paul Gilroy, "There Ain't No Black in the Union Jack": *The Cultural Politics of Race and Nation* (London, 1987).

Parekh, B. *Rethinking Multiculturalism* (Macmillan and Harvard University Press: London, 2000).

G. Peele, "The Politics of Multicultural Britain," in Patrick Dunleavy, et al., *Developments in British Politics*, no.8 (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006)

Phillips, T. 'After 7/7: Sleepwalking to Segregation' Speech to Manchester Council for Community Relations, 22 September 2005. <http://www.cre.gov.uk>

Abbas, T. 'After 9/11: British South Asian Muslims, Islamophobia, multiculturalism and the state', *American Journal of Islamic Social Studies*, vol. 21, no. 3, pp. 26-38.

Jenny Bourne, "The Life and Times of Institutional Racism," *Race & Class*, Vol. 43, no. 2, Oct. 2001: 7-22.

Burnett, J. (2008) 'Community cohesion in Bradford: neoliberal integrationism'. Chapter 2 in Flint, J. and Robinson, D. (2008) *Community Cohesion in Crisis? New dimensions of diversity and difference*. Policy Press.

Finney, N. and Simpson, L. (2009) *'Sleepwalking to segregation'? Challenging myths about race and migration*. Policy Press

Lentin, A. and Titley, G. (2011) *The Crises of Multiculturalism: Racism in a Neoliberal Age*. London: Zed Books.



Meer, N. & Modood, T. 'The Multicultural State We Are In: Muslims, 'Multiculture' and the 'Civic re-balancing' of British Multiculturalism', *Political Studies*, **57 (3)**, (pp. 473-497), 2009.

Question: What is the relationship between the politics of race and ethnicity and the politics of class in contemporary Britain?

#### **Lecture Four: Globalization and Belonging.**

Castles, S. and Davidson, A. *Citizenship and Migration: Globalization and the Politics of Belonging* (London: Macmillan Press Ltd, 2000).

Adrian Favell, *Philosophies of Integration: Immigration and the Idea of Citizenship in France and Britain* (London: Macmillan Press Ltd).

Menz, G. (2011) *The Political Economy of Managed Migration: Non state Actors, Europeanization, and the Politics of Designing Migration Policies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Spencer, S., (2011) *The Migration Debate*. Bristol: The Policy Press

Vertovec, S. (2007) 'Superdiversity and its implications'. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Volume 30 (6).

Jan Lucassen and Leo Lucassen, eds., *Migration, Migration History, History: Old Paradigms and New Perspectives* (Berne: European Academic Publishers, 1997),

Christian Joppke, *Immigration and the Nation-State: The United States, Germany, and Great Britain* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999): Chapter Four, "The Zero Immigration Country," and Chapter Seven, "Between Citizenship and Race: Great Britain."

Salt, J. and Clarke, J. 'Special report: migration matters', *Prospect*, May 2005, pp. 46-51.

Wendy Webster, "Immigration and Racism," in Paul Addison and Harriet Jones, eds., *A Companion to Contemporary Britain 1939-2000* (London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2005).

Question: What are the main characteristics of attitudes and policy towards immigration in contemporary Great Britain, and what are their main determinants?

## **Lent Term**

### **Social Class and Inequality in Britain**

Dr. Jeff Miley, Fridays 3 p.m., Weeks 3-8, beginning 30 January

These lectures explore class and inequality in modern Britain. The first four lectures cover the evolving class structure and the corresponding trajectories of inequalities in Modern Britain. Special attention is paid to the dynamics of intersectionality, social mobility, and social exclusion.

**Lectures One and Two: Class, Status, and Inequality in Britain. An Introduction.**

Required: Crompton, Rosemary. (2008). *Class and Stratification*, Chapters 1-4, 6. Third Edition Cambridge: Polity Press, 2008.

Required: Marshall et. al. (1993). *Social Class in Modern Britain*, Routledge, ch. 1-3.

Required: Martin Smith, "The Structure and Evolution of British Society," in Kavanaugh et al, 2006. *British Politics. Fifth Edition*.

Recommended: Wright, E.O. (1987). *Classes*. Verso, London.

Recommended: Wright, E. O. (1997). *Class Counts: Comparative Studies in Class Analysis*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Recommended: Goldthorpe, John H. (1980). *Social Mobility and Class Structure in Modern Britain*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Recommended: Chan, T. W. and Goldthorpe, J. H. (2004). "Is there a status order in contemporary British society? Evidence from the occupational structure of friendship." *European Sociological Review*, 20(5), 383–401.

Recommended: Chan and Goldthorpe, "Class and Status: The Conceptual Distinction and its Empirical Relevance," Oxford Sociology Working Paper, 2006-03.

Recommended: Bennett, Tony et.al. (2009). *Culture, Class, Distinction*. New York: Routledge.

Supervision question: Why should those who want to understand Modern Britain care about social class?

**Lectures Three and Four: Transformations of the Class Structure and Trajectories of Inequalities**

Required: Ken Roberts (2011) *Class in Contemporary Britain*. Second Edition. Palgrave MacMillon, London.

Required: Park, A. and SurrIDGE, P. (2003). "Charting change in British values," in A. Park, J. Curtice, K. Thomson, L. Jarvis, and C. Bromley, editors, *British Social Attitudes: The 20th Report*, chapter 7, pages 131–159. Sage, London.

Recommended: Gordon Marshall (1997). *Repositioning Class: Social Inequality in Industrial Societies*. London: Sage.

Recommended: Fiona Devine (1997). *Social Class in America and Britain*. Edinburgh University Press.

Recommended: Friedrich Engels, *On the Conditions of the Working Class in England* <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/17306>

Recommended: George Orwell, *The Road to Wigan Pier*. New York: Penguin Books, 1980.

Recommended: David Cannadine, *Class in Britain*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998.

Recommended: John Scott (1982). *The Upper Classes: Property and Privilege in Britain*. MacMillan, London.

Recommended: John Scott (1991). *Who Rules Britain?* Polity Press, Cambridge.

Recommended: Sam Aaronovitch (1961). *The Ruling Class: A Study of British Financial Capital*. Greenwood Press, Westport, CT.

Recommended: Paul Toynbee, *Hard Work: Life in Low-Pay Britain*. London: Bloomsbury, 2003.

Supervision question: How have transformations in the British class structure affected the quality of life for British citizens?

### **Lecture Five: Patterns of Social Mobility I: Education, Meritocracy, and the New Middle Classes**

Required: Marshall et. al. (1993). *Social Class in Modern Britain*, Routledge, ch. 4-10.

Required: Marshall, Swift, and Roberts (1997). *Against the Odds? Social Class and Social Justice in Industrial Societies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Required: Saunders (1996). *Unequal but Fair ? A Study of Class Barriers in Britain*. London: IEA.

Recommended: Breen et. al. (2004). *Social Mobility in Europe*. Oxford University Press.

Recommended: Pakulski and Waters (1996). *Death of Class*. London: Sage.

Recommended: Adonis and Pollard (1997). *A Class Act*. London: Hamish Hamilton Ltd.

Supervision question: Is British society meritocratic? Is it fair?

### **Lecture Six: Patterns of Social Mobility II: Intersectionality, the Underclass Debate and the Dynamics of Exclusion**

Required: Pheonix, A. and Pattynama, P. (2006) 'Intersectionality', *European Journal of Women's Studies*. Vol.13, No.3, pp.187-192.

Required: Barnard, H. and Turner, C. (2011) *Poverty and Ethnicity: a Review of the Evidence*. <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/poverty-ethnicity-evidence-summary.pdf>

Required: Platt, L. (2007) *Poverty and Ethnicity in the UK*. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Required: Pantazis, ed. (2006). *Poverty and Social Exclusion: The Millennium Survey*. Bristol: The Policy Press.

Required: *Charles Murray and the Underclass: The Developing Debate* 1996. The Institute of Economic Affairs.

Required: Field (1989). *Losing Out: Emergence of Underclass*. London: Basil Blackwell.

Required: *After the riots: The final report of the Riots Communities and Victims Panel*, May 2012

Recommended: Jin et al, 2011. *Poverty and Inequality in Britain* <http://www.ifs.org.uk/comms/comm118.pdf>

Recommended: Hill, ed. (2002). *Understanding Social Exclusion*. Oxford: OUP.

Recommended: Lister (2004). *Poverty*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Recommended: Morris (1994). *Dangerous Classes*. Routledge.

Recommended: "Reading the Riots," <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/series/reading-the-riots>

Supervision question: What are the most important factors contributing to social exclusion and/or the existence of "an underclass" in Britain?

# **Gender, the Family and Inequality in Britain**

Prof Jacqueline Scott, Fridays 11, Weeks 5-8, Beginning 13 February

## Lecture 1. Women and Employment: Assessing Progress on Equality

In this lecture we consider the progress and lack of progress in women's employment, in modern Britain. The knowledge economy poses particular challenges for gender equality, even among the educated elite. The 'caring' penalty still matters and if women (or men) take time out of the labour force to care for families, their career progression suffers. The challenge of gender equality in employment interlinks with ethnicity, with ethnic minority women particularly disadvantaged.

## Lecture 2. Work-family balance – the gender gap in paid and unpaid work

We examine the gender gap in paid and unpaid work across the family life course. Is the gender pay gap a result of women doing more of the unpaid work and therefore losing out to men in terms of human capital development? Can policy do anything to address this gender gap? We examine the development of work-family balance policies in the UK and suggest that the UK is lagging behind Nordic countries in addressing such issues.

## Lecture 3 Family changes – changes in marriage and parenthood

Marriage is being delayed as increasing proportions of couples cohabit. Cohabitation was initially more evident among the highly educated but now cohabitation is common across the social class spectrum. The evidence suggests that cohabiting unions are less stable than marriages, but the meaning of this link is contested. Increasing proportions of children are born outside of marriage. How do such changing family forms influence the life chances of individuals? How are families and inequality linked?

## Lecture 4 Growing up in modern Britain – class and gender inequalities

There is a continuing debate in Britain about whether social mobility is increasing or decreasing over time. Education seeks to compensate for those who come from disadvantaged backgrounds but does it succeed? We examine the way childhood disadvantages persist into early adulthood. We also examine the way young people's aspirations and expectations of adult life are influenced by both gender and class.

### Readings:

Crompton, R. 2006. *Employment and the Family*, Cambridge CUP

Gershuny, J 2000 Changing times: work and leisure in a postindustrial society, Oxford OUP.

Lewis J. (ed) 2006 Children, changing families and welfare states, Edward Elgar

Lewis Work-Family 2009 Balance Gender and Policy, Edward Elgar

Miles, J. and R. Probert (ed) 2009 Sharing Lives, Dividing Assets, Hart.

Scott, Treas and Richards, 2004, The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families, Oxford: Blackwell

Scott et al (eds) 2008. Women and Employment: Changing Lives and New Challenges, Edward Elgar.

Scott et al (eds) 2010 Gender Inequalities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Edward Elgar

See [www.genet.ac.uk](http://www.genet.ac.uk) for working papers that can be downloaded

#### Supervision Topics

1. To what extent does family background influence children's life chances in modern Britain?
2. How do production and reproduction shape gender inequalities in modern Britain?
3. Is child poverty best addressed by policies encouraging maternal employment?
4. Why does a gender difference in paid and unpaid work matter if men and women do similar amounts of work overall?
5. Why is the gender pay gap so stubborn?

#### **Student Feedback:**

Your chance to put forward your opinions on the papers you take!

For Sociology Papers, student feed-back is collected via hard-copy anonymous questionnaires distributed at various points in the academic year. It is crucial that you fill these out and give feedback on your papers. Getting good feedback from students makes the course better and shows the outside world how Cambridge degrees consider their students views.

Course organisers take students' concerns and suggestions into consideration each year when preparing their paper outlines and selecting supervisors for the year. So please

remember to fill out a form either in hard-copy or on the undergraduate sociology website.