

Family

Lesson No.	Title	Activity
13	Family	Map various changes happened in structure and function of family asking one of the elder members in the family/community in your locality.

Summary

Of all the human groups, family is the most important, universal, primary group. The family is not merely an association. But it is also an institution. It influences the entire life of people in numerous ways as it moulds the character of the individuals; it lays down the foundation of human personality. Family fulfils man's emotional, economical, reproductive and sexual needs. A child learns the culture of the society through the family.

Concept of Family

- Family is the basic unit of social organization
- Family is a socially defined set of relationships between two persons or more who are related by birth, marriage or adoption.
- According to Maclver "family is a group defined by sex relationships sufficiently precise and enduring to provide for the procreation and upbringing of children".

Sociological Significance of Family

- Family is regarded as cornerstone of human society and binds men, women and children in a relationship.
- Family is also called the transfer point of culture

An adult is part of these two types of families:

Family of Orientation and Family of Procreation

- Family of Orientation (family in which one is born)

- Family of Procreation (family which is set up after marriage)

Characterstics of Family

- Universality
- Emotional Basis
- Limited Size
- Nuclear position in social structure
- Social regulation
- Permanent and Temporary Nature

Types of families

Family is of many types. There are various factors such as residence, authority and family size, which forms the basis of classifying family.

Types of Family by Residence

Patrilocal

Matrilocal

Neo local

Types of family by kind of Authority

Patriarchal Family

Matriarchal Family

Types of family by size

Nuclear Family

Joint Family

Function of family

Biological functions

- Providing physical protection to the family members
- Giving birth to children

Economic functions

- Providing food, clothing and shelter till the children become self-reliant
- Helps to provide employment as well as income to the members

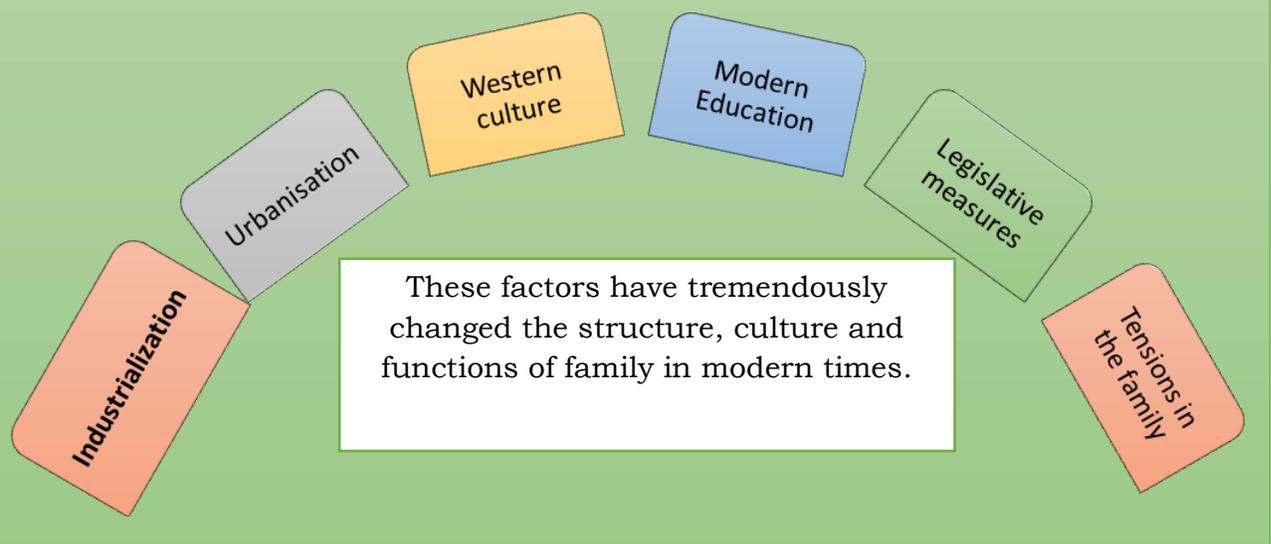
Socialization of Children

- Family as primary agency of socialization
- Child becomes aware of various material and non-material aspects of culture
- Child learns language, customs, etiquettes, norms and values.

Psychological Functions

- Emotional psychological support.
- Attention and care of family members

Changes in the family



Evaluate Yourself

1. Discuss the functions of the Family.
2. Comment on how the different factors changed in structure and function of the family?
3. Describe the significance of family in contemporary times.