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Cambridge International AS & A Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

SOCIOLOGY **9699/11**

Paper 1 The Family **October/November 2015**

1 hour 30 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

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READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **2** printed pages, **2** blank pages and **1** insert.

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Section A

Answer question 1.

1 The family is often described as the most basic unit of social organisation and one which carries out important tasks, such as socialising children and caring for its members. It is to be found in all types of societies. Until the 1960s few sociologists questioned the benefits to be gained from family life and theorists such as Parsons argued that nuclear families provided a 'best fit' for life in modern industrial societies.

Since the 1960s there have been more critical assessments of family life and the different ways in which family members can be treated. Some feminists have argued that women are exploited by family life. Not only do women perform domestic chores but also enter the paid work force as well as carrying out *emotion work*.

Many forms of abuse can also be suffered in families. For example, children may be particularly vulnerable to emotional abuse, such as isolation and rejection by parents. They may also suffer physical harm. Abuse within the family may still occur, even in societies that have strong legal protections for human rights.

(a) What is meant by the term *emotion work*? [2]

(b) Describe **two** ways in which family life benefits its members. [4]

(c) Explain why children may be vulnerable to abuse within the family. [8]

(d) Assess the view that males have a privileged position in families today. [11]

Section B

Answer **either** question 2 **or** question 3.

2 Explain and assess the New Right view that the welfare state undermines the nuclear family. [25]

3 Explain and assess the view that families are becoming increasingly child-centred in modern industrial societies. [25]

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