



**Children, Young People and Families
(BMHP5004_LON)**

Assessment Component 2

Essay; The Children and Families

Student name: Myrna Morales

Student number:1917110

BMHP 5004_LON

Group:2

Lecturer name: Bianca San Filippo

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INTRODUCTION

This essay is about the childhood and family life are constructed on their culture, environment, traditional rituals, religion, and society where they belong, this has continued to change from historical times to the modern day. The medieval to millennial child still needs the safeguarding and protection from the adult guardian whatever the composition is of the family unit- single parent or traditional family or mixed. (Cunningham 2016)

The state of the family influences the experience in the childhood or stage of a child learning. According to the studies of psychological theories about development of a child base on the experience in the family is the main influential factor on the outcome of the future of the child from their sociological, religious, cultural wellbeing to their place in society (Kohler-Wertheimer, Koffka, 1929)—these impacts on the extent to which the child is of state concern.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Thailand using children to child sex slavery. The Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) which is originated from the traditional belief in Eastern Africa is still in continuously child abuse. There have been tremendous changes over many years to the Legislation & Regulations relating to the welfare of both children & mothers which has had a significant impact on their lives. The children and family in UK (United Kingdom) have unique perspective in life because of legislation that protect the family to ensure that they lived in good health condition.

Providing the main guidelines and helping the family through their basic needs, foods, education, housing, clothing, psychological well-being of a child and the family. The safeguarding and protection of children, young adults in UK ensure a better life with dignity. These policies are included to all nationalities living in UK regardless of British citizenship, (Human Act 2010) discrimination, harassment preventing abuse mentally and physically. This legislation in UK declared that the vulnerable should be protected equal and fair and right in

Childhood —where it starts? Who are the children that can be called a child? How to enjoy being a child? When can a child claim that he or she is only a child? Question that a lot of answer but with dissimilar experience, which can be also the roots of behaviour in later years but for sure, there is no universal definition of childhood. No one should be felt not belong to the circle where in a child component. Childhood is the phase of being a child, varies according to the socio- economics and cultural factors in different countries. It is the 'only truly enviable part of life' (Lady Eastlake ,1842) about childhood. Nowadays, regarding to the specialist in mental awareness, psychiatrist in UK, the initial important stage of childhood is in the first five important years of life. Childhood is a social constructed especially in western European countries. Protected by the law, in fact the Act 2014 is the Legislation for child protection programme in UK.

Family is also social constructed, it varies according of sociological, religion, and cultural factors by National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children)

The female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is traditional belief that perform in Western, North-Eastern, and Eastern region of Africa. Some countries in Asia and Middle East it is perform for mixture sociocultural factor by communities and families at the age of infancy and puberty. It is social convention, the FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) is perform for the reason of belonging, it is normal to perform without question. Some belief is to maintain of being "clean and beautiful" the purity, faithfulness modest and femininity until the designated marriage time of the girl. In Somalia, according to (WHO, 2018) World Health Organization where the highest perform recorded FGM only 3% of population did not get FGM, the cultural tradition, tribal affiliation, social connection, and belief is cause only harm and abuse for the young girls who receives it. The Human Right, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetric categorize FGM as human right violation to the vulnerable girls. Even though, the male circumcisions, categorize as human violation for the health body integrity but there is no long-term effect. The Association of American Physician (AAP) Committee disagree all type of FGM because of the risk of psychological and physical harm. That also approved by the United Nation Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) have released statement against practice of FGM which also cause of 1.4 billion USD for one year period monitoring survey for the complication of the risk factor. (WHO, 2008)

Child sex labour in Thailand, which children lose their human rights of their childhood. Child abuse by child sexual exploitation forces jobs from the family that forcing them to provide financially help or by poverty survival concept of the environment (Flowers 2001) It has been continuous situation of child prostitution, mostly incredibly young minor children to have means of income. The United Nation (UN) explicated that the person under 18 years of age is still a child. The Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) when involves forces in sex labour is sex slavery (World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (1996) The poverty that evoke early education which can lead to jobless, no qualifications to obtain employment can risk for child prostitution. (Creighton 1984)

In Thailand, Thai families forced their daughters as an exchange of goods to earn money, obligating to help the family in which some region of Thailand, the purity of virginity is not important ending to child sex labour. (Tourism Organization, 2003) Vulnerable children longing for better lifestyle and material things considering being in CSE is easy money. (O'Connell Davidson, 2005) Usually adult sex tourist paedophile in Thailand playing as boyfriend to gain the trust and psychological control of vulnerable young girls in orderly them to have physical intercourse to other men and get the forbidden materials. (Barnados, 1998) However, cultural mediation is important biological fact of vulnerability of a child confirms by sociologist. (Bauer, Wiezorek, 2016)

In the Middle Ages, in Britain in mid-sixteenth century the Catholic Church dominant the early childhood. Belief and dedication rituals to the religion that the child should be baptised

to shape the lives from the moment of the natal day. Rational thinking that time the infants are evil. So, to save them is the belief of bringing to church and be baptized by holy water. Anglo- Saxon culture children should be baptized for not going to hell, within thirty days. Baptized child will value the places of elders as also respect to the New Testament verses.

King Ine, of Wessex (693-755) known as the first king who issued a code of laws that who lost their father have maintenance for a founding 6 shillings in the first year, 12 shillings for the second year and 30 shillings preceding years. If a couple have a little one and the husband will pass away, the wife will grow up and taking the baby will have maintenance of 6 shillings, one beast in first season and one bovine in the Christmas time also, shows of recognition that children have their provision of support. He also talked through when a child is responsible for his act, at aged 10, amplify the end of childhood, who caught as a thief will be punished. This code of law keeps all changing in every century and every king ruled, still a century later does not yet stablish the age of child when it will be responsible for the terrible act that committed (Bauer, Wiezorek 2016a) (Creighton 1984)

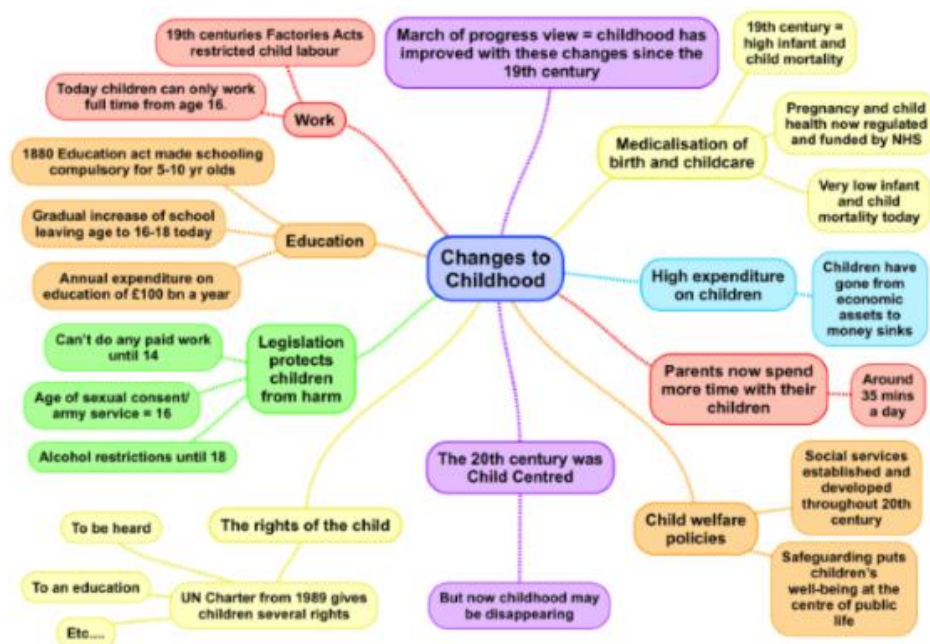
In mediaeval time in Britain, in tenth century until late eighteen century, the childhood is not existed to the poor children. Its starts first in the sixteenth and seventeenth century among the middle and rich class families. The children considered as little adults, because of the lack of skills and strength of a grown-up man. Most young adults performed already as an apprentice. Becomes workers in the field in the ages of seven considered as a little adult. John Locke's (1632-1704) ideas about childhood, that children are like a white blank slate, not evil or good but shaped from their environment and education. The children were sent to the neighbours and help to do some tasks to learn as apprenticeship.

Industrial Revolution - (1760-1830) Children were small and thin; their little body so easily pass under the machinery tread makers, factory. Child labour is less paid than the normal adult wages. They are dominated and always get maltreated as a disciplined and punished by the adults. Children also are risk in health to the during doing a task that cleaning the chimney and mostly also risking the life by entering the narrow passage of the smoke and the dust that comes insides their lungs. (Cunningham 2006)

Regarding of child development, the British psychologist and researcher from University of Toronto, John Bowlby (1950s-1960s) by that time the child development was influenced by behaviourists the attachment theory believing that children develop in automatic, absorbs the negative and positive enforcement through their experienced. Wilhem Freud, famous psychoanalysis about child stage development is from infancy to childhood and through young adult experiences (Papalia et al 2008) especially starting from first one year to five years of life is important to develop their knowledge.

The policy that put up to ameliorate the lives of children from Victorian to millennial times keeps altering for better in which the legislation and policy, sociological concept and come out the child development and Neuroscience.

The children's lives were changes by policy and legislation was influentially by sociological development by external influences. The Bronfenbrenner ecological theories based in five different system; it is psychological theories the individual experience in the society. The micro system is the child which have is own biological factor, the mesosystem is the family, nursery school, religious institution, health care services, ecosystem extended family. The macro system are the legislation, policies, laws, and values of society. Lastly, the chrono system which influenced the changes in children's environments, which may include the family composition, change in location of address, parents' employment status and other. economic cycle of life such as wars. (Creighton 1984)



The children in Western Europe especially in UK have advantages to other children in other part of the world. The National Safeguarding Protection Programme Convention for the Child (NSPPCC) from the beginning launched of different campaign regarding child abuse refer by the school, or medical illness, supported by the local government, medical support in mental awareness and by National Health Services (NHS) in fact from the beginning of pregnancy there are a lot of medical program support from the government.

A Support economically when the children start the nursery school is important. Free meal during the day, benefits for the family and preventing the hindrance to the holistic child development.. Free meal is important to the child well –being during school time, the children can concentrate during lesson if they are not hungry. The children in 2019 about 1.3 million had claimed the free school meal.

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson changes the scheme last summer June 2020, due the pandemic situation time. The Covid Summer Food Fund for the children will get only the voucher to be spent in supermarket for the summer holiday. The school meals voucher will stop in the term of school year until March 2022, for the children in primary or secondary school. The free meal scheme in England was presented more than a century but is not fully funded by the government still trying to evoke the malnourishment. The family of children with low-income households can claim from nurseries to sixth form. The households that have earned 7,400 £ a year after the tax, will lost the benefits since in 2018. Although in Scotland and Wales the same entry, but in Northern Ireland the difference of double the earning of 14,000£ a year. (BBC,2020)

Recommendation

If the state helps and the right payment for economic problems in the family, child benefits, monitoring health by giving free immunisation, vaccines, and housing benefits for the family will help the child health development give big impact to the situation of the family of a child. (SCIE,2021)

The lives of Children in UK are changing these last few years even though there is a lot of campaign for Family support, but the maternity funds are not enough or short of days payment if the mother have low-income jobs. The amending and extending the permission and right to request for flexible working hours sometimes is not always given. Also, about the equal division of equal time mostly the child remains always with the mother which is have negative impact of the psychological effect to the children which is the lack fatherhood affection. The child voice or longing for more time of parental quality time. (Human Right Act 1998)

The family justice system does not yet prove well the rational equal time for the children right. The children and young people should have the chance and be heard their voices special when they are involved in case which affect their psychological views this in Family Justice Review Final Report (2011) The protection practice with the work of Social Work reform Board should be engaging the young people to the decision that will affect them declared by the Family Justice Law.

According to Rowntree Foundation, (2021) an organisation in UK helps to fight against poverty and declared that 2.8 million lives of children in poverty. Researching to prevent the children will be counted in the “persistent poverty” and it is described by the National Statistic Office. The persistent poverty means when poverty problem occurs will be continuously within two or three years. Mostly lone parents are more

risk than in established normal income family group. (See infographic attached below)

Furthermore, **Child line** (2021) of NSPCC and **helpline** protects the children at vulnerable period and do the premier way is put stop the young one will suffer to abuse. They work personally with the and families all over UK and Channel Islands and promote their service centres which help thousands of young adults destitute.

They collaborate with schools up and down the country through the [Speak Out Stay Safe](#) programme, helping young ones to secure if their safeties. (“National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children ...”)

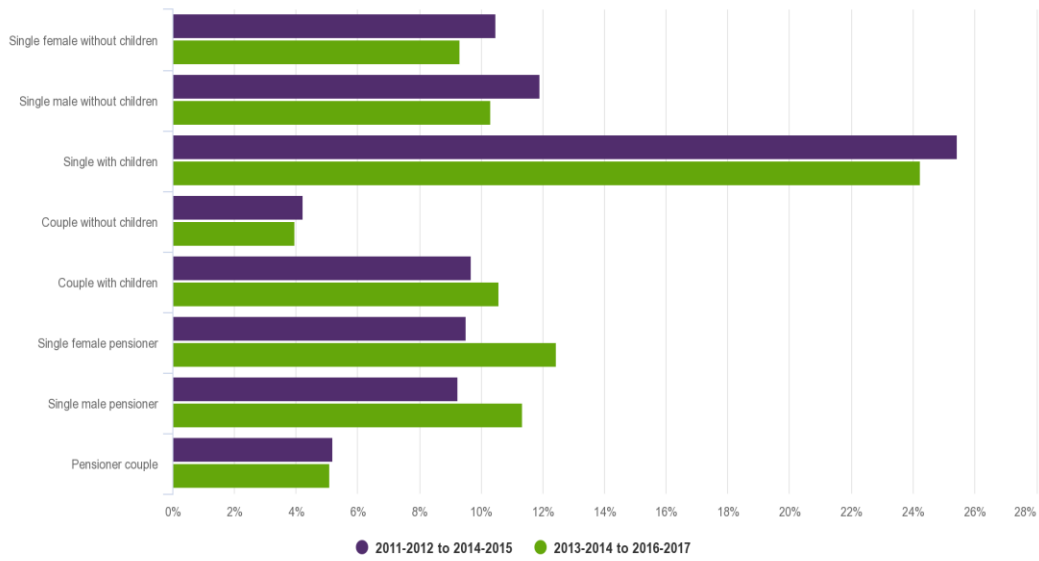
And the programme such as [Together for Childhood](#) support young ones that being maltreated, maintain family, and do to convert in how the support provider will bound the plan to specify the early abuse. The alert will come from the school or who have witnesses or suspected that a child will need the protection.

Children, young people, and vulnerable babies are under the safeguarding and child protection programme by volunteers and community sector by the organization of National Safeguarding Protection for Cruelty to Children (NSPCC,2019) from newbies 0 month to 18 years of aged. If a child experiencing all the Maslow Hierarchy of needs have happy normal life within the family will be a positive future young adult and can be a fruitful good in onwards to proceeds in through further stages of life.

Appendix

Percentage of people in persistent poverty, by family type

Source: Understanding Society (JRF analysis)



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(Goerge, Wiegand 2019) (Bauer, Wiezorek 2016) (Bauer, Wiezorek 2016b)