



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 27 May 2022 – Afternoon

AS Level Sociology

H180/02 Researching and understanding social inequalities

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **all** the questions.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **75**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

SECTION A

Read the source material and answer **all** the questions in Section A.

Source A

Attitudes to gender roles by age							Age	
	18–25	26–35	36–45	46–55	56–65	66+	All	
A man's job is to earn money; a woman's job is to look after the home and family	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Agree	4	13	9	6	12	28	13	
Neither agree nor disagree	13	13	19	26	21	28	21	
Disagree	82	73	71	65	64	40	65	

The data above was collected in 2012 by the British Social Attitudes Survey, a large-scale national survey. It uses a randomly selected national sample of over 3 000 people.

Adapted from: Park, A., Bryson, C., Clery, E., Curtice, J. and Phillips, M. (eds.) (2013), British Social Attitudes: the 30th Report, London: NatCen Social Research.

Source B**An ethnographic study of the lives of working class young people**

Simon Winlow and Steve Hall were interested in trying to understand the lives of young working class people, especially some who follow a culture of drink and violence in cities at night. The researchers used an ethnographic approach, involving a combination of unstructured and semi-structured interviews together with observation. Over a period of a year, they interviewed and observed about 40 young people (mostly aged between 18 and 25) in the North East of England. Most of the young people worked in insecure casual jobs and spent much of their leisure time in pubs and clubs in the city centre.

Winlow had already made extensive contacts with young people during earlier research, which he had completed in the North East of England. He used these contacts as gatekeepers to enable him and his colleague to access wider friendship groups. They also recruited other interviewees whenever the opportunity arose during the course of their observation.

The researchers wanted to avoid imposing their own ideas or explanations onto the experiences of the young people they studied, so tried to adopt an approach to interviewing which encouraged young people to talk as naturally as possible about their everyday lives with as little prompting as possible. Rather than starting with a definite hypothesis the researchers preferred to allow the findings to develop the direction of the research. Interviews were carried out in a wide range of settings, including respondents' flats or their parents' homes, pubs, cafes and even in a car. The data collected from their observations helped to provide context for the interview data.

Despite Winlow and Hall trying to avoid imposing their own views on the findings, they acknowledge that the selection of data from the large amount available in their interview transcripts was based on their personal choices. Their largely qualitative data describes city nightlife in some detail, providing a vivid and sometimes shocking account. For example, they use accounts of both victims and perpetrators of violence to give an insight into the type of experience encountered by young people on nights out.

Winlow and Hall conclude that changes in society caused by capitalism are causing the drink and violence culture. They suggest that a loss of men's clear breadwinner role, due to a lack of steady jobs, meant for some males their lives lacked meaning compared to males in previous generations. Most of the young people worked in jobs they hated just for the money, finding escape in drinking alcohol with friends in city centre bars and pubs. Violence seemed to be accepted as inevitable because of high alcohol consumption and, if anything, rather than putting young people off from going out provided an 'edge' which was part of the attraction of nightlife.

Adapted from: Winlow, S. and Hall, S. (2006) *Violent Night: Urban Leisure and Contemporary Culture*. Oxford: Berg

Answer **all** the questions in Section A.

- 1 Using data from **Source A**, describe **two** conclusions that could be drawn about the relationship between age and attitudes to gender roles. [4]
- 2* With reference to **Source B**, explain the role played by gatekeepers in helping researchers to undertake ethnographic research. [9]
- 3* With reference to **Source A**, explain how using random sampling might help in researching attitudes to gender roles by age. [12]
- 4* Using **Source B** and your wider sociological knowledge, explain and evaluate the use of ethnographic research methods to investigate the lives of working class young people. [20]

SECTION B

Answer **all** the questions in Section B.

- 5* Outline **two** examples of social inequalities in the workplace in the UK. [10]
- 6* Assess the view that it is natural and necessary that women and men perform different roles in society. [20]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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