

- British population is regarded as the oldest in Europe due to very low birth rate.  
This issue has a negative impact on the British society in terms of economy and labor force

Why people gave birth to babies (baby boomers)?

reasons of the issue :

After the second world war ,Britain came out victorious yet socially destroyed as the population decreases due to the high rate of deaths.

Britain tried to re-build its society and economy so having kids was a hope (baby boom)

=>welfare state was created to provide social assistant and to make sure that no one goes under a certain living standard. This state was to encourage people to give birth to more babies.

In the 1980s, there was an economic crisis, people lost their jobs. the baby boom contributed somehow to the crisis.

==> All this had an impact on the contemporary British Family.

=> Family in Britain:

British family is a nuclear family in general

Non-conventional marriages give the highs birth rate (births out of marriage)

This means that the pattern of marriage has changed in Britain.

Family structures in Britain:

Non-conventional family

Divorced family ( single parent family, highly among blacks)

Recomposed or combined family (second marriages)

Gay family ( decline of family patterns and values in Britain)

Birth rate declined in Britain due to many reasons:

Economic crisis

the change of the status of women (working women)

Legal abortion

Today's family picture in Britain :

Smaller families

Diverse structures

For the social classes I have:

The government tries hard to stop the dependency culture of its people since they depend on the welfare state , therefore , it creates more job opportunities

\_ People consider the welfare state as a safety net while the Gov. wants the finance to be only for needy people.

The social classes in the UK: working class / middle class / upper class(the elite)

a social class can be defined by many indicators such as : type of work/ place of living/ educational level/ access to health care...

Poor people in the ukare :homeless,jobless,mentaly ill , outcast people(alcoholic, drug addicts)/ discriminated against people(blacks) ===> these are called Underclass People which they don't Like.

== These people rebelled as they are not satisfied of the social class divisions.

workers rebelled to the Established order.

Those rebels are called Riots, they are known for Hooliganism which is a violent movement against the system of social classes.

These people need identity and to feel the sense of belonging to the society which rejects them.

The skin heads / Rastafarians/ punks are people who show their rejection to the order ans social class system.

When we refer to the upper class, we initially refer to the Gentry class => the elite.

Their children go to the Eton to study.

Those people belong to what's called: the establishment

=> they represent power/ money/authority and others of their characterizing features.

Middle class consists of professionals, teachers, doctors....

women are discriminated against so they have almost no job opportunities as men do have; part time jobs are mostly for women.

Gender, color, skills are to prevent women from keeping up with men so they remain poor.

Margaret Thatcher's policy has widened the gap between social classes in the UK especially between the rich and the poor.