

Assessment Schedule – 2011

Social Studies: Describe how cultures change (91039)

Evidence Statement

<p>Example – Changes in family life in New Zealand</p>		
<p>The cultural change could include:</p> <p>In the 1970s the nuclear family was the predominant type of <i>family</i> in New Zealand society, and women gave birth on average earlier than today – eg in 1979, the average age of mothers giving birth in New Zealand was 26 years of age. In 1972, 77% of mothers in Dunedin were still at home when their children were toddlers. 95% of Dunedin parents were legally married.</p> <p>The changes that have occurred in New Zealand families over the last 40 years have meant that an increasing number of children in New Zealand are being born into varied <i>family structures</i>, and that family life today is very different than it was 40 years ago.</p> <p>Eg – most of the mothers surveyed in the ‘Growing Up in New Zealand’ study of 7000 children born over a two-year period (2009 – 2010) were in paid employment before their child was born, and intended to return to work.</p> <p>Currently the average age of parents having children is greater than 30 years of age, and 1/3 of children in New Zealand are born to a parent that did not grow up in New Zealand. 60% of parents surveyed recently in a major research project were in a legally binding relationship, compared to 95% in the Dunedin study in the 1970s. One in three children currently grows up in a multilingual home, and 80% of children are born into households where English is the primary language. Most families on average now have 2 – 3 children in the household. An estimation of the amount of New Zealand births arising from fertility treatment is currently around 5%. There are about 900 IVF births a year in New Zealand (2008).</p> <p>Another major <i>change</i> to family life is to do with <i>community connectedness</i> and living in the same home for all of your childhood, as opposed to the current trend in mobility and shifting both locally, nationally and internationally. Currently only 15% of families surveyed were still in the same house they had been in five years before, 22% had moved once and 63% had moved at least twice. Rachel Chamberlain, now a mother herself – but also one of the babies in the Dunedin survey in the 1970s – lived in the same house from when she was born until she turned 15, and shifted to Auckland with her parents.</p> <p>Another major <i>change</i> is around the acceptance of same-sex parenting in New Zealand. It is estimated that between 11,857 and 142,293 people aged 19 and under would have a gay parent in New Zealand families (2005).</p>	<p>Processes that led to the change could include:</p> <p>Government policies and Laws: Eg, 20 free hours for 3-and 4-year-olds in ECE centres that opted into the scheme enables families to put their 3-and 4-year-olds into care either part time, or at a subsidised cost full time.</p> <p>The Civil Union Act of 2004 gave same-sex couples the opportunity to register their relationships legally, and obtain next-of-kin recognition. The Status of Children Amendment Act means that a same-sex partner of a mother is a legal parent in the same way as an opposite-sex partner. The Care Of Children Act 2004 meant that agreements between donors and parents can be enforced in court. In the Human Assisted Reproductive Technologies Act 2004, surrogacy is legal so long as the mother is only paid expenses. The Adoption Act 1955 however does not allow same-sex couples or de facto heterosexual couples to adopt.</p> <p>Economy: In the 1970s, New Zealand joined the European Community and the protected economy. Family benefit was axed, and unemployment rose rapidly. In the 1990s, 16% of all working-aged people were welfare-dependent. The gap between rich and poor grew. GST was added to the taxation system, and real equivalised incomes for the richest 1/10th of the population leapt by 44% between 1985 and 2009, while those of the poorest 1/10th crept up by only 14%. Home ownership dropped back to 63% by 2006.</p> <p>Contrasting points of view about the change could include:</p> <p>A contrasting point of view about same-sex parenting is that the law doesn’t go far enough to be inclusive of all types of families, as donors are not legally allowed to be named on the birth certificate. This annoys Mary O’Hagan, who has one birth son and one non-birth son with her same-sex partner – by the same donor, who is also actively the children’s father. “He is very much their father. I think the law has this very formulaic view about parenting, and there are all sorts of situations that occur that it doesn’t actually deal with.”</p>	<p>Reasons why the processes that led to the change were important for the individuals / groups / society(s) involved could include:</p> <p>The changes in government policies and laws around same-sex parenting – and the care of children – have been important for this group in society, because it gives same-sex parents legal recognition, rights and responsibilities for the birth and non-birth parent the same as opposite-sex parents. Tim Barnett is an ex-Labour MP who strongly supported the civil union legislation. He says that same-sex families are at “the very frontline of acceptance”. He believes that recent legislation has taken New Zealand two thirds of the way towards full rights for same-sex partners and their families.</p> <p>Economic processes have led to increased mobility of families and less home ownership stability. Economic necessity has forced many parents to return to work after the birth of children. Professor Peter Crampton, an Otago University researcher who helped develop the deprivation index, says poverty is now concentrated in families with children. Nationally, 42% of families with children (and 55% of Maori, and 70% of Pacific people) live in the most deprived 30% of areas. Economic processes have impacted on – and changed – family life in New Zealand.</p>

<p>Individuals / groups / society(s) involved could include: New Zealand society New Zealand families Government (policy makers) Fertility specialists Specific communities (eg same sex parents) Single parents in New Zealand Teen parents Working parents</p> <p>Points of view about the change could include:</p> <p>Currently many women stay at work until the birth of their babies, and they plan to return to work when the children are either infants or toddlers. Parents surveyed said they would like to take more leave after their child's birth, but most mothers have moved into paid work since the 1970s through a combination of choice and necessity.</p> <p>Onehunga dietitian Clare Wallis returned to work when her son Jacob was 15 months old, partly because she was "ready to go back to work at that point and use my brain in a different way", but also "so that we can buy a house one day".</p> <p>TV producer Lisa Taouma went back to work three months after her son Mali was born, because she is passionately committed to her work in Pacific television. "This period has been such a critical part of our work for our community representation, we had him in daycare very, very early," she says.</p> <p>Leading fertility specialists think that the use of IVF and other fertility treatments is growing because of the increasing age women try to conceive. Dr Fisher, co-founder of Fertility Associates, said surveys had shown that not wanting to interrupt careers was not the primary reason for women delaying child bearing. His viewpoint is that "one of the major reasons people don't have children earlier is they don't have a partner to have a baby with ... there's increasing use of donor insemination by single women."</p> <p>Same-sex parents have the viewpoint that all types of families make up a society – they are just another normal family. Danny Delamere and Craig Young of Palmerston North have been living together as partners for almost nine years. Danny's teenage son lives with them. The family has not experienced prejudice in the town. "I had some trepidation when we sent our son school. But Craig went down and introduced himself and said we were a gay family. They were absolutely supportive." (Possible social studies concepts are italicised).</p>	<p>Some groups in society see many of these changes as negative changes in society. Parents returning to work early are seen by some as having a negative impact on children. Same-sex parenting is also seen by some groups as having a negative impact on the children involved. Many submissions were made to Parliament during the process of the law change. This resulted in the Civil Union Bill outlining these viewpoints, which were opposed to the rights that civil unions would ultimately give same-sex partners, and in turn, same-sex parents.</p>	
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Judgement Statement

N1	N2	A3	A4	M5	M6	E7	E8
<p>Candidate includes ONE of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes the cultural change • identifies the individuals / groups / society(s) involved • describes points of view about the change • uses relevant social studies concepts. 	<p>Candidate includes TWO of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes the cultural change • identifies the individuals / groups / society(s) involved • describes points of view about the change • uses relevant social studies concepts. 	<p>Candidate includes THREE of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes the cultural change • identifies the individuals / groups / society(s) involved • describes points of view about the change • uses relevant social studies concepts. 	<p>Candidate includes FOUR of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes the cultural change • identifies the individuals / groups / society(s) involved • describes points of view about the change • uses relevant social studies concepts. 	<p>Candidate describes in depth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a process that led to the change • describes contrasting points of view about the change. 	<p>Candidate describes in depth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the processes that led to the change • describes contrasting points of view about the change. 	<p>Candidate comprehensively describes why a process that led to the change was important for the individuals / groups / society(s) involved</p>	<p>Candidate comprehensively describes why the processes that led to the change were important for the individuals / groups / society(s) involved</p>

N0 = No response, or nothing worth rewarding.