



PAPER 1: FAMILIES – FUNCTIONALIST PERSPECTIVE

5 FACTS ABOUT THE FUNCTIONALIST PERSPECTIVE ON FAMILIES

4 TRUE OR FALSE STATEMENTS

Murdock believed the family performs four essential functions.	
Parsons' 'warm bath theory' describes how families encourage children to take warm baths every day to promote good hygiene.	
According to Murray, the welfare state encouraged dependency and made single parenthood more common.	
Functionalists see the family as a conflict-based institution.	

3 MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Which of the following is NOT one of Murdock's four functions?	Parsons argued that families provide:	Who argued that the decline of the nuclear family has caused rising crime rates?
a) Reproduction	a) Primary socialisation and stabilisation of adults	a) Parsons
b) Religion	b) Feminist equality	b) Oakley
c) Education	c) Government control	c) Murray
d) Economic support	d) Child labour	d) Zaretsky

2 SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Explain the meaning of Parsons' 'warm bath theory'.

How has the role of the family changed due to the growth of other institutions like schools and healthcare?

1 CRITICISM OF THE FUNCTIONALIST PERSPECTIVE ON FAMILIES