Explaining the long term increase in family diversity

Latemodernism

- It's not just about choice - Structural economic and social changes make the nuclear family less attractive and more difficult to maintain
- Negotiated relationships are more work today - people prefer to stay single

- Reconstituted families
- Single parent families
- single person household
- multigenerational households
- 'Kidult' households

postmodernisation

- Reflects greater individual choice in postmodern society - more people choosing to stay single (single person hh/ kidults)
- Less stigma against single parent families and step-families
- Individuals less constrained by religion and tradition

Social policies

- Welfare
- Divorce act
- Equal pay act

Economic factors

- Increasing wealth explains long term increase in single person households
- Rising housing costs and gen cost of living explains recent increase in multigenerational and kidult households

Overlaps with factors as relating to declining marriage and increasing divorce

The New Right

- See decline of nuclear family as part of wider 'moral decline'
- Blame welfare policies for encouraging single parent households

Feminism - changing gender roles

- Women establishing careers before marriage - more single person households
- Most women now work - can afford to leave marriage and become single parents