

1973-06-03: [PROJET FOX] Main Issues. (before "Life Chances" idea surfaced.)

Historical up to the 19th Century.

Economic: material welfare of society

- Feudal system supports the soldier
- Early modern accumulated capital
- Masses in both cases work with hands
- Somebody doesn't survive, sometimes

Political: national stability

- Feudalism = territorial public administration
- Bourgeois cities do the same
- Early modern:
 - via office & family in France
 - via control of representative institutions in England
 - via class at large in rest of Europe.

Social: continuity of an upper class.

- Feudal knightly upbringing
- Bourgeois: some politesse
- In all pre-modern times, the aptitude for anything was largely due to the family, for the state concern did not equalize things in terms of social & educational help
- Reassure family survivals

Cultural:

- Upper classes: luxury & patronage of art
- Medieval: church plays unusual role
- Early modern: universities and private patronage

Nineteenth-Century shift.

Economic:

- General affluence; no one need not survive
- Accumulation of capital still very important, but possibility of state operation independent of families was advanced by the emancipation from hereditary office holding.

Political:

- Hereditary transmission of political power going out.
- Family power exercised indirectly, through support of parties, bribery, corruption.

Social:

- Social mobility over 3 generations of wealth

Cultural:

- Public element in museums, universities, etc., expands

Twentieth-century Reality:

Economic: wealth now in corporations, trusts, foundations, etc.

Political: Mass media control.

Social: Stratification by birth but breakdown of family unity.

Cultural: fully popular due to education & media.