

## Sociologists' Theory of Change &amp; the Life Chances Scheme

Amirai & Ewa Etzioni, in the introduction to the section of their Social Change, devoted to "Spheres of Change; the Modern Society", list eight characteristics of the shift from traditional to modern society-- a transition they regard as seemingly universal.

1. demographic revolution--death rate & birth rate ~~xxxxxx~~ decline
- >>2. decrease in size, scope and pervasiveness of the family
- >3. opening of the stratification system to greater mobility
- >4. transition from tribal or feudal structure to bureaucracy
- >5. decline in the influence of religion
- >>6. separation of education from family; opening of education to all
7. growth of a "mass culture"
8. emergence of a "market economy"

Of these, only ~~the four~~ are of primary significance for the Life Chances scheme, and one of them, #4, will only come in as a factual condition that affects life chances except in ~~the~~ so far as the disappearance of hereditary transmission of political power, ~~is~~ which will receive considerably attention, is a part of the change to modern society.

What is more, one of the arguments that will appear in this book is that the role of the family grew greater in early modern times, before it grew lesser in the last two centuries.

In the readings attached to each of these eight subjects, more or less, that by Barber on Social mobility in Early Mod. Eng. & France is foolish (see notes) that by Burgess on Family likewise, that by Mosca on feudal to bureaucratic is clever but doesn't always wash (several notes), and that by Drucker on education gives statistics of education explosion and may be worth reading in the original.