

# SOCIOLOGY

## INTRODUCTION PROJECT



This project is designed to give you an ideal grounding for A-Level study. Both tasks will give you a insight into the areas you will be covering during the first year of the course.

Good luck and enjoy!

## Task 1, Topic: Families and Households: Socialisation

Socialisation is how we learn our culture, language, beliefs and many behaviours such as how to eat, drink and behave in different situations. Sociologists are interested in the role that people play in helping socialise children. Much of early socialisation takes place within the family.



Sociologists believe human behaviour is not instinctive but learned through contact with others. Feral children cases are examples of this, they are children who spend time growing up without any human contact.

### ***Your tasks are:***

- 1) Use the internet to investigate two different cases of 'feral children'. Youtube is just one place that has some good documentaries to help your research.
- 2) Produce a summary of the two cases.
- 3) What do these cases tell us about the importance of early socialisation?

## Task 2, Topic Education: The Selective Education Debate

There has been a fierce debate over the fairness of grammar schools (selecting by ability). Some argue that grammar schools unfairly benefit the middle-classes while others argue that it gives working-class children a chance that they otherwise would have.

The Conservatives have always been supporters of grammar schools and recently they have announced they would be expanding the number of grammar schools in the UK.



### *Your tasks are:*

- 1) To research both sides of the debate. Mail on Sunday columnist Peter Hitchens outlines his position (in favour of grammar schools <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-3277627/PETER-HITCHENS-Grammar-schools-create-real-equality-no-wonder-leaders-hater-them.html>).
- 2) Use the article above and others you find throughout your research to identify what position different political parties take on the issues.
- 3) Outline your view on the issue.