

## A2 Sociology Summer Homework

### Media homework

Over the summer you need to keep a **diary of events that happen in the media, for example big news stories, world events etc.** Try to use a range of media sources such as different newspapers (tabloids/broadsheets) different TV stations, radio stations, magazines and the internet. It would be a good idea to form a **scrapbook** in which you can tear out and stick in articles or headlines that have grabbed your attention. Try and keep an ear out in particular for any news related to **crime & deviance**.

**Extension:** If you are really enjoying reading the newspapers over the summer try and find some media items that you could relate to the main sociological perspectives - you could annotate what you think each **perspective** would say around the item. (For example - what do you think feminists would say about page 3 in the Sun?)

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### Crime & Deviance Homework

It is really important for A2 that you save all of the resources and work you did at AS on research methods. This is because you will have to answer a 15 mark question on methods in the context of crime and deviance (rather than education as you did last year) and potentially a whole 33 mark question just on research methods.

In preparation for this Mrs Elphick would like you to have a go at answering the methods in context question below. Using the attached revision guide and your own knowledge you should be able to make a good stab at answering the question.

NB: Remember to refer to the item in your answer!

## Methods in Context

This question requires you to **apply** your knowledge and understanding of sociological research methods to the study of this **particular** issue in **crime and deviance**. Read **Item C** below and answer the question that follows.

### Item C

#### Investigating substance abuse among homeless people

*Homelessness is regarded as a deviant lifestyle, often involving abuse of a range of substances such as drugs or alcohol. Some homeless people live on the streets. Some spend their nights in hostels that have open access. They may gain some social contact here, but hostels are often understaffed and have limited resources to help homeless people. Some homeless people are, or have been, involved in crimes such as robbery or violence. As a result, they are mistrustful of the police or any other organisation representing authority.*

*Many of the homeless are people who have 'fallen through the net', in that they have suffered from poor education, long-term unemployment and/or mental illness.*

*Some homeless substance abusers may feel excluded from society and may welcome the chance to talk about their situation.*

Using material from **Item C** and elsewhere, assess the strengths and limitations of using **structured interviews** as a means of investigating *substance abuse* among homeless people. (15 marks)

**Please bring your completed answer to your first A2 Sociology lesson in September.**