



# Families and the Unemployed



# Types of Families

- ✦ The traditional family
- ✦ The extended family
- ✦ The lone parent family
- ✦ The reconstituted family

# Why do some families have a higher standard of living?

It depends on

1. The family structure
2. How much family members are paid
3. How many children are in the family
4. The area people live in. Some local authorities have more money to spent on local services (e.g. schools and recreation facilities) and others are poorer

# Lone Parents and Employment

- ✦ Lone parents, especially women, may find it hard to find suitable work because:
  - ❖ They cannot afford suitable child care
  - ❖ Work may not fit in around school hours/holidays
  - ❖ May not have completed an education
  - ❖ Discrimination against lone parents – may require more time off

# Reasons why lone parents find it hard getting a job

- ✖ Often can't work weekends (children)
- ✖ Choice of jobs is limited as can only work during school hours
- ✖ May lack qualifications as were unable to complete their education
- ✖ Can't afford the cost of childcare
- ✖ Often unable to travel far to go to work

# ● Benefits for families with low/no incomes

- ✚ **Jobseekers Allowance**- Paid when unemployed and looking for work
- ✚ **Income Support**- Extra payment when person does not have enough to meet their basic needs
- ✚ **Housing Benefit**- Help pay rent or mortgage
- ✚ **Working Families Tax Credit**- make sure they earn as much as they would on benefits and help pay for childminding
- ✚ **Council Tax Rebate**- Don't have to pay full council tax
- ✚ **Crisis Loans**- Loan to buy essential items (cooker etc)

# What are the Needs of the Unemployed?

- 1) **Employment Needs**- to find a job
- 2) **Financial Needs**- Need for money to support their family and pay bills
- 3) **Training Needs**- to learn new skills to help them get a job
- 4) **Emotional and Health Needs**- Can become ill or depressed when unemployed

# New Initiatives to help people back into work

- ✦ **JSA** – Job Seekers Allowance helps to meet an unemployed person's financial needs for a max of 6 months whilst they look for a new job.
- ✦ **New Deal**- offers intensive advice and training for those unemployed for more than 6 months. There is no option of remaining unemployed.
- ✦ **Skillseekers/ Modern Apprenticeships**- For 16-18 year olds and offers training, work experience and a small wage
- ✦ **Training schemes** - aimed at long term unemployed and provides training to help them find a job. Especially useful for older workers, disabled

# Creating Jobs

- ✦ Scottish Enterprise – helps businesses to get started, helps people to gain skills required to run a business.
- ✦ Locate in Scotland – tries to encourage foreign companies to invest in Scotland by offering grants and rent-free factories
- ✦ Regional Selective Assistance – provides grants to encourage investment and job creation in areas of high unemployment.

# Reasons why certain groups find it more difficult to find work

## Women

- ✖ discrimination
- ✖ child care responsibilities
- ✖ cost of child care
- ✖ poor qualifications due to having family early

## Disabled

- ✖ discrimination
- ✖ cost of adapting the workplace
- ✖ difficulty in completing education due to poor educational facilities

# Groups within the unemployed

## Ethnic Minorities

- ✖ Discrimination
- ✖ Language barriers
- ✖ Application form shows that they live in a poor/bad area and employer might not want to hire them

## Older Workers

- ✖ Might lack skills required to complete the job
- ✖ Lack confidence
- ✖ Health may be poor
- ✖ Younger workers may be hired at a lower cost (NMW is lower for Under 21's)

# Advantages and Disadvantages of New Technology

- ✂ New technology makes some jobs easier (e.g. journalism)
- ✂ Quality of Product is improved
- ✂ Less workers= lower costs=lower prices
- ✂ Profits increase leading to more investment and more jobs

- ✂ People's jobs are taken over by machines
- ✂ Retraining to work new machinery is often required
- ✂ Older people may struggle with new technology
- ✂ Previously skilled jobs are often now deskilled