

## Family in Brave New World

- In Brave New World, family, monogamy and marriage are things of the past
- Past= history → history is undesirable

### Family

Family is not an integral part of Huxley's society anymore. It belongs to history and people don't like talking about it.

#### **page 33; line 11**

"Try to realize what it was like to have a viviparous mother."

That smutty word again. But none of them dreamed, this time, of smiling.

"Try to imagine what 'living with one's family' meant."

They tried; but obviously without the smallest success.

"And do you know what a 'home' was?"

They shook their heads.

→ life with family/ home, they don't know

→ viviparous = obscene

#### **page 34; line 5**

Home, home—a few small rooms, stiflingly over-inhabited by a man, by a periodically teeming woman, by a rabble of boys and girls of all ages. No air, no space; an understerilized prison; **d**arkness, **d**isease, and smells.

(The Controller's evocation was so vivid that one of the boys, more sensitive than the rest, turned pale at the mere description and was on the point of being sick.)

→ boy gets sick/ "home" + "family" = swearwords

#### **page 34; line 21**

Home is described as a **rabbit hole**

#### **page 23; line 20**

"These," he said gravely, "are unpleasant facts; I know it. But then most historical facts are unpleasant."

→ that there were families is an unpleasant fact

### Monogamy

In Brave new world , there is no monogamy. → "everyone belongs to everyone"

#### **page 35; line 5/6**

"Who are you going out with to-night?" Lenina asked, returning from the vibro-vac like a pearl illuminated from within, pinkly glowing.

"Nobody."

Lenina raised her eyebrows in astonishment.

→ it is normal to date different people and to go out very often

→ unnormal if you don't go out

#### **page 37; line 26-27**

"I really do think you ought to be careful. It's such horribly bad form to go on and on like this with one man"

→ it is against the rules to date the same man the whole time

#### **page 38; line 24-26**

"Of course there's no need to give him up. Have somebody else from time to time, that's all. He has other girls, doesn't he?"

Lenina admitted it.

"Of course he does. Trust Henry Foster to be the perfect gentleman—always correct.

And then there's the Director to think of. You know what a stickler ..."

→ Henry Foster fits to the system, / he follows the rules and has lots of women

The novel addresses the importance of family values and family structure as an part of society. Emotions are completely undesirable.

#### **page 37, line 6**

**Family, monogamy, romance. Everywhere exclusiveness, a narrow channelling of impulse and energy.**

**"But everyone belongs to every one else," he concluded, citing the hypnopædic proverb.**