

Tech 250: Group work for Aihwa Ong's

(“Domestic Relations: The Reconfiguration of Family Life”)

1. Why did the electronics industry come to Malaysia and in what form? Who owns the factories there?
2. Why are very young girls protected? What is believed to happen to them if they wander? Who in the family are required accept moral custody over the young girls?
3. The husband is responsible to maintain his wife's maintenance (called Bagi Nafkah). This maintenance covers 3 basic needs. What are these 3 needs?
4. There are benefits for females who grow older. Describe a couple of benefits for middle-aged women.
5. Who are more likely (boys or girls) to be pushed by their families into civil service jobs? Any reason why?

6. The central government has impacted the Maylay kampung society by introducing four (4) things. One example is the “spread of mass communication.” What are the other three (3) things that have impacted these small communities?
7. What does FTZ mean? Approximately, what year was the FTZ started?
8. At what age can children be “legally” employed?
9. More girls than boys end their schooling at the age of 12. Many young girls at age 12 drop out for a reason. Why they drop out? What do the boys do with their free time?
10. Why are young girls pushed into the industrial labor market at such a young age?
11. What age group (age range) for young women involves the burden of daily housework and extra domestic obligations?
12. Who in the family is looked upon has thee source for “ultimate wisdom”?
13. Define the term “Kampung”

14. Define the concept of “Wajib”

15. What is the term used to define men as having morale authority and superiority (based upon the assumption men have more reasoning ability and self-knowledge) over the family and females? How does this conflict with Islamic rules?

16. What child in the family becomes obligated by duty to care for parents in their old age?

17. What are Malays’ attitudes about girls and what social requirements are placed on them?

18. What personal benefits, if any, do Malay girls get from working? What are the main drawbacks?

19. Examine the table attached to the end of the Ong reading. Who holds the highest paying jobs at EJI? Are there any Malay workers in top management? What are the top jobs for female workers? What other inequities do you see?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS for Ong Reading

20. With the increase of factory work (wage employment) for young females would you be able to discuss the declining influence of male power over daughters and sisters?
21. Money as a “technology” in the family household (example: female wages contributing to the family budget) became more and more important. Could you provide some other examples of how various family members contributed to the resources (identify the general types of income sources) of the family? Give examples from the past or present day as noted in the article. (Refer to Case Studies A & B and target the father, mother, daughters, sons)

Father Case A (married)

Case B (divorced/remarried)

Mother Case A (married)

Case B (married/remarried)

Daughters/Sisters Case A (married parents)

Case B (remarried parents)

Sons/Brothers Case A (married parents)

Case B (remarried parents)

22. Related to question 21 above, which member of the family normally collected income each month from the other members of the family?

Can you explain why this person needed to manage relations with the children for cash flow in the family? You could refer to Case A and B for examples.

23. In Case B and C, the older children did not contribute as much to the family expenses for various reasons. If they did provide financial or other support, to whom in the family did they feel responsible to support?
24. What are some of the reasons that sons from a privileged family allowed them to keep most of their own earnings? (Refer to Case C)

25. Wage employment over time contributed to more leverage for daughters/sisters over other members of the family. Can you provide a few examples of this transformation including how money provided more independence for young women? (Refer to Case G).

26. In this reading, it seems that only young women are always placed under some sort of constant supervision whether at home or at work. Please provide a few examples for each below:

Examples of supervision at home

Examples of supervision at work