Feb. 12, 2004

Questions on Welter, Hareven, Gutman
and Hutter

1. What, according to Welter, are the four cardinal virtues of the True Woman?

2. What were the forces at work during the 19th century that were to cause the downfall of the Cult of True Womanhood?

3. What does Hareven say about the myth of the 3-generation family in the American past?

4. How have the rates of people living by themselves changed over history (Hareven)?

5. What does Hareven say about the role of industrialization breaking up traditional family structures?

6. What does Hareven say about parental investment in children in the past?

7. Why was housework not as devalued in the past the way it is now? (Hareven)

8. What was the “cult of domesticity” according to Hareven?

9. Describe the image of manhood in 19th century America, as discussed by Demos and Welter. How did this image differ from 17th and 18th century images?

10. What does Gutman mean by “myths”?

11. Why do we say “African American” now, whereas Gutman used “Afro-American” when he wrote the paper? Discuss the popularity of “Negro,” “Colored,” and “Black” over time.

12. What were Frazier's central arguments that Gutman disputes?

13. What was accurate and laudable about Frazier’s work?

14. What does Gutman conclude about the effect of whites on these post-bellum families versus the consciousness and the culture in black families under slavery?

15. How can we reconcile what Gutman says about nuclear, not matriarchal, families with what various authors we have read say about domestic authority of women?

16. What did pro-slavery and anti-slavery whites share in common with respect to families under slavery?

17. What were the motives of the millions of immigrants who came to America between 1880 and 1924? What happened in 1924?
18. What were some of the difficulties immigrants experienced when setting up families in this country?

19. What were the responses to the plight of the immigrants?

20. What is “chain migration”?