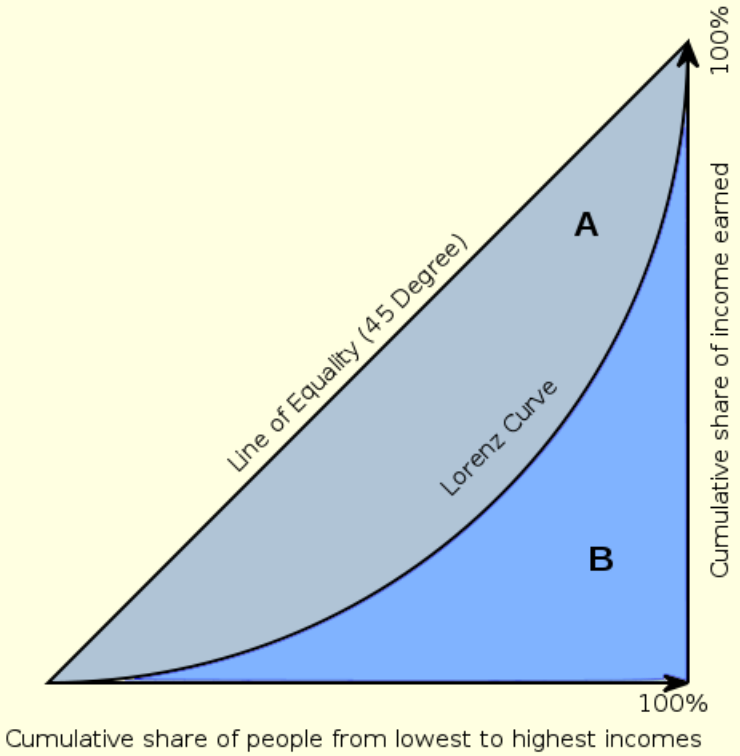
19th Century Social History

Lorenz Curve



- Richest 5% held 33% of nation's income
- Richest 20% held 55% of nation's income
- Bottom 30% held 10% of nation's income
- Why?
  - Economic specialization led to social diversification!
  - Marx, you were wrong!

Proletariat vs. Bourgeoisie

- Unified by physical skill
- Three levels:
  - “Labor Aristocracy”
  - Semiskilled
  - Unskilled
- Working class culture!
  - Social drinking
  - Spectator sports
  - Music halls and vaudeville theatre
  - Less religious due to secular urban environment

- Unified by mental ability
  - Basis: Advanced Education!!
- Three levels:
  - Upper middle, Middle middle, Lower middle!
- Middle class culture!
  - Food – lots of meat!
  - Dinner parties
  - “Servant Keepers”
  - Rented vacation homes
  - More time for leisure activities
  - Christian morality due to Protestant Work Ethic!

The Changing Family

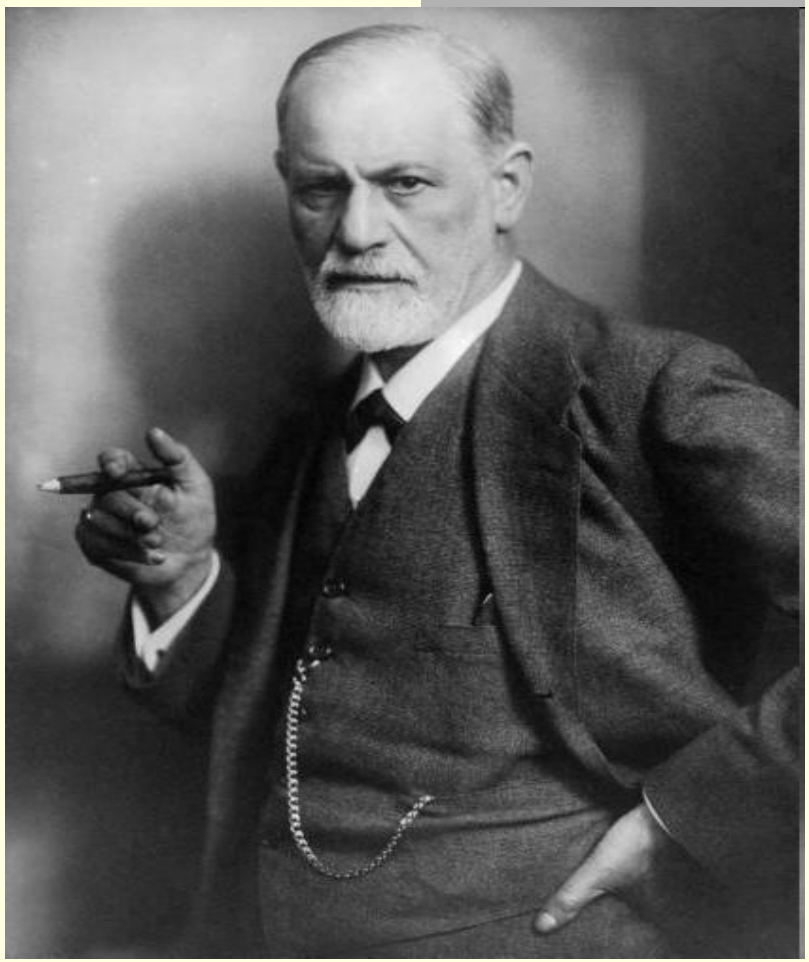
- How did conceptions about marriage change?
  - Romantic Love!
- Childbirth
  - Illegitimacy on the decline
    - Why?
- Prostitution
  - Stage of life for many working class women

The Changing Family

- Kinship Ties
  - Growing importance of relatives in everyday life
- Gender Roles
  - Separate Spheres!
    - Negatives?
    - Positives?

The Changing Family

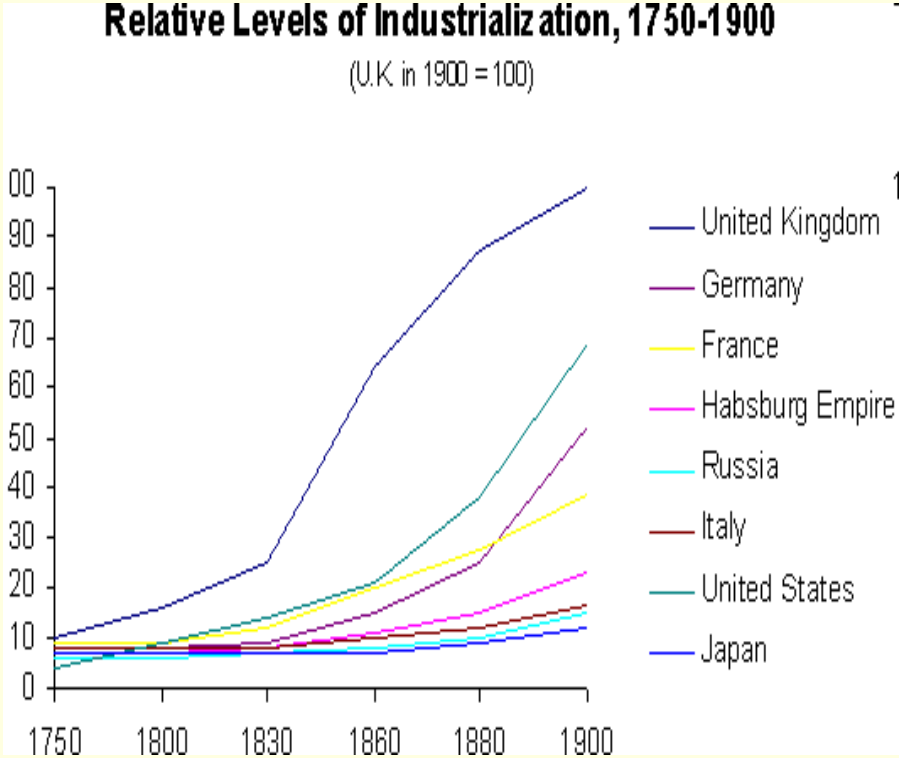
- Child-Rearing
  - More Care!!!!
  - Birth rate declines!
    - So What?
  - Growth of adolescence
    - Dostoevski
    - Freud
    - Experienced by all social classes?



Second Industrial Revolution

Theoretical discovery → Material benefit

- Causes?
- Aspects
  - Pasteur and the Bacterial Revolution
  - Chemicals
    - Laws of Thermodynamics
    - Mendeleev's Periodic Table
  - Oil (Petroleum)
    - Internal Combustion engine
  - Steel
    - Bessemer Process
  - Electricity
    - Faraday's Electromagnetism



Consequences:

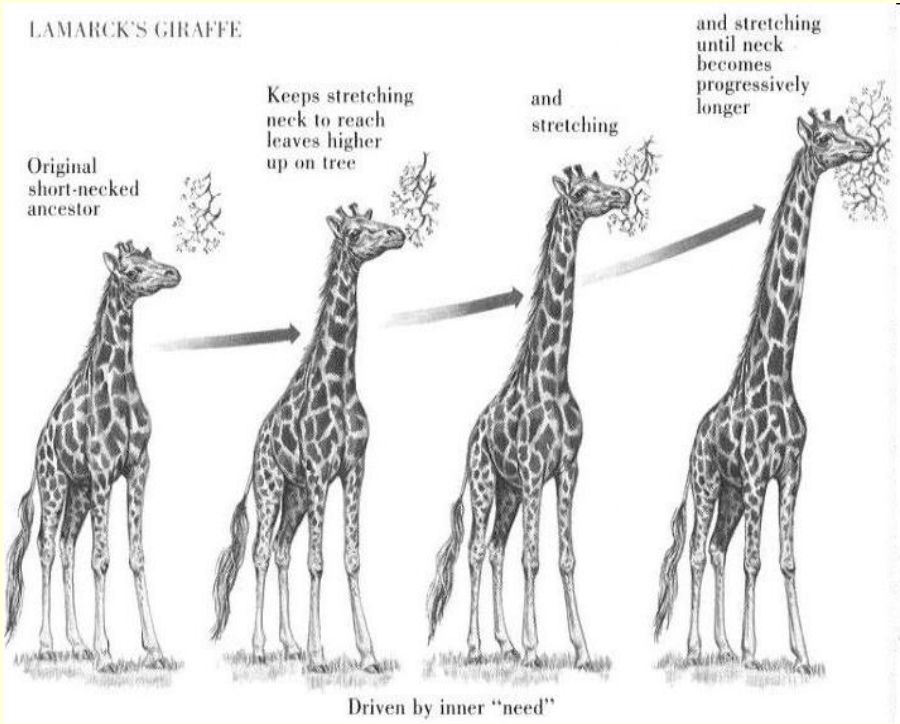
1) Popularity of science
2) Sense of unlimited progress
3) Science trumps faith!

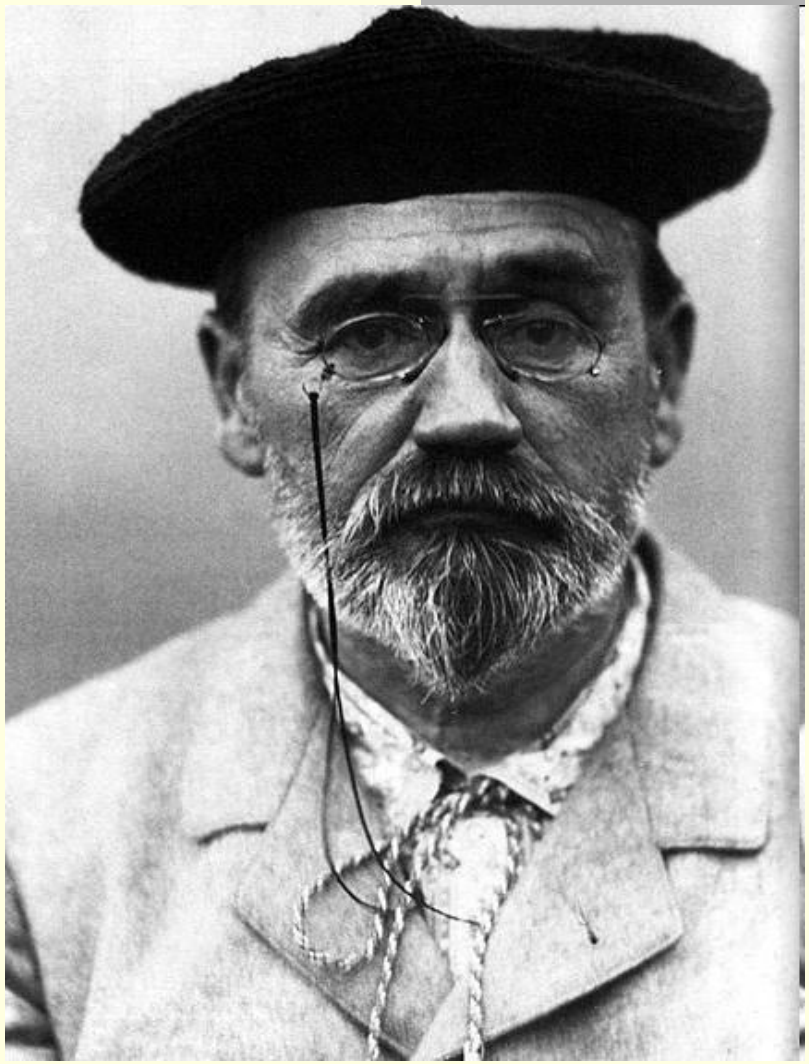
The Belle Epoque (1895-1914)

- Causes:
  - 2nd Industrial Rev.
  - Improved working conditions
  - Rise in standard of living
- Inventions
  - Phone, car, record player, radio, movie
- Education
  - Universal primary education
  - Popular literacy → Mass newspapers
- Leisure
  - Music & Dance halls
  - Tourism
  - Spectator sports
  - Amusement parks
- Consumption
  - Dept stores

Social Science and Evolution

- Auguste Comte
  - Advocated the positivist method
  - Social Science – Used data to study society
- Charles Darwin
  - *On the Origin of Species*
  - Common ancestral origin
  - “Natural Selection”
  - Influences the development of Social Darwinism!!!



Realism replaces Romanticism

- Influenced by scientific development in the new, urban society
- France
  - Balzac
  - Flaubert
  - Zola
- England
  - George Eliot
  - Thomas Hardy
  - Charles Dickens
  - Elizabeth Gaskell
- Russia
  - Leo Tolstoy