The Children's Society

Inspection and Regulation in Early Years

28 January 2010

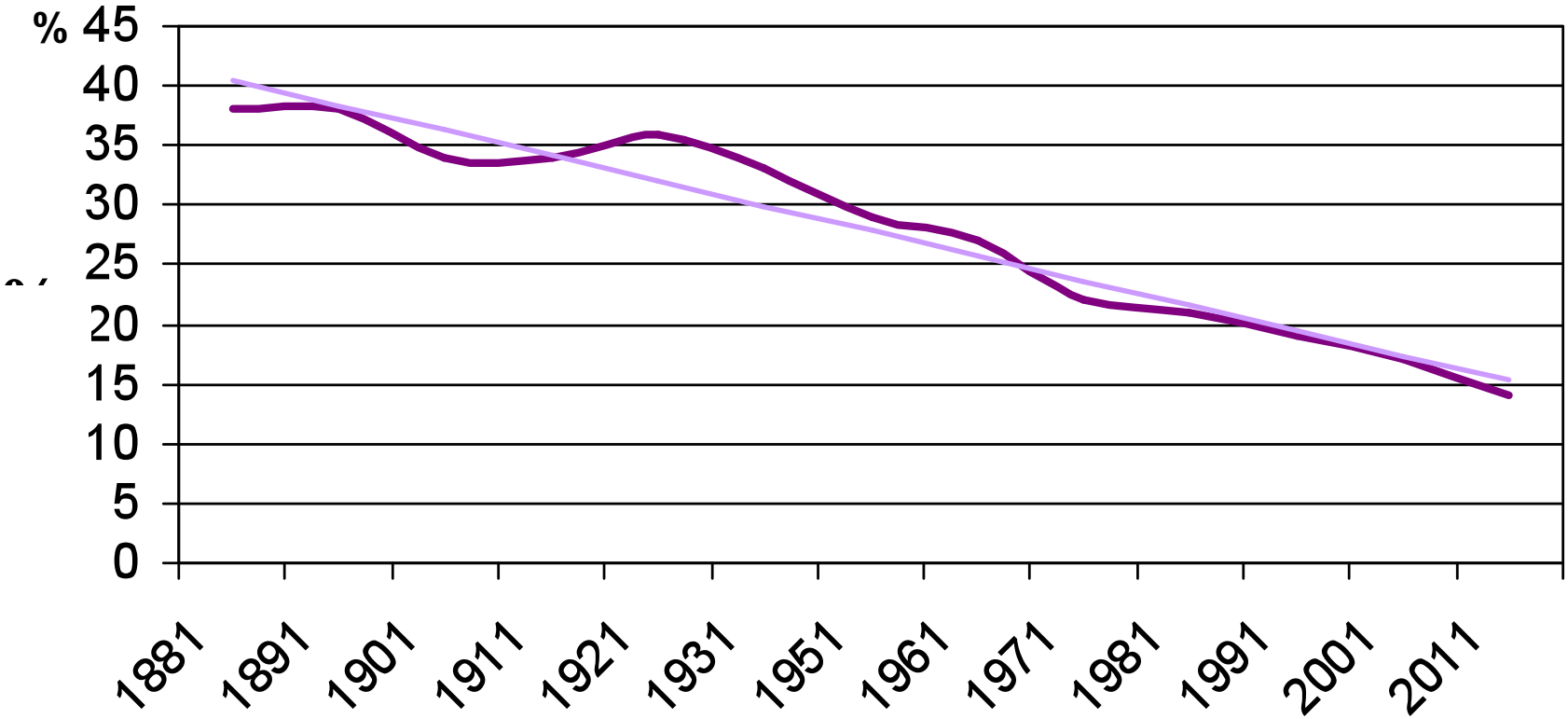
A Changing World

Bob Reitemeier
The Children's Society

The Children's Society

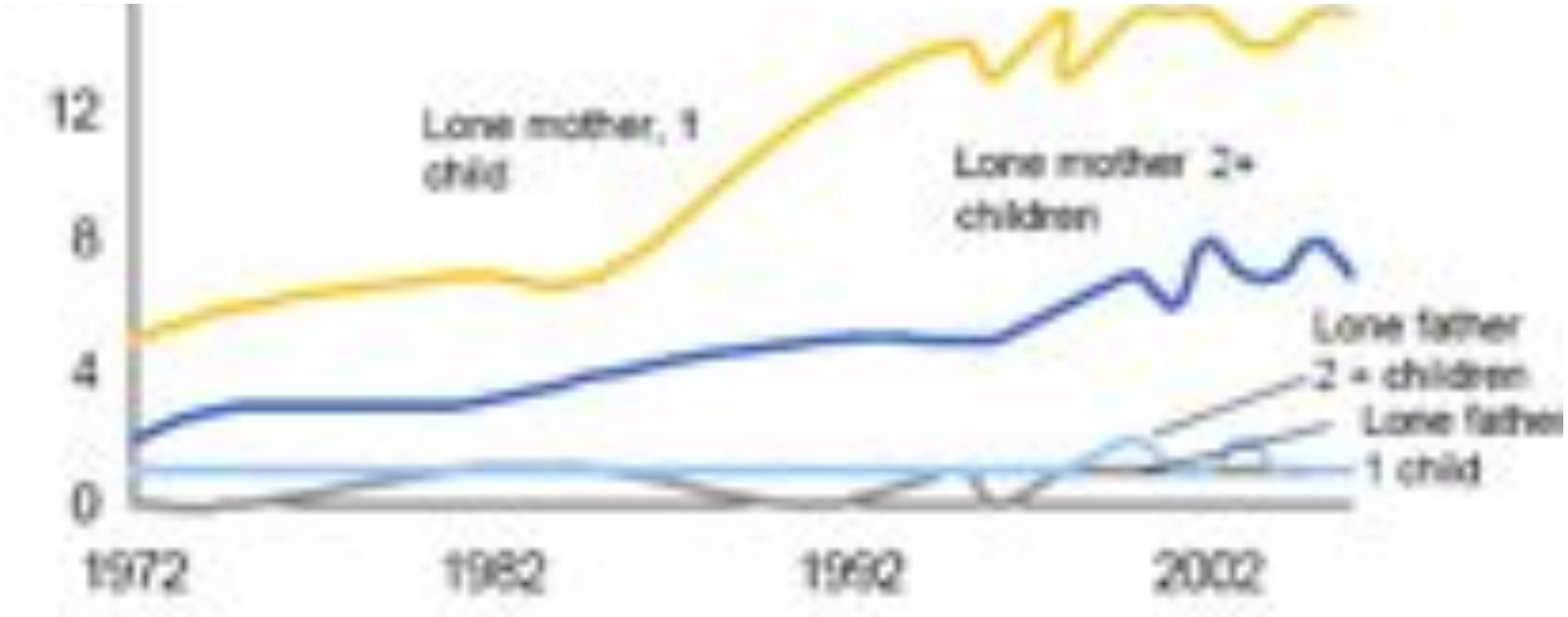
Setting the scene

Children as proportion of UK population

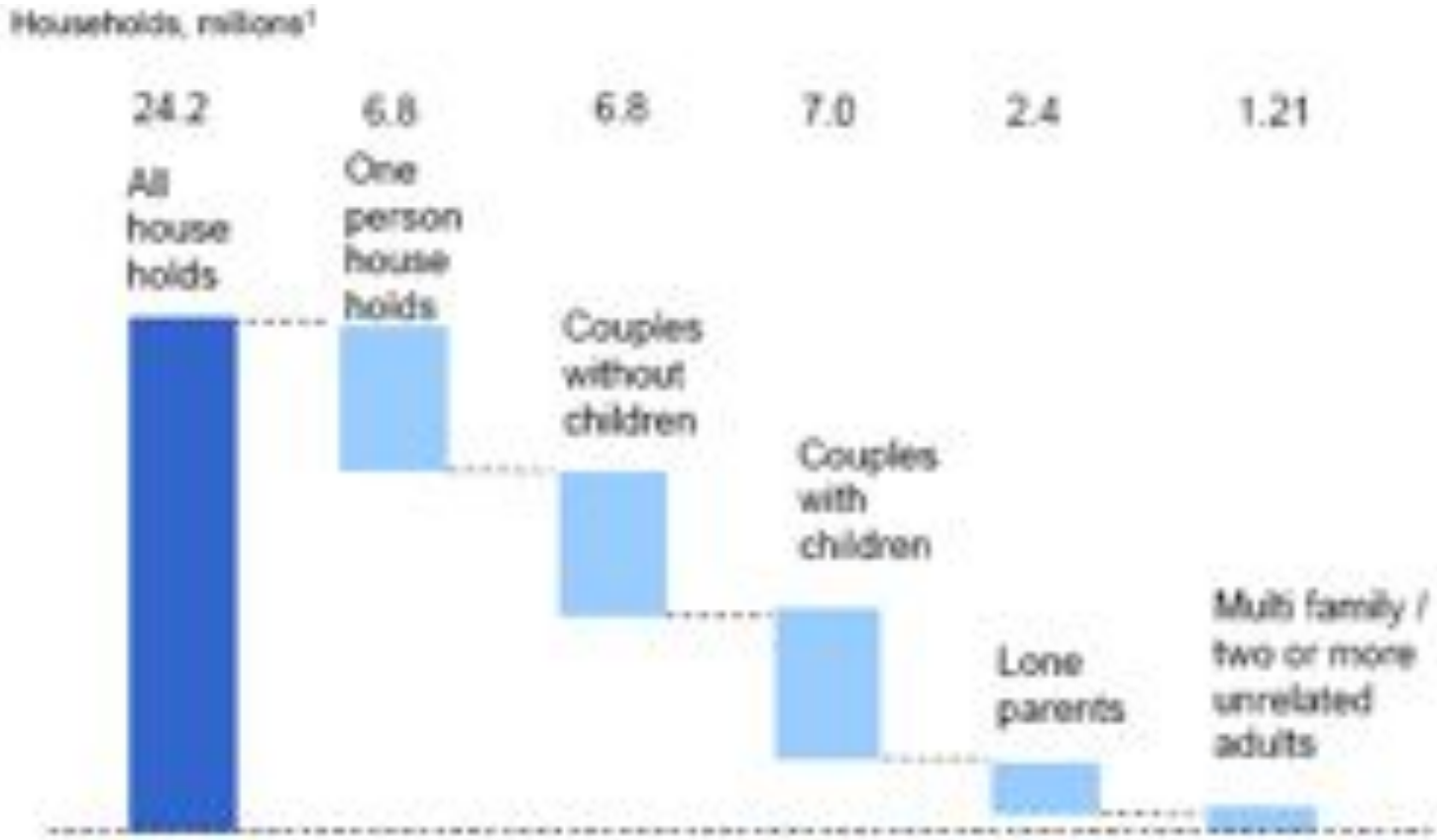


Children in lone parent families

% of all dependent children in each family type in the UK 1972-2005

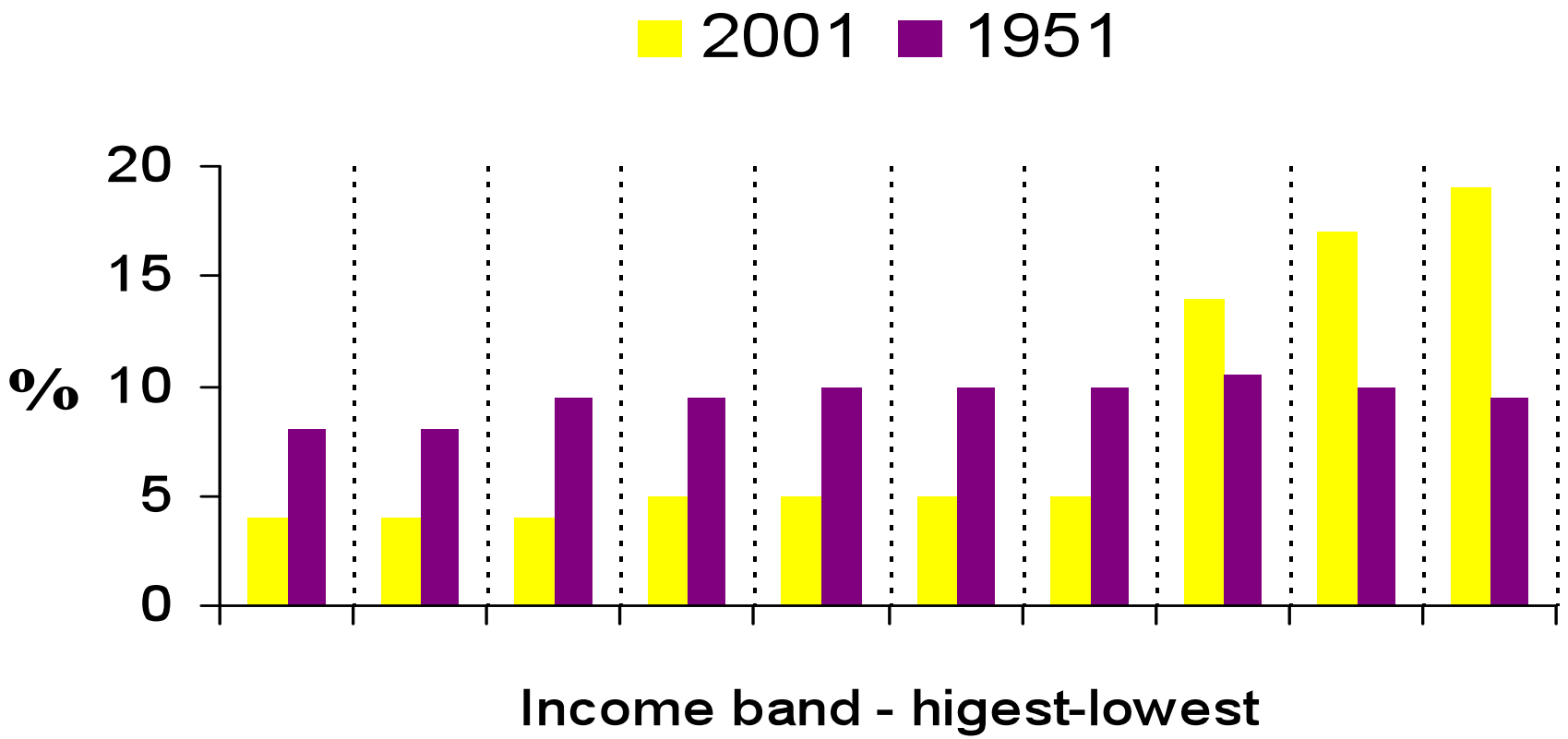


Distribution of families by household

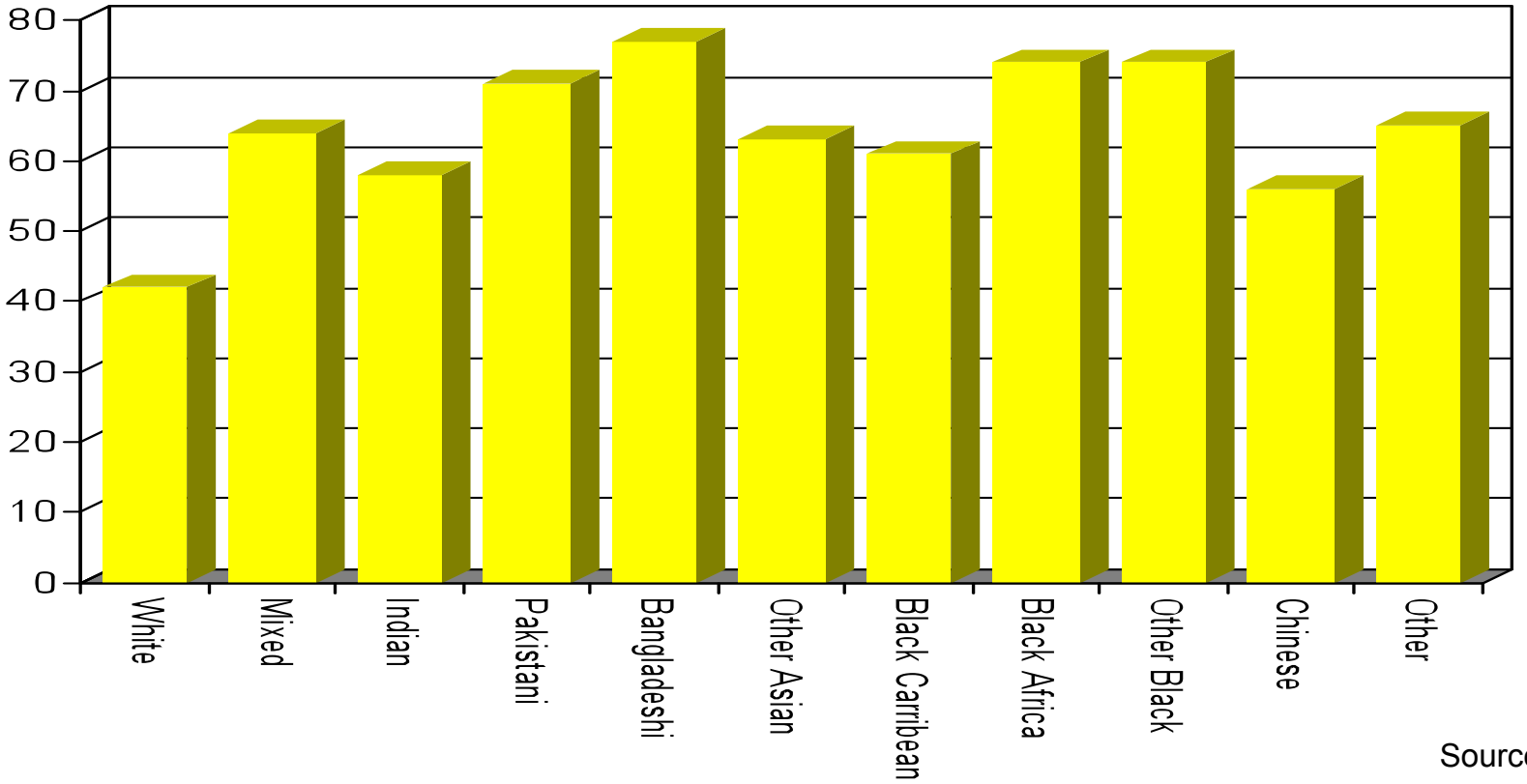


Source ONS 2008

Distribution of children by household income

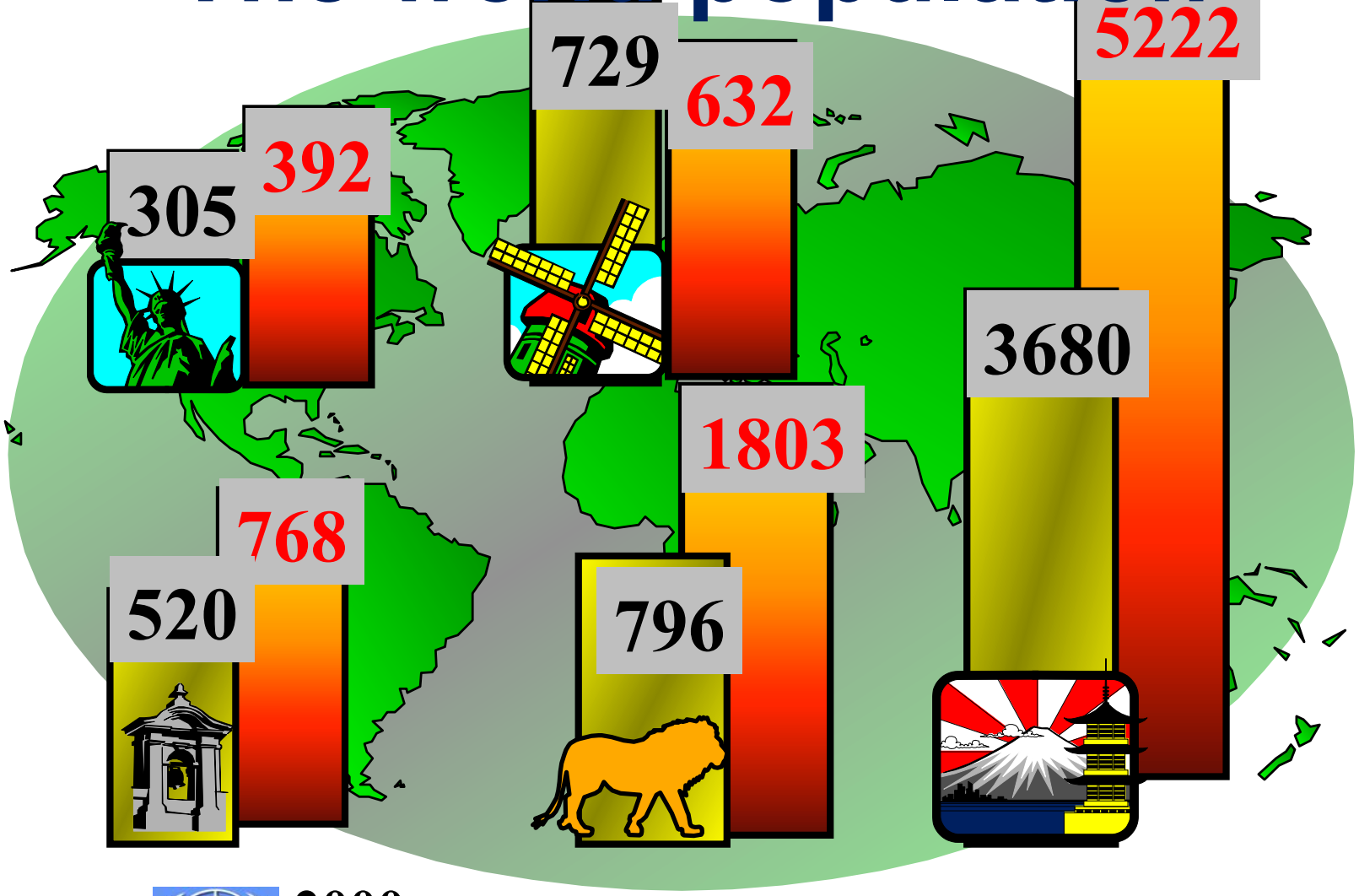


Families with dependent children as total of all families by ethnic group



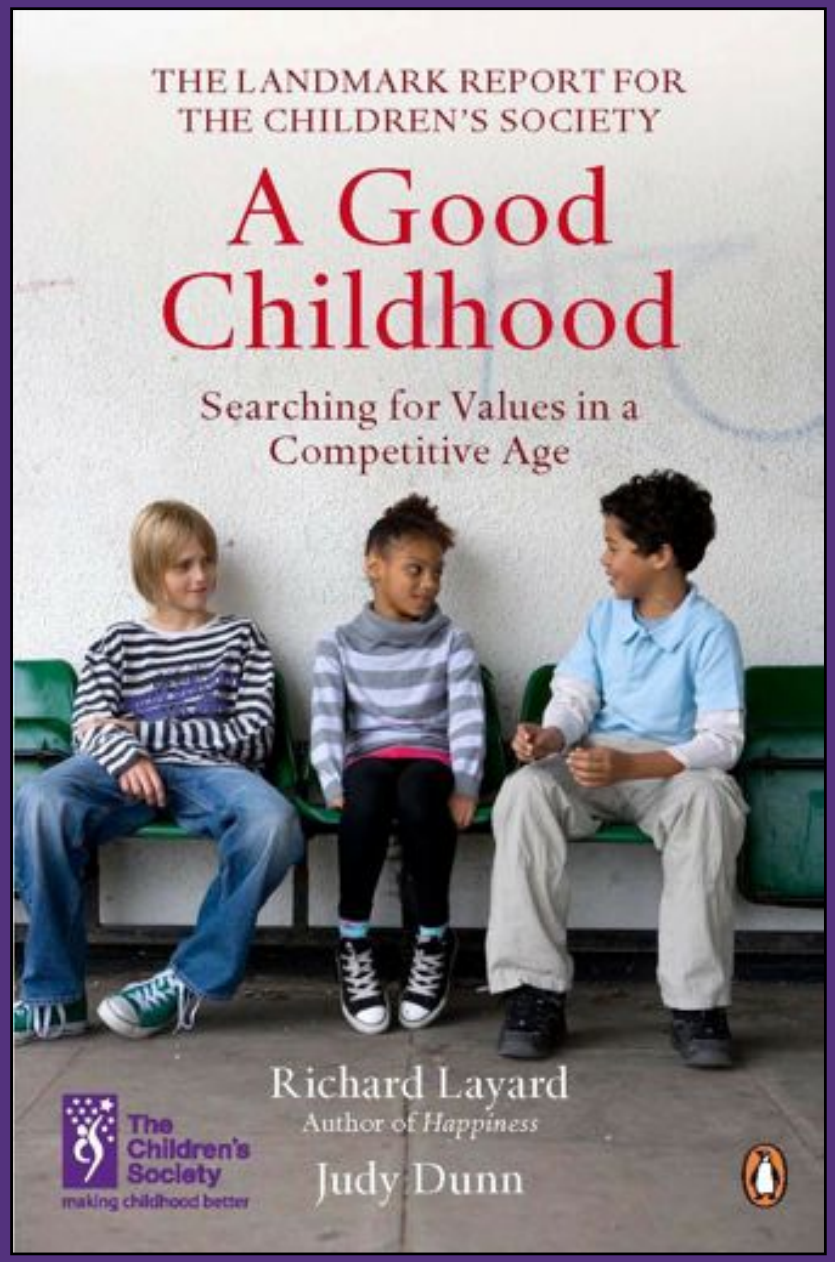
Source ONS 2001

The world population



2000
2050

The Children's Society



The Children's Society

What the inquiry says

The Children's Society

Seven Themes:

Family
Friends
Lifestyle
Values
Schooling
Mental Health
Inequalities

Family

What makes a happy family? 'It's just a family that loves each other, and as long as they do, that's a happy family'

8-year-old girl

Family

- Love – the key to a good start in life

  Loving families: good physical care, unconditional love, clear boundaries (authoritative parenting)

- Relationship with fathers
- Working parents
- Childcare
- Conflict between parents

Lifestyle

'Too much pressure makes me go for sugar'

12-year-old girl

Lifestyle

- Leisure time and money - Consumer society
- TV and Internet
- Advertising
- On-screen violence
- Obesity

Values

'If you grow up around good people, you usually become a good person'

14-year-old girl

Values

- The inner self
- Individualism
- Values in education
- Society's responsibility

The Children's Society

Inspection and Regulation in Early Years

28 January 2010

A Changing World

Bob Reitemeier
The Children's Society