

How much change had taken place for women by 1975?

A great deal of change had taken place in the lives of women by 1975 as you will see from these conversations between mothers and their daughters in 1975. Change had come – and a great deal of very important changes had been made that affected the lives of women in the years to 1975. But change, as you have seen from these conversations, didn't always make women's lives easier and often presented women with very difficult choices that their mothers didn't have to make.



TASK: For **each** of these aspects of women's lives: **Housework, Childcare, Pregnancy, Work Opportunities** and **earnings**, award a score of 1-5 (1 no change – 5 lots of change) then justify your reasoning for your score. Maybe draw up a table like the one below to help you.

	Score	Justification of your score:
Housework		
Childcare		
Pregnancy		
Work opportunities		
Earnings		

Key points:

- Legislation such as the Sex Discrimination Act and the Divorce Act had improved the legal status of women.
- More women were in paid employment than in 1939 which gave them greater economic freedom but most still earned less than men
- Women had more control over whether and when to have babies due to effective contraception and the Abortion Act.