

**Question 3 (6 marks)**

Name ONE theory of social change ..... Tonnies Theory of Social Change

With reference to a country you have studied, evaluate how your chosen theory of social change helps you to understand ONE feature of continuity and ONE feature of change within that country.

Tonnies Theory of Social Change helps to understand both continuity and changes in the country of Japan. Tonnies theory explores the concept of the Gemeinschaft and the Gesellschaft societies. The Gemeinschaft is the traditional society in which family and community are important, there is little evidence of multiculturalism and subcultures and status is determined by age and gender. This helps in understanding the continuity of Japanese traditional culture as evident in the Seijin No hi ceremony. The involvement of family and community here is extremely important and the continuity of it being a coming of age ceremony of 20 years for girls can be linked to the Gemeinschaft as status is then determined by age and gender. The feature of continuity also is the idea of the continuity, authority by males and in home and work. The Gesellschaft society explored in Tonnies theory of social change helps explore the feature of change in Japan. The Gesellschaft, or industrial society gives power and authority to wealth, money and power rather than age and gender. As well as having evidence of multiculturalism and subcultures, it is a society which allows individualism and diversity. This change in Japan can be seen in the increase of westernisation in Japan changing also some elements of the Seijin No hi in that technology and westernisation has meant that guests are seen chatting on their mobile phones ignoring guests. Although a conformist country when they choose not to conform they do so radically with electric blue/red hair etc.