slide 1
- the sociological imagination
  - c. wright mills 1959
  - ability to connect personal problems (private trouble) to a broader social context
  - ex. unemployment, divorce (increasing secularism, gender roles changing, more socially acceptable, shift towards individualism, legal reforms, family structure, people living longer)

slide 2
- reasons for increase in divorce
  - people living longer
  - legal changes
  - declining stigma
  - increasing secularism
  - women’s labour forces

slide 3
- slide 2 cont.
  - higher expectations (what qualities do you seek in a partner?)
  - shifting ideas about gender and unequal sharing of housework
  - inadequate supports for working parents which lead to marital conflict
  - greater diversity in families and intimate relationships, including greater acceptance of remaining single, cohabiting, and advocacy and social change for gays and lesbians

slide 4
MC D
The sociological imagination allows people to understand the relationship between: public or social issues and private troubles.

slide 5
MC C
If we apply the sociological imagination to the problem of divorce we can link divorce rates to changes in divorce legislation and social attitudes towards divorce.

slide 6
- Emile Durkheim
  - the more strongly anchored or attached a person is to society (through their social relationships, such as marriage), the less likely they are to commit suicide
  - suicide levels are related to social solidarity (the frequency of interaction within a social group), if social solidarity is very low = suicide increases
  - historically, suicide was understood from a psychological model, but Durkheim chose to look at it sociologically
  - showed how suicide rates varied by different sociological factors, like religion, marital status, or gender
  - found that protestants had higher suicide rates than the catholics since they were not encouraged to be socially interactive as the catholics were