(Dorling, 2010)

* He focuses on the divide in life expectancy, poverty, education and skills, employment and wealth. He suggests that these themes pertain to traditional measures of quality of life
* The latest mortality data, for 2006,07 shows inequalities in health across Britain returning to relative levels of inequality last seen in the 1920s and 30s
* He suggests there is a clear North-West- South-East gradient to life expectancy
* This is less clear in terms of increasing poverty where poverty has increased more where wealth has increased the most i.e. London
* In terms of education, the majority of the highly educated cluster in the south
* He creates an index that combines measures of quality of life through: lack of disease, ignorance, idleness, want and squalor as reflected through their modern equivalents of high life expectancy, good qualifications, low work-related benefit claims, low rates of poverty and high house prices
* From this it can be seen that in general, English cities are divided between those in the South-East of the country and those situated towards the North-West, and the SE is increasingly dominated by London
* Based on these indicators he draws a dividing line from the River Severn to the Wash
* Although he suggests that the border does move, especially when a new motorway is built or train line to London improved
* He acknowledged that there are areas that look and sometimes feel like the South, such as areas around the Vale of York and Cheshire
* He suggests that the only comparative is the divide that used to separate East and West Germany along lines of wealth and health
* There is little signs of the divide narrowing, with many indicators widening