

VISION IAS.

SOCIOLOGY TEST CODE 1530

NAME: A. CATHERINE SARANYA.

Medium: ENGLISH.

Registration number: 357350A

Date: 18.11.2020.

INDEX TABLE

Q.No	Maximum marks.	Marks obtained.
1a)	10	
b)	10	
c)	10	
d)	10	
e)	10	
2a)	20	
b)	20	
c)	10	
3a)	20	
b)	20	
c)	10	
4a)	20	
b)	20	
c)	10	
5a)	10	
b)	10	
c)	10	
d)	10	
e)	10	
6a)	20	
b)	20	
c)	10	
7a)	20	
b)	20	
c)	10	

8a)	20	
b)	20	
c)	10	

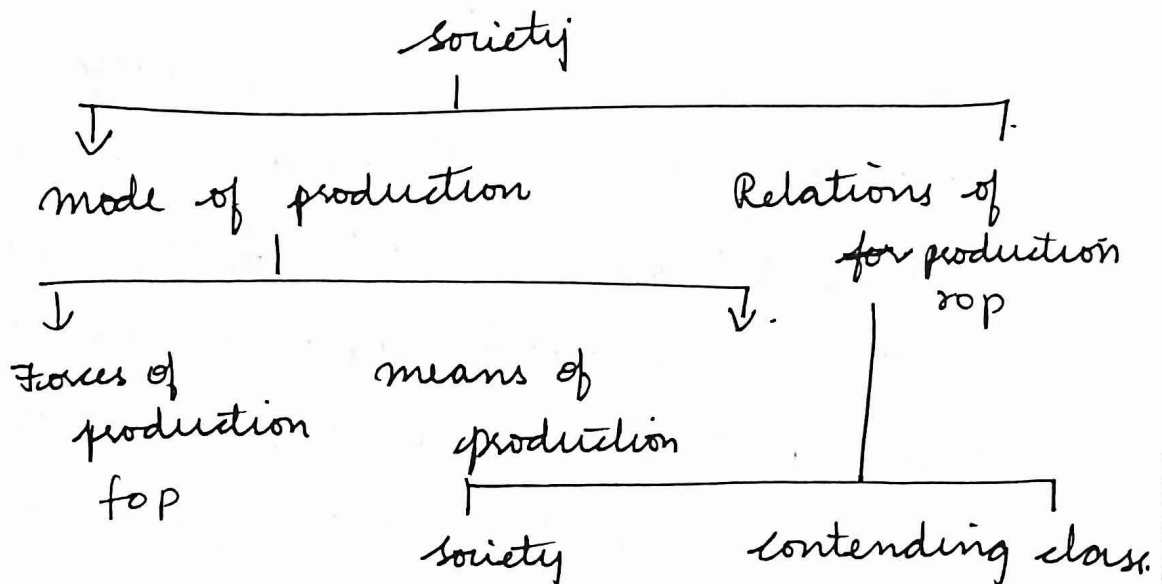
Overall macro comments

1 a)

Historical Materialism is Economic Determinism

Karl Marx studied society through Historical Materialism. Historical because he traced the evolution of society and materialism as he classified society on the basis of material production.

Fig. Historical Materialism



- 1) Primitive communism.
- 2) Ancient - master and slaves
- 3) Feudal - feudal lords and serfs.
- 4) Capitalist - bourgeoisie and proletariat

Economic relation governed the mode and forces of production. People came together for the process of production. Surplus produces lead to the transformation of relation of production creating a new classes of contention.

Karl Popper criticized Marx for economic reductionism (i.e) reducing society to just economic relations. For Marx, the base of the society was infrastructure - $rop + fop$. The superstructure consisting of polity, family, religion etc was also based on the infrastructure.

Historical materialism can also be viewed through the wider lens of culture, customary laws rituals etc.

b) Briefly discuss the functional prerequisites
of social systems by TP

Talcott Parson's functional prerequisite is the AGIL framework. He sought to understand the social system through

- 1) cultural system
- 2) social system.
- 3) political system.
- 4) organismic system

The AGIL framework was a functional prerequisite according to him and a theoretical tool in the grand-sociological research.

Adaptation (A)	Goal attainment (G)
Latency. (L)	Integration (I)

Fig: Parson's functional prerequisite.

1) Adaptation refers to the allocation of resources eg economic system.

2) Goal attainment - is the achievement of collective goal eg political system

3) Integration - the integrative structure to maintain order eg culture

4) Latency - Pattern maintenance and tension management in the society eg family.

The AGIL framework can be used to understand the necessity of law, education and technology etc as agents of social change.

Parsons is credited for giving the building block of functional pre requisite.

c)

Explain the nature and scope of quantitative methods of data collection in sociological research

Quantitative method of sociological ~~res~~ research involves the quantitative measure, analysis and interpretation of variables.

Nature of quantitative methods!

Data collection is the ~~second~~ fourth stage of sociological research after hypothesis formulation, sampling and pre testing.

Quantitative measures of data collection is based on sampling using probabilistic method. Every ~~res~~ sample has an equal chance of being chosen.

1. It is free from individual bias and conflict
2. It helps in variable conception
3. It frees oneself from prejudice and assumptions.

Scope

Quantitative method of data collection can be used for generalization and analysis. However, there are limitations to the use of quantitative measure ^{for} society

society is not static rather dynamic. Social meanings, social interactions cannot be given a quantitative measure. Other qualitative measures like field study, participant observations on the other hand increase subjective bias.

However, we have seen that Global Happiness Index gives a quantitative measure for qualitative concept of happiness. Hammersley argues that objective reality can still be constructed at all circumstances.

d) History is the past sociology and sociology is the present history. Examine

[H.E-Howard] remarks that History is the past sociology and sociology is the present history. [Seeley] also says that History without sociology is fruitless and sociology without History is rootless.

[Sociology is present History.]

Sociologist who presented the evolutionary theories of social change study the historical evolution of society. According to [Auguste Comte], society evolved from.

theological → meta physical → positivism.

Studies on development, cyclical theories of social change account for the present history. They study - work and economic life, politics, religion, family & kinship etc.

History is past sociology

History is one of the oldest brands of social science. In order to understand one's present it is necessary to know the past. In fact, theories of Indology, Egyptology attempt to understand History as the past sociology.

Historical materialism of Karl-Marx connects the subjects of History and sociology ~~two~~ on the basis of economic determinism.

Sociology and History are complementary to each other and give a holistic understanding of society.

e) Discuss the relevance of feminist methodology in sociological Research.

Feminism is a minor theoretical strand in sociological research. The argument is centralized on the theme that, women face exploitation in the hands of men - Sylvia Walby.

Relevance of feminist methodology

UN report says women constitute $\frac{1}{2}$ of the population, do $\frac{2}{3}$ work, earn $\frac{1}{10}$ wages and own $\frac{1}{100}$ of land. Feminist perspective in sociology aims to bridge the gap in a discipline dominated by men.

1. Feminization of poverty by Diiane Pearce helps understand women's role in work and economic life.
2. Dual dichotomy - of women regarded as goddess but exploited or within the household exposes the nature of

religious beliefs and practices.

3. Women as safety valve - Jan Ashley.

regards that women act as a safety valve in case of conflict within the family. She adds the extra dimension in the study of systems of kinship.

4. Eco feminism - Nandana Shiva.

complains that women and loss of biodiversity go hand in hand. She establishes the link between women and environment movements.

5. Role of women in politics is limited.

according to Rajni Kothari. This enhances discrimination.

Feminism in sociological research expands the scope of study by adding this sub-altern perspective.

2a)

To understand the emergency of sociology in Europe there is a need to appreciate the relationship b/w society and ideas. Elaborate in context of emergency of sociology as a distinct discipline. 20

Sociology is the systematic and scientific study of society based on sensory observation free from prejudices and biases.

Background of emergence of the discipline

Sociology as a discipline emerged in Europe post the 15th century. Prior to that, the study of society was integrated with History, Anthropology, Political Science etc.

Renaissance marked the point of departure.

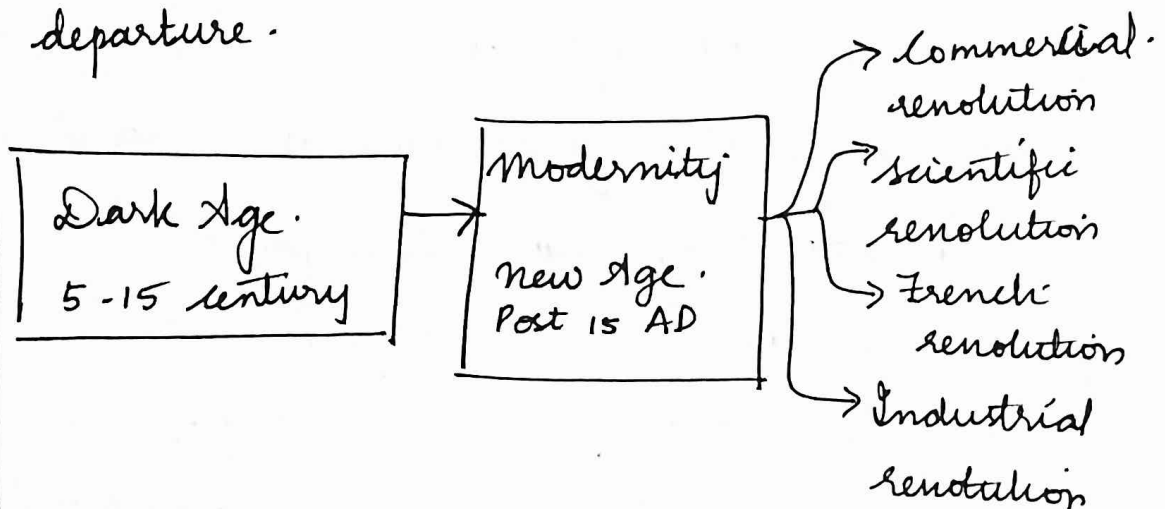


Fig: Transition from tradition to modernity in Europe.

Traditional European society was characterized as - hierarchical, collectivity, transcendence belief and continuity - But renaissance marked the era of modernity.

There was paradox among the intellectuals as there was a difference in reality v/s the ideal reality. There was a need to appreciate the society and ideas which emerged during this phase.

Commercial Revolution

The geographical expansion of trade was a result of commercial revolution. Long voyages, markets exposed men to different ideas and practices. Also new economic institutions like banks, capital markets emerged. The living standards improved but the social mobility was not uniform. It ignited the minds.

thinkers to answer the relative deprivation

Scientific Revolution

Scientific principles enhanced trade and productivity. It pushed man into a rational being. Charles Darwin in his Theory of Evolution studied the society humans who evolved from simple beings

similarly, scholars like Auguste Comte, Herbert Spencer wanted to study the emergence of society.

French revolution

This brought the ideals of justice, equality and fraternity. However, the extravagant wars, poverty had marginalized people from worthwhile living. Thinkers wanted to answer these questions. The structural strain in society was a

result of political institutions. Ideas like democracy, nation-state, citizenship emerged.

Industrial revolution

It witnessed the transition from home based production to factory based mass production. Except for the few ruling class members, the rest faced alienation and exploitation.

Industrial revolution was also a paradox as man's surplus labour was extracted in the name of production.

The emergence of sociology as an autonomous discipline was due to the need of ideas on society in the European society.

2b)

suicide as a social fact is an illustration of
E D Durkheim's view on society and methodology.
Discuss.

social fact according to Emile.
Durkheim is the subject matter of
sociology. He used it as a tool in his
'de suicide - Theory of suicide'

suicide as a social fact

social fact is the way of acting,
thinking, feeling which is more or less
general in the society. suicide was a
social fact according to Durkheim
contrary to a psychology perspective.

characteristics of social fact

- 1) External - lies outside the individual -
suicide's reason lies outside the person.
- 2) Independent - it is not dependent on
his/her will.
- 3) Constraint - it constrains one's behaviour.
- 4) general - it is general in nature.

Theory of suicide

Suicide was a result of 2 factors

- 1) Integration and
- 2) regulation

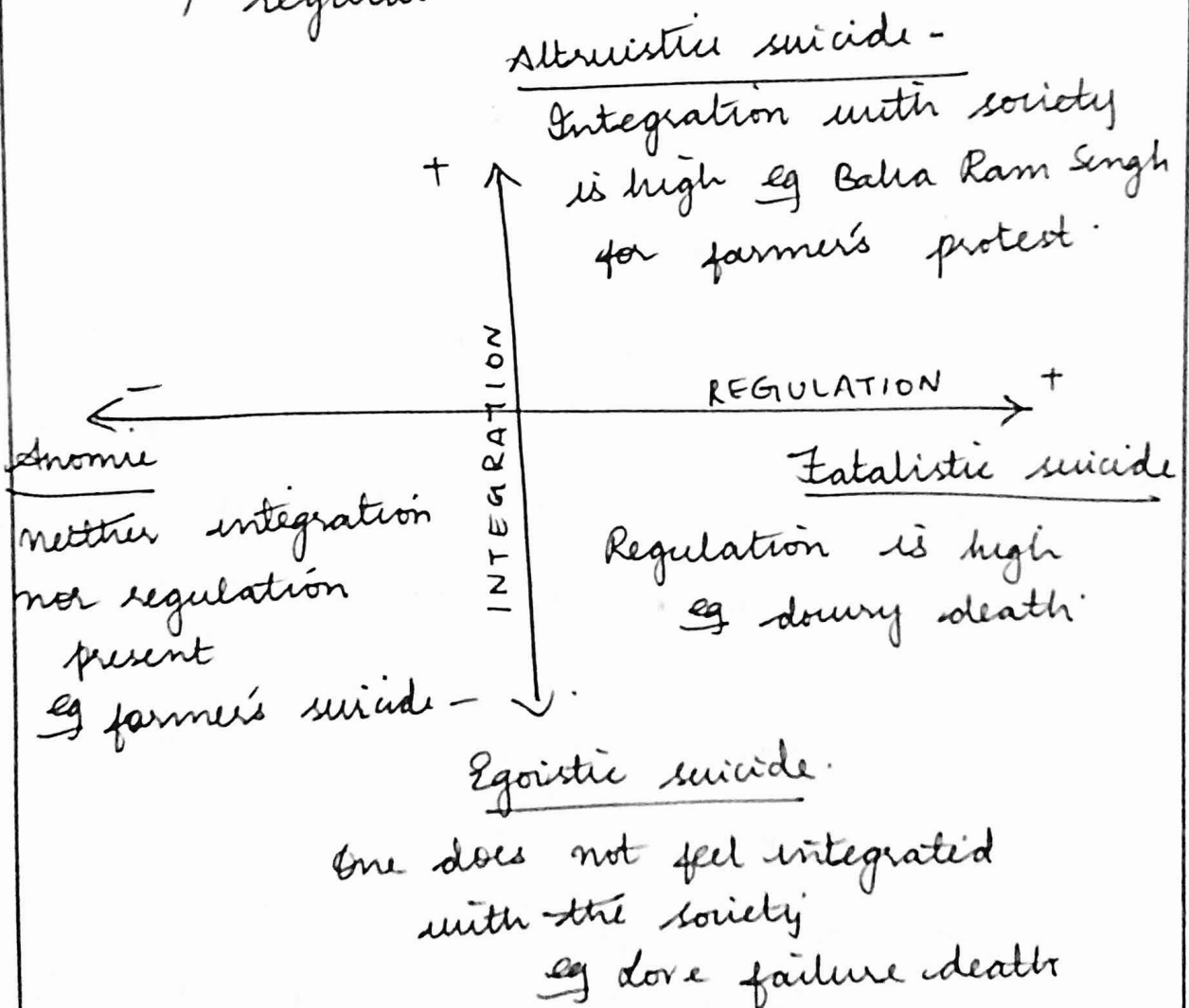


Fig: Types of suicide

Suicide as a view of society

Through the theory of suicide, Durkheim intended to present his view on society. He makes the following observation.

1. Pathological social fact results in suicide.
2. He establishes causal relationship between suicide and religion. A protestant has high chances of committing suicide due to strong regulation than a catholic.
3. The likelihood of a bachelor committing suicide is higher than that of a married person.

View on methodology

Durkheim adopted scientific principles of data collection, analysis,

classification, generalization. He advocates Positivism to study sociology as a discipline.

He is credited for presenting sociological research in a scientific manner.

Criticisms

1. Hiedelman argues that Durkheim was considered with creating sociology than understanding it.
2. Peter Berger points out that social facts don't fall from sky.
3. J. D. Douglas questions the authenticity of the data used in *Le suicide*.

Nevertheless, Durkheim a positivist continues inspiring young minds to study the positive science of society.

2c) Religion is the opium of masses and an ^① instrument of classes. Critically analyze. ^②

Emile Durkheim defined religion as a unified system of beliefs and practices uniting people into a single moral community.

According to Karl Marx, religion which is part of the super structure is the opium of the masses. Just like how an opium dulls the pain of man, religion dulls the pain caused due to capitalism.

Religion is used as a tool for legitimizing the dominant ruling class ideology. Bible says, "it is easier for a camel to go into the eye of ~~an~~ an eye a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God". These guidelines perpetuates pauperization,

and alienation

Max Weber defers and presents the theory of Protestant ethics and the spirit of capitalism. Here he draws parallel between the ideal types of calvinism and capitalism

Kinsley Davis says that the cultural goal of a society is based on religion. Similarly Talcott Parsons explains that religion gives moral guidelines for a society eg 10 commandments.

Religious revivalism eg love jihad, conversion of Hagia Sophia mosque etc have brought to question if religion continues to be the opium of the masses.

39)

In what ways are Marrs and Weber's theories of class at odds with each other and to what extent can they be seen as complementary?

Karl Marx and Max Weber observed class as an institution of social stratification, though they did not completely agree with each others theory.

class at odds.

Karl Marx's class.

Weber's class.

Approach

1. He adopted a conflict perspective to study class.

Weber used Phenomenology - interpretative understanding of class

Definition

2. class is a fundamental group or a tangible entity capable of becoming a social force.

class is defined on the basis of market situation (i) the buying capacity of individuals

Stratification

3. Two types

ruling class -

bourgeoisie

working class -

proletariat



3.) 4 types

(i) bourgeoisie

(ii) property less white
collared workers

(iii) petty bourgeoisie
manual working
class.

Class consciousness

class as a social
group would
develop class
consciousness and
class solidarity

He refuted the
presence of class
consciousness among
class groups.

Future of class

A classless
egalitarian will
be created through
communism (i.e.)
dictatorship of
proletariat.

Embourgeoisment of
working class
members



Thus Weber and Marx accepted the existence of class in an industrial society but differed in their observation on functionality and future of class. However, there are some similarities

Class - complementary.

The key feature of a capitalist industrial society is class. Both Marx and Weber agreed on this issue. Class determined the economic position of an individual.

Both Marx and Weber agreed that working class labour was extracted to achieve organisational goals. According to Marx, class was the sole basis of social stratification.

But Weber disagreed arguing that class, status, and party also were basis for social stratification

Trends in class

The growth of middle class in the contemporary society - Frank Parkin is an example of the relevance of class studies.

However, Marx's prediction of proletarianization is yet to be achieved. In this case, Weber presents a practical reality of society

3b) Merton's theory of anomie is a harrowing but essentially different from that of Durkheim.
Critically examine

R. K. Merton's theory of anomie was based on his study of American society. Anomie is a state of normlessness and is a pathological social fact according to Durkheim.

Merton's theory of anomie - a harrowing

Merton's theory of anomie was used to explain the pattern of conformity and deviance in American society.

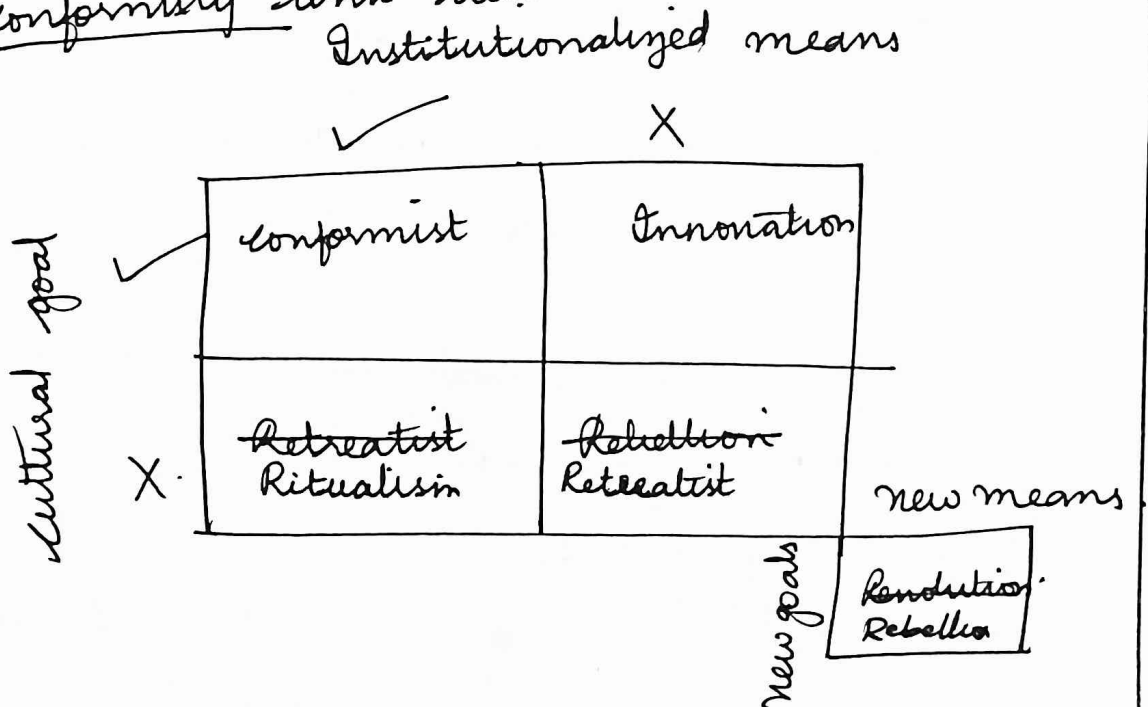


Fig: Analytic Topology.

According to him, the American society had value consensus on economic expansion. But there was lack of adequate means and opportunity. This forced people towards deviance.

He studied anomie as a pathological form just like Durkheim. When patterns of integration and regulation results in suicide in Durkheim's theory on suicide; the goals, and institutional means and its limitations leads to anomie.

However, the work of Merton differed from that Durkheim in the following respects.

Merton's theory of anomie - Uniqueness

Durkheim attempted to build a theoretical generalization on anomie.

R-K-Merton attempted just a Middle range theory confined to American society.

He explored into the dimensions of deviance, conformity, delinquency, sub-culture of deviance in his theory.

He did not accept the functional nature of social facts and claimed rev was possible through new goals and new means.

Relevance of the theory of anomie

The state of normlessness gives a sociological understanding of many.

present day reality .

eg1 white supremacist attacks

eg2. Islamaphobia in western countries

Durkheim's solution to the state of anomie is alter the pattern of social structure. Merton on the other hand says function and dysfunctions of middle range theories is inevitable.

The theory of anomie throws insight on the aspect of deviance in society . Thus Merton is credited for formulating the sociology of Deviance

3c)

Phenomenology represents the most radical departure from the scientific quantitative methodology. Critically analyze the statement (2)

Phenomenology as a theoretical strand in sociology emerged as a criticism to positivism

Phenomenology is based on social meaning, orientation, means and value. Max Weber advocated this theory. Scientific principles to understand society was rejected and in its place, interpretative understanding (i.e.) verstehen was adopted.

It comprised of 2 steps:

- i) Direct observation and
- ii) Empathetic dissonance.

Most radical departure.

Ull then sociology was dominated by positivist like August Comte,

Herbert Spencer, Emile Durkheim; who attempted to create a positive science of society.

Phenomenology weaned out of sociology from science - Weber gave the methodological tool of ideal types and social action approach - It was carried forward by Alfred Schutz, Peter Berger etc

Criticisms

1. P. S. Cohen criticizes ideal types and verstehen approach for its subjective bias
2. R. H. Jauney - Phenomenology ~~too~~ makes understanding of social interactions difficult.

Phenomenology however has helped understand bureaucracy, types of authority through interpretative methods.

5a) Robert D. Putnam conception of social capital.

Robert D. Putnam defines social capital as the interconnection between individuals who establish social network and norms that paves way for 'worthful living'.

Unlike Pierre Bourdieu, Putnam concentrates on the positive conception of social capital.

- 1) It aides consolidation in the democratic process eg civil society
- 2) It helps improves the standard of living among members in a society
- 3) It improves livelihood opportunities eg self help groups.

social capital thus is essential building a healthy society according to Putnam.



5b) Critically examine various Theories of revolution

Revolution is the violent means of overturning power and capture authority.

Theories of revolution

1. Marxist theory - Revolution is a result of transformation of class in itself \rightarrow class for itself.

There will be dictatorship of proletariat established after revolution. Karl Marx says that the communism established after revolution will be egalitarian in nature. eg October revolution, 1917

2. New Marxist - James Davies points out that revolution is possible only when there is improvement in the standard of living. In this case, the bargaining capacity of people increases and their power also increases leading to revolution.

3. structural strain by Neil J. Smelser

In this case, the existing social norms and values are inconsistent with the demands of society

eg Iranian revolution

4. social banditry by F.K. Oomen

Revolution and social movement in this case is to restore lost glory and establish dominance

Revolution has a negative object through violence. In the historical evolution of society, revolution has brought social change and social decomposition.

5c)

Discuss the sociological significance of distinction b/w family and household.

Burgesse and Locke defines family as a social group integrated by blood, marriage or adoption.

A.M. Shah defines household as the primary unit of dwelling.

Distinction between family and household

Firstly, family is a social institution a part of the social system. Household is just a structural unit

Second, family is characterized as a social group, lineage & descent, kinship system. But the members of a family in part or full only reside in a household.

Third, family as the following functions according to Horton & Hunt

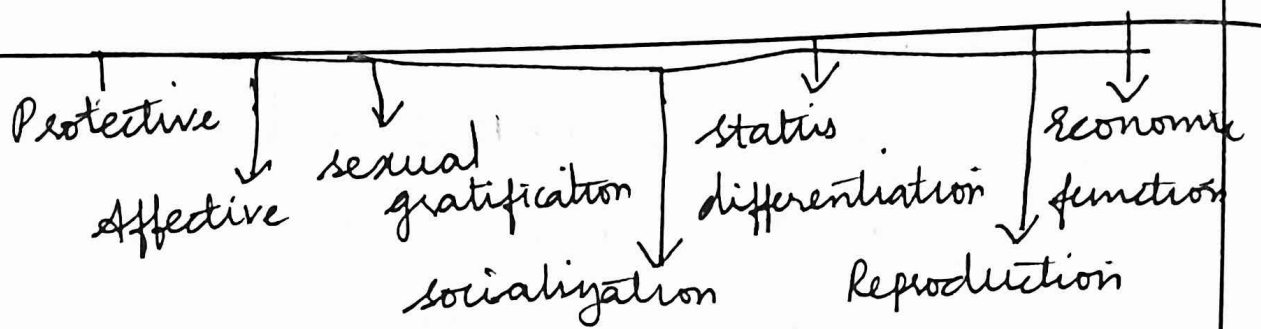


Fig: functions of family

Household on the other hand may be the common unit of residence —
D.P. Mukherjee . Commensality or eating together may be an important function.

The conception of joint and nuclear family is based on family size and households.

In the Indian context, it is difficult to draw a clear distinction between family and household.

5d)

Critically examine the view

MacIver and Page define society as a web of social relationship and social change is the change in the system of relationship.

Linear theories of social change

It is also called classical evolutionary theory. Scholars like August Comte, Hobhouse, L.H. Morgan, Herbert Spencer presents linear theories of social change.

San Robert criticises them and says that society is grouped into irrelevant categories. For example, Comte shows the evolution of society from theology → meta physical → positivism. when in reality such clear cut distinction is not possible.

Malinowski calls these theories as a result of arm chair sociologist culture. Durkheim's study on social change from mechanical solidarity to organic solidarity lacks any field research.

Most scholars, assume that the highest form of evolution is present in the European society - This makes them biased towards other society. According to K. H. Morgan.

savage → barbarism → civilization
and civilization was present in the European society.

The theories of social change - account for the changes in norms, culture, value from a simple to a complex society.

c) In the wake of the globalization the power of nation state is eroding. Critically analyze.

UNDP defines globalization as the integration of nations and free flow of goods, service, ideas, labour etc.

Nation-state is a modern phenomena and has been strengthened through globalization. Nacine nationalism, enacting citizens from other country are ~~two~~ some instances of globalization and its relation with nation state.

Evaluation

Globalization has impacted several sections of people marginalizing them eg demand for catalonia - a nation without state.

According to Gabriel Almond, globalization has caused erosion of culture which paves way for fundamentalism increasing the role of state's security for its citizens. Globalization is the key feature of post industrial society Daniel Bell.

It also marks the emergence of new forms of crimes eg tin piracy, data theft, deep fakes etc. Nation states are empowered through multilateral conventions eg Budapest cybercrime convention to deal with these issues.

Globalization has indeed increased the power of modern nation-state.

7a)

① While classical pluralist have some similarities with Parson's functionalist theory ^② but it also differs from it on many important aspects - Examine

The theory of power proposed by classical pluralist and Talcott Parsons have similarities and differences

Max Weber defines power as the ability of men or group of men to exercise power over others even against their resistance.

Classical Pluralist

Classical pluralist believe that power is held by the society at large - Robert Dahl envisages the concept of polyarchy. There are other scholars like John Locke, Robert Mckenzie who observe power is spread among a wider section of society contrary to elite theorist.

Parson's theory

Parson means power to be held by the society at large. There is a value-consensus based on which a collective goal is decided. The degree of power depends on the ability to achieve the collective goal.

He believed in the variable sum concept of power where power varied across all sections of society.

Pluralist and Parsons: similarity

Pluralist and Parson agree on the variable sum concept of power. Power varies across people at different points of time. This is in contradiction to Marx and Weber's

zero sum concept of power.

They also agreed that power was held mutually among people, citing their functional need. However, the pluralist and Parson had serious differences in the following aspects

Pluralist and Parsons: Differences

Pluralist did not agree on value consensus based on which a collective goal would emerge. Society was too heterogeneous for it to have a collective goal and more so value consensus.

Pluralist also believed that power alone cannot be the sole measurement for social integration.

and social collectivity - There are other alternatives to power relations such as pressure groups 'civil society' etc.

Trends

Autocracy is replacing democracy. Countries like Thailand, Myanmar are demanding decentralization of power-relationship eg Hong Kong - pro democracy protest. Here, pluralism is important to accommodate different people's views. But in a developed society like America collective goal becomes a higher standard of accomplishment.

The theory of power remains evergreen in the study of sociology

7b)

Are the high rate of marital break-downs (1) indicative of fundamental structural changes in the institution of marriage? Examine

William J. Goode in his book - World Revolution of families accounts for high rate of marital break-downs.

Burgesse and Locke define family as a social group integrated through blood and marriage. Marriage is the legitimate union of two adult members. The recent trends show a surge in marital break-down.

- 1) empty shell marriages
- 2) high divorce rates
- 3) separation
- 4) Domestic violence etc

These are indications of fundamental structural changes in the institutions of marriage.

Fundamental structural change -

Anthony Giddens points out that marriage has moved on from being context to romantic

Pre modern → Post modern → Present
economic context Romantic

Zygmunt Bauman liquid love where the changes in relationship is based on individuals wish.

The rise in marital breakdown is also a result of break-down of the functional need of families. G.P. Murdock identifies the functions of family as

- i) Reproductive function
- ii) Socialization
- iii) Sexual regulation and
- iv) Economic

However, functional alternatives have emerged.

Anthony Giddens talks about plastic sexuality in his theory of transformation of sexual intimacy.

Judith Stacey also goes to the extent of saying that break in family is a societal progress.

Margaret Benston, a feminist views family as an institution for exploiting women's unpaid labour.

Minodita Menon argues that through marriage a woman is forced to sleep with her enemy. She is also subjected to reproductive slavery. Women wanted to break free according to feminist.

Also, contemporary institutions like live-in relationship, dating apps have transformed marriage from just a social contract to a relationship according to.

The sanctity of marriage according to K.M. Kapadia is not absolute.

Thus there is increased
individualism \longrightarrow high divorce rates

Marriage as social institution has certain functional prerequisites which maintains social order and cohesion.

7d

Critically evaluate the impact of automation on the work on the workers in the industrial and post industrial society.

Automation of work will lead to loss of 300 million jobs according to World Economic Forum by 2030.

Automation in industrial society

Ogburn and Minkoff define social organization of work as attributes of different function workers together. In a industrial society automation will lead to routinization of work - Fordism and Taylorism

It will increase the degree of alienation as man is completely divorced from the process of production and the produce. Job loss due to automation may also increase economic suicide eg engineers who are unemployed committing suicides

Automation in post industrial society

According to Daniel Bell - post industrial society will have high concentration in service sector. The demand for skilled professionals will increase.

Charles Handy calls people who are equipped to handle skilled work as portfolio workers. Jan Breeman

on examining the uses of the footloose labour - say that the informal labour will be most affected due to automation

Automation is seen as a game changer in technology. However, it might have serious implication in a population surplus country like India.