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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 647)

Name of Candidate	Narendra Kumar Shah		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	5095
Center	ORN	Date	27/11/2015

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1(a)	12.5	
1(b)	12.5	
1(c)	12.5	
1(d)	12.5	
2(a)	25	
2(b)	25	
3(a)	25	
3(b)	25	
4(a)	20	
4(b)	15	
4(c)	15	
5(a)	12.5	
5(b)	12.5	
5(c)	12.5	
5(d)	12.5	
6(a)	20	
6(b)	15	
6(c)	15	
7(a)	20	
7(b)	15	
7(c)	15	
8(a)	20	
8(b)	20	
8(c)	10	

Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
- There are EIGHT questions printed in ENGLISH.
- All questions are compulsory.
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. (a) Language as a social fact

12.5

Language can be clearly regarded as a social fact. According to Durkheim, a social fact is a way of collective acting or thinking which are external to individuals and constraint them.

In this context, language is a medium which of communication among individuals with accepted rules of grammar. Thus, language is clearly external to individual consciousness. A single individual does not have the authority to change those rules.

Similarly, language constraints the individual. There is social sanction when someone does not use the language properly. For instance in case of lectures, people either laugh at them or have aggressive attitude towards them.

Language is a material social fact, because it is an observable physical entity in society.

Language a social facts are further analysed by linguistics like Noam Chomsky who argue that characteristics of language of a society can tell a lot about social structure of that society.

1. (b) Interactionist perspective on deviance

12.5

Interactionist perspective on deviance emphasizes on the interaction among individuals as a factor for deviance.

Certain individuals internalize the values of deviance upon interaction with others. This is often termed as radicalisation. eg Terrorism

Further, some individuals consider themselves as criminals upon interaction with others. For instance, migrants in a society are perpetually taunted to be outsiders. They

Similarly, the blacks in USA are often termed as criminals.

Due to such interactions, these individuals themselves ~~don't~~ internalize the values of self doubt and become deviants.

This acts as a self reinforcing theory where some section is blamed for crime which then start indulging into crime.

1. (c) Sociology and common sense

12.5

Sociology refers to scientific study of society. On the other hand, common sense is self perspective about social phenomena.

Sociological analysis is value neutral while common sense is always value biased. Common sense is culture centred. Common sense reinforces stereotypes which sociology tries to undermine. Commonsense is reflexive while sociology is based on proper methodology.

Positivists wanted to make sociology a scientific discipline. They undermined common sense and advocated observation, verification and theorization.

Interpretativists argued that humans can not be understood fully without under-

standing the interpretation by actors. Weber advocated that common sense knowledge should complement positivist.

Phenomenologists like Blaser argue that common sense is essential for sociological analysis because actors construct their world based on common-sense.

Hence, sociology should acknowledge and use common sense in sociological analysis.

1. (d) Limitations of questionnaire as a technique of data collection 12.5

Questionnaire is a widely used technique in quantitative research. It involves administering a set of questions whose answers determine the data. While widely used, it has a certain number of limitations:

- ⊖ The data collected by questionnaire may not be valid.
- ⊖ The interpretation of the questions

by the respondents will differ from each other. This would lead to distorted view of the reality.

⊖ The use of technique of operationalisation also has problems. Whether the question really measures what it is intended for?

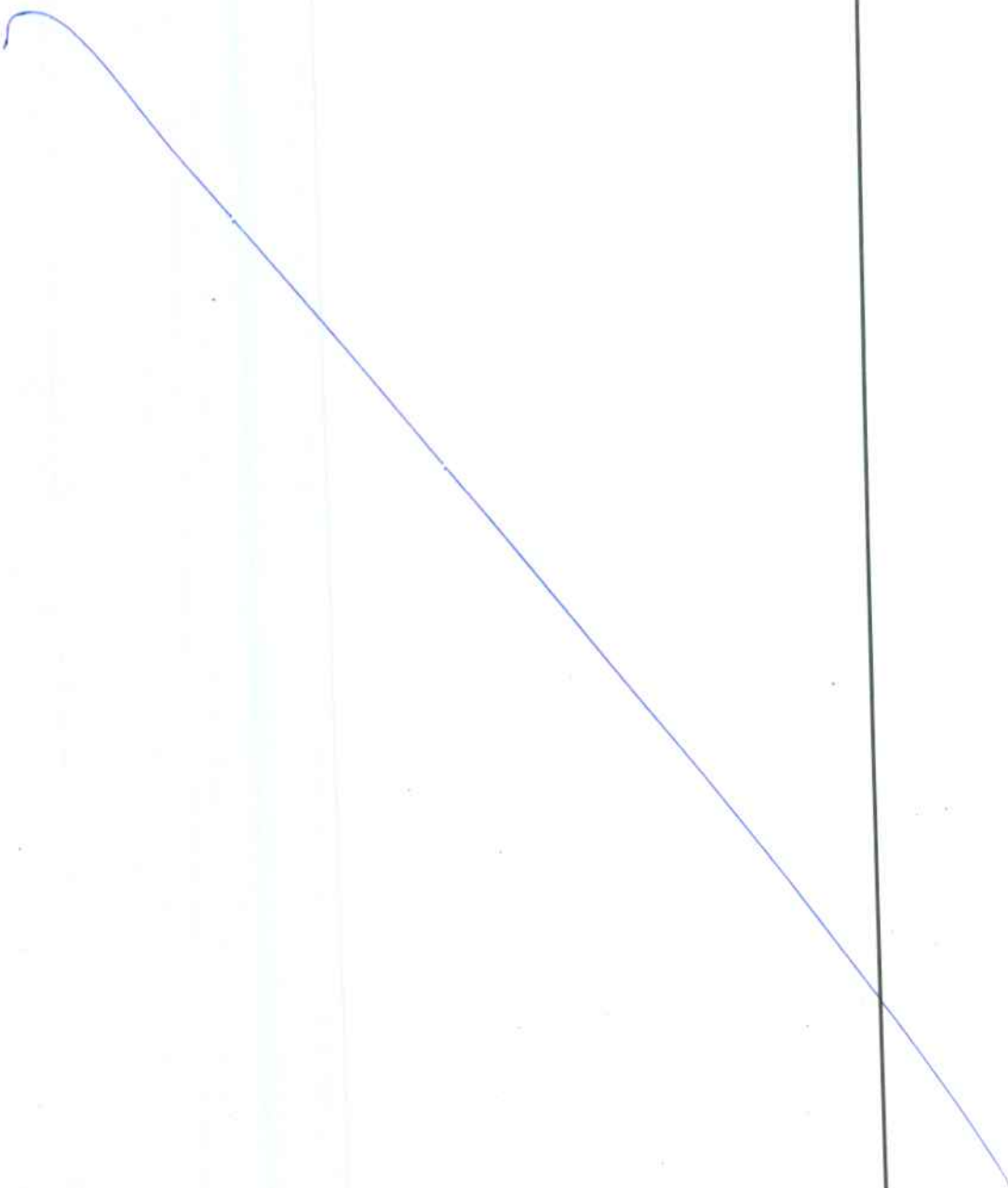
for example using church attendance to measure religiosity.

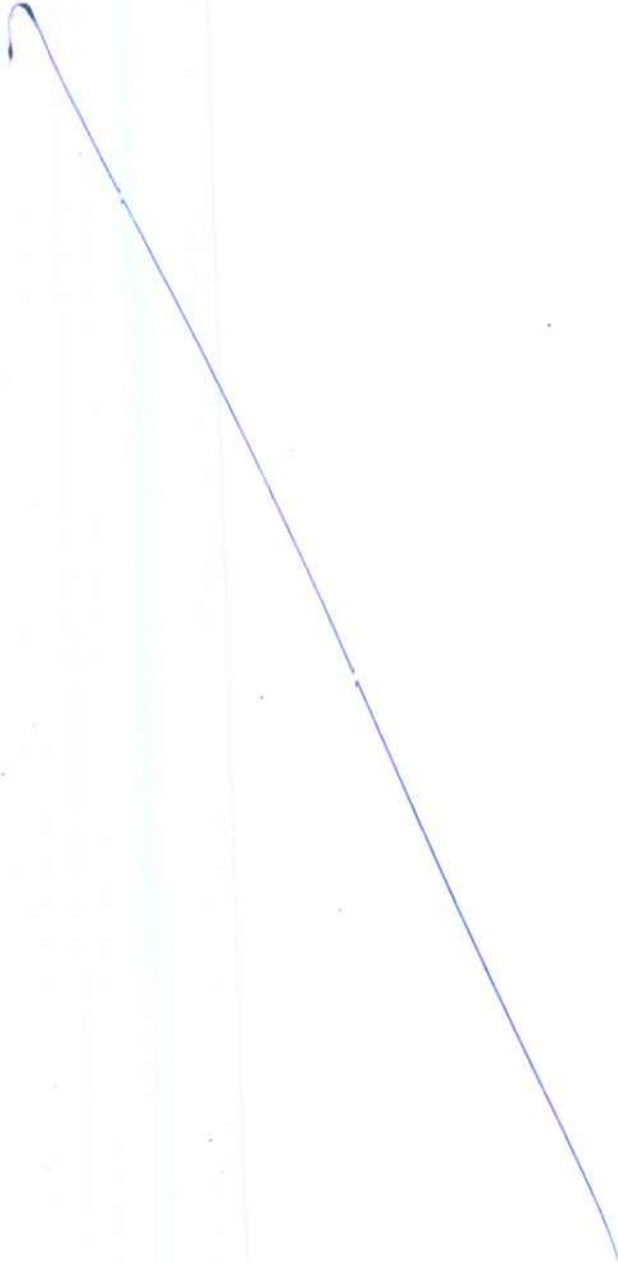
⊖ The technique involves imposition of the observer's categories and meanings upon respondents.

⊖ The method used for data collection also poses certain problems. for example: if email or telephone is used, differing socio-economic profile of respondents would result.

Thus, questionnaire should be triangulated with interview method to get clearer picture.

2. (a) Sociology as a scientific study of the totality of social life has made immense contributions to the study of economic phenomena in its various dimensions. Comment. 25





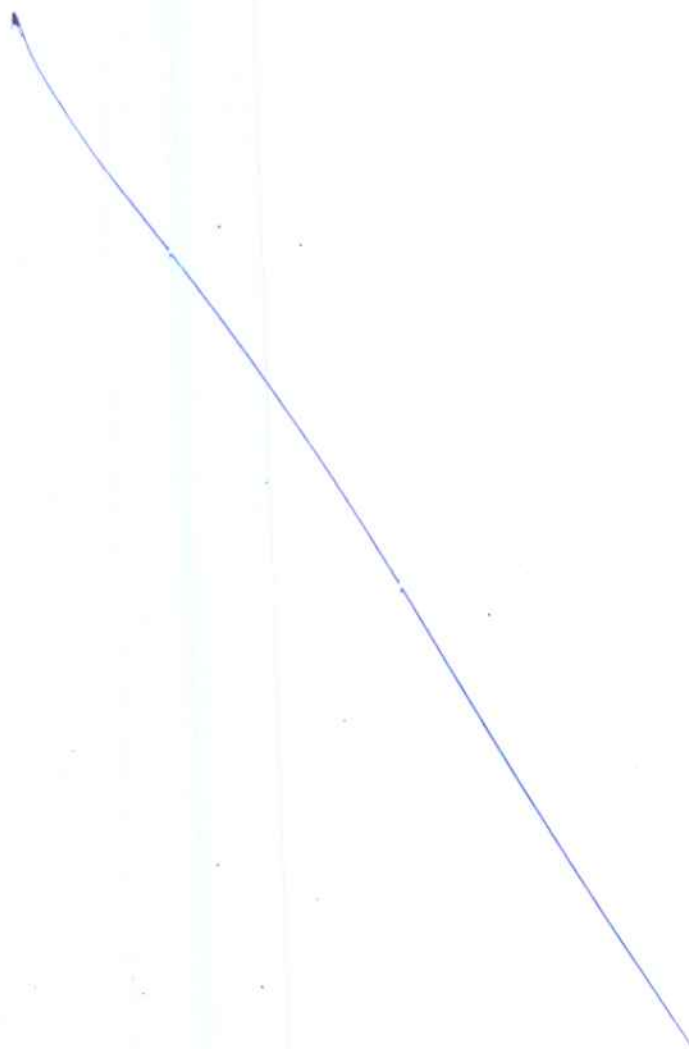
2. (b) The division of labor goes beyond the economic interests, it also establishes social and moral order within the society. Discuss in context of theory of Emile Durkheim.

25

647

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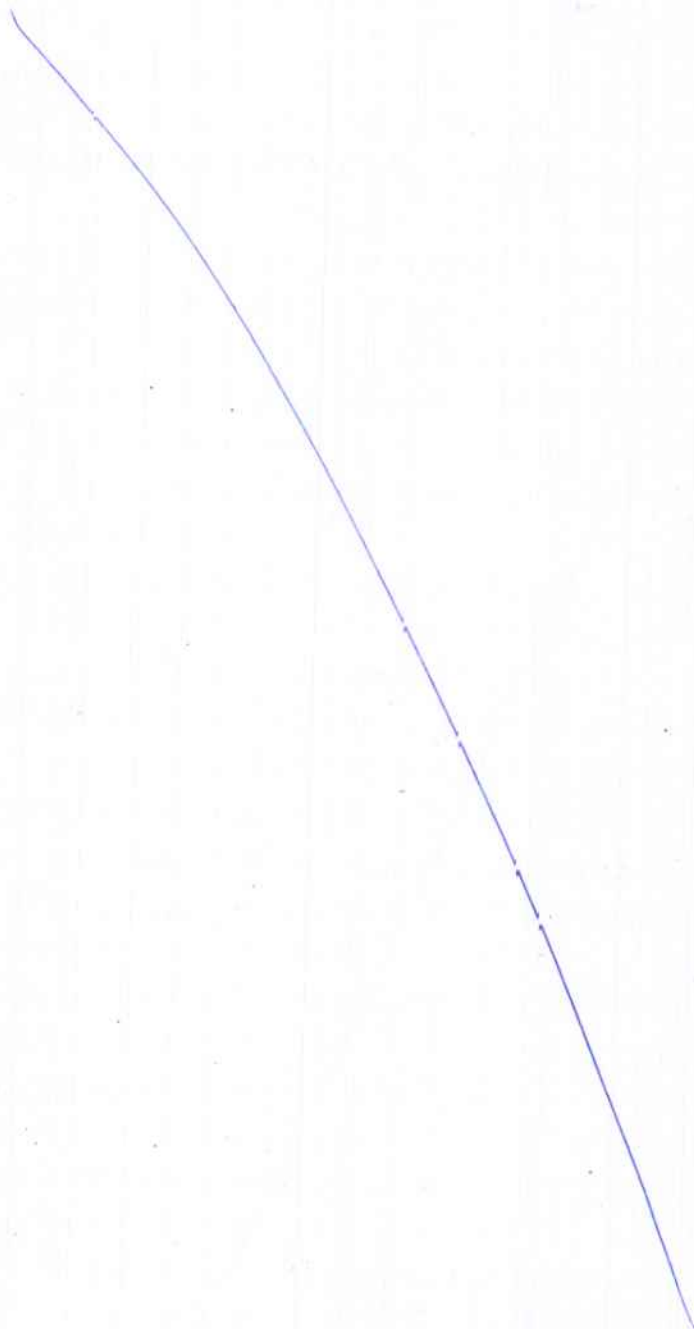
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3. (a) "Defenders of methodological individualism generally claim that it is an innocent doctrine, devoid of any political or ideological content. Analyze (Weber) 25

3. (b) Critically analyze the impact of information technology on the social organization of work in the contemporary society.

25



4. (a) "According to Marx, transformation of our needs through labor is an engine of human history." Comment. 20

Marx theorized that man is a creative being. The creative potential of the person is realized while appropriating on nature through a communal activity. Hence, man works on nature by undergoing serial relations.

He argued that while working on nature man's needs increase with time. These needs are satisfied through the work and hence history moves forward.

For example, the primitive man in primitive communism did not have much needs. His sustenance needs ~~was~~ were taken care by the processes of hunt hunting and gathering.

But soon man invented tools for agriculture. Rise of agriculture led to increase in needs of man. Now, man wanted surplus. This need was clearly generated due to transformation of mode of production by the labor.

Similarly, when feudalism changes to capitalism, the needs of man changes from commodity to money. Money becomes deified and an-end in itself in itself. This transformation was also generated by ~~the~~ laborer who invented new technology and machines.

But in ~~capital~~ communism, the transformation will not be of the needs, rather the mode of produ-

tion will charge without any trans-
formation of needs. There will be trans-
formation of consciousness instead.

This will then mark the
end of history according to Marx.

4. (b) "A researcher's method of research is influenced by number of variables." Discuss. 15

Sociological research method
is guided by a number of vari-
ables:-

① Research methodology: The type of
research methodology defines the method
used. For example, a positivist meth-
odology would ~~use~~ require use of
Survey or structured interviews. On

the other hand, a humanist methodology requires unstructured interviews and participant observation method.

② Types of research: Type of research also decides. If the respondents are easily available like college students, survey will be used. On the other hand, if the respondents are difficult to find like same sex couples, criminal gangs, etc interview method will be used.

③ Funds: The funds available for data collection and overall research also guides the research.

④ Research ethics: Sometime research ethic decide the method. The norms of informed consent, doing no harm, etc can be

difficult in certain research.

(5) Dominant paradigm of sociology:-
The dominant paradigm of sociology
also influences the research.

(6) Time is also a guiding factor.

Hence, there are a number of
variables which guide the research
method.

4. (c) Critically examine the reasons for the proliferation of sects, cults and new religious movements. 15

The modern society has wit-
nessed new religious movements ⁱⁿ of
the forms of sects, cults and new age
movements. There are a number
of factors for their rise.

There is growing phenomena of
relative deprivation in modern world
despite the growth of prosperity. This

relative deprivation gives rise to new religious movement (Weber). They ^{either} don't accept the conventional religions or are not accepted by ~~these~~ them. eg followers of Reverend Jim Jones.

The growing dis-illusionment due to modernity gives rise to growth of cult. eg Hare Kama Hare Krishna.

These ~~cults~~ ^{cults} and New age beliefs are easier to follow because they are much less stricter.

Further they cater to the utilitarian needs of the people. eg Who guides people for success in business.

In addition there has been loosening bonds of tradition social institutions like family, marriage, etc. Especially in the west, this have

given rise to increased membership.
Sometimes they are linked to
religious revivalism.

In addition, they use modern
media of communication etc to make
them attractive. eg Televangelists.

Additionally, there is a status
symbol and culture of membership
in to these cults.

Hence, these ~~is~~ movements depict
the changing dimension of religion with
modernity.

5. (a) Latent dysfunctions of science and technology

12/5

Latent dysfunctions can be defin-
ed as those dysfunction which are not
intended or directly observable. In this
sense, objective dysfunctions can be called
as latent.

Science and technology have had
a number of manifest functions and
dysfunctions. but its latent dysfunctions
include:

Individual Personality. Individuals are be-

coming increasingly dependent on technology and shunning ~~large~~ physical activity leading to physiological and psychological problems.

- Political: Surveillance techniques and use of weapons of mass destruction from technologies which were made for peaceful usage

- Economic :- Rise of consumerism, wastages and predatory techniques can be attributed to technology

- Environment: Breakdown of environment due to pollution, global warming, etc.

- Gender: New reproductive techniques, surrogacy, Amniocentesis, sex-selective abortion, etc.

Hence, technology is just a tool in the hands of human.

5. (b) Cognitive consonance between pattern variable and paradigm

12.5

Pattern variables given by Talcott Parsons are cultural prescriptions which guide the role performance of an actor in an action situations.

Paradigm on the other hand refers to broad definition of a society. It is just an identity of the society.

there has to be cognitive consonance between pattern variables and paradigm. Otherwise, it would lead to tensions and conflicts both within actors and among actors.

This cognitive consonance is done by the process of socialisation. Institutions of family, school,

peer group, religious institutions, etc
facilitate this consonance.

Further, if these two
are not in consonance, it would lead
to social control through laws, customs,

etc.

Hence, the state of consonance
would result when societal values and
~~norms~~ norms are internalised by indi-
viduals.

5. (c) Inequality and poverty

12.5

Inequality and poverty are intim-
ately linked. Inequality can be defined
as the difference of life chances among
people of society.

Poverty on the other hand ~~means~~ ^{has}
been defined in many ways. Absolute pov-
erty refers to lack of access to minimum
survival needs. Relative poverty is poverty
with respect to others in the society.

In any society where ~~relative~~^{inequality} exists it will lead to relative poverty.

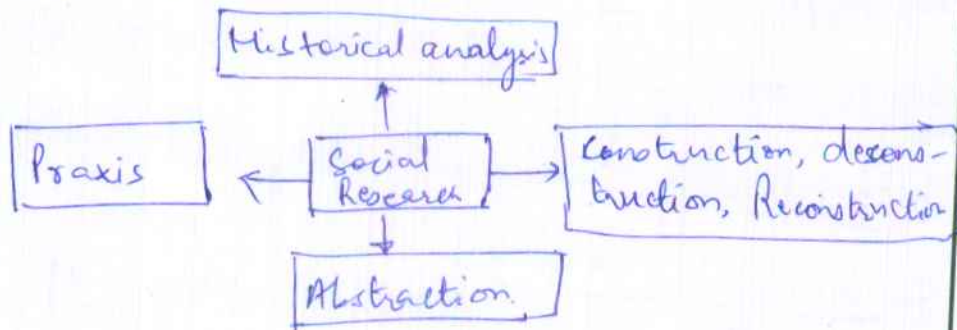
Further, in most of the cases, inequality leads to absolute poverty also. Population exists in a continuum. People's life chances range from almost zero to excess of requirement. For example in India top 1% owns 57% of wealth. Similarly, there are 29% poor in India in absolute terms. Thus, inequality and poverty go hand in hand.

This can be explained in terms of Marx's theory. The wealth gained by the capitalist is actually the share of the poor which has been hijacked by them. The profit is stolen by the capitalist. No wonder, capitalism leads to more inequality and it has increased after 1991 reforms in India.

5. (d) Critical social science methodology

12.5

Critical social science argues that social research should criticize the dominant ~~se~~ ideology of the society with a view to improve the lives of the marginalised sections. It argues that both quantitative and qualitative methods should be used.



Four components of critical social research methodology have been shown above. Praxis means that theory should emerge from social action as well as guide social action.

Historical analysis implies that the present

conditions should be analysed in historical context. Abstraction refers to looking beneath the surface of reality, reconstruction means the facts should be broken down and reconstructed to get the correct view of reality. eg Marxism, Feminism

While there have some criticisms like difficulty in finding out the marginalised sections, cases of dual marginalisation, making the discipline value biased. This theory has significance in a country like India

6. (a) Discuss the relationship between crime and social exclusion. Analyze the role of welfare state in breaking this linkage. 20

The relationship between crime and social exclusion has been centre stage of deviance studies in sociology.

Crime refers to deviant behaviour which are punishable by laws of that society. Social exclusion refers to inability of a group to enjoy social, economic or political entitlements which a person of that society gets.

Robert Merton argued that socially excluded sections are more susceptible to crime. ~~These~~ 2nd generation black youth, migrants.

Similarly, Lambert argues that blacks are more involved in crime.

But, crime also leads to social exclusion. Criminals are pushed away from society to jails. After they are released, the society refuses to accept them and treats as 2nd grade citizens. For ex. youths who are accused of terrorism.

Sometimes, it is easier to brand the activities of socially excluded people as criminal. This was common in medieval Europe against Jews. In India, Britishers used to call some tribes as denotified tribes.

Welfare state has been accused of causing crime & by sociologist Charles Murray. He argues that welfare state has led to rise of underclass which leads to more crime especially by black youth belonging to single parent families.

But this theory has been criticised by others. It is generally believed that a welfare state would break this nexus and attack on the structural features which cause this.

When the state takes care of ~~the~~ the most vulnerable citizens, the crimes for survival and reactionary crimes will not take place.

The state should secure the rights of every citizen so that they don't feel disillusioned and pick up arms.

6. (b) "The institution of marriage is marked by continuity as well as change".
Critically examine.

15

Institution of marriage is different in different societies. But, it has been marked by continuity as well as change.

Marriage refers to an institution whereby individuals or group secure ^{some} rights in each other. There are diverse patterns of marriages.

In western societies, the marriage is between a male and a female has been the norm. But due to laws, education, modernization, feminist movement, etc there have been some changes.

Firstly, polygamy has been replaced by monogamy all over the world except for few countries.

Further, age at marriage has been increasing especially women's age.

Besides, in Western countries there is a phenomenon of serial monogamy due to increasing divorce rates.

World over, the rituals associated with marriage are becoming grander and more elaborate. Theme weddings and grand weddings have increased.

There has been change in mate selection from arranged to love marriage or consensual arranged marriages.

In India, dowry at marriages are increasing with prosperity and decreasing family size.

But a small minority has resorted to cohabitation without marriage, and same sex relationship. There also has been rise of adultery and partner swapping.

Hence, due to modernity world over marriage practices are homogenising and diversifying.

6. (c) Critically analyze the dysfunctions of the institution of family.

15

family as an institution has been praised by functionalists while decried by Marxists and feminists.

David Cooper argues that family kills creativity, alternate thinking and teaches blind following. He argues that family leads to consumerism. The values of working class are taught in the family. For example family teaches not to revolt and to accept authority. Hence, he calls for death of family.

socialist feminist, Benston argues that family constraints a worker on leaving the work. The burden of family are a factor which ~~lead to~~ ^{stops} working class revolution.

On the contrary, radical feminists

argue that family is an authority institution where male head of the family decides and others follow. The women are given only unpaid work. These work are being, routine housework, and childcare. The working women have double burden of housework and paid work. [Ann Oakley].

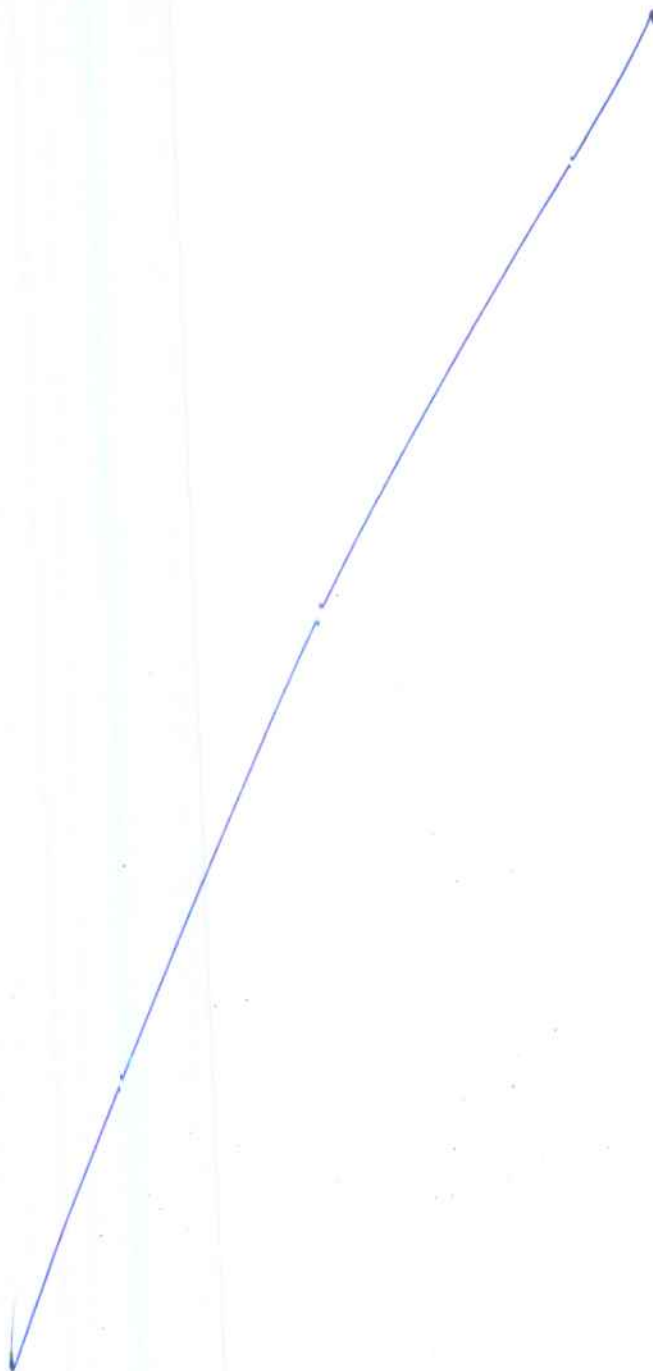
further, the work of women has been increasing with time.

These arguments have been criticised by functionalists. They argue that family leads to primary socialisation and personality stabilisation (Parsons). further, the share of men doing domestic work has been increasing and [Willmott] calls that today's family has become symmetrical family.

On the whole, it is better to reform the family rather than killing it.

7. (a) "Religion reinforces and promotes social inequality and social conflict."
Critically analyze.

20

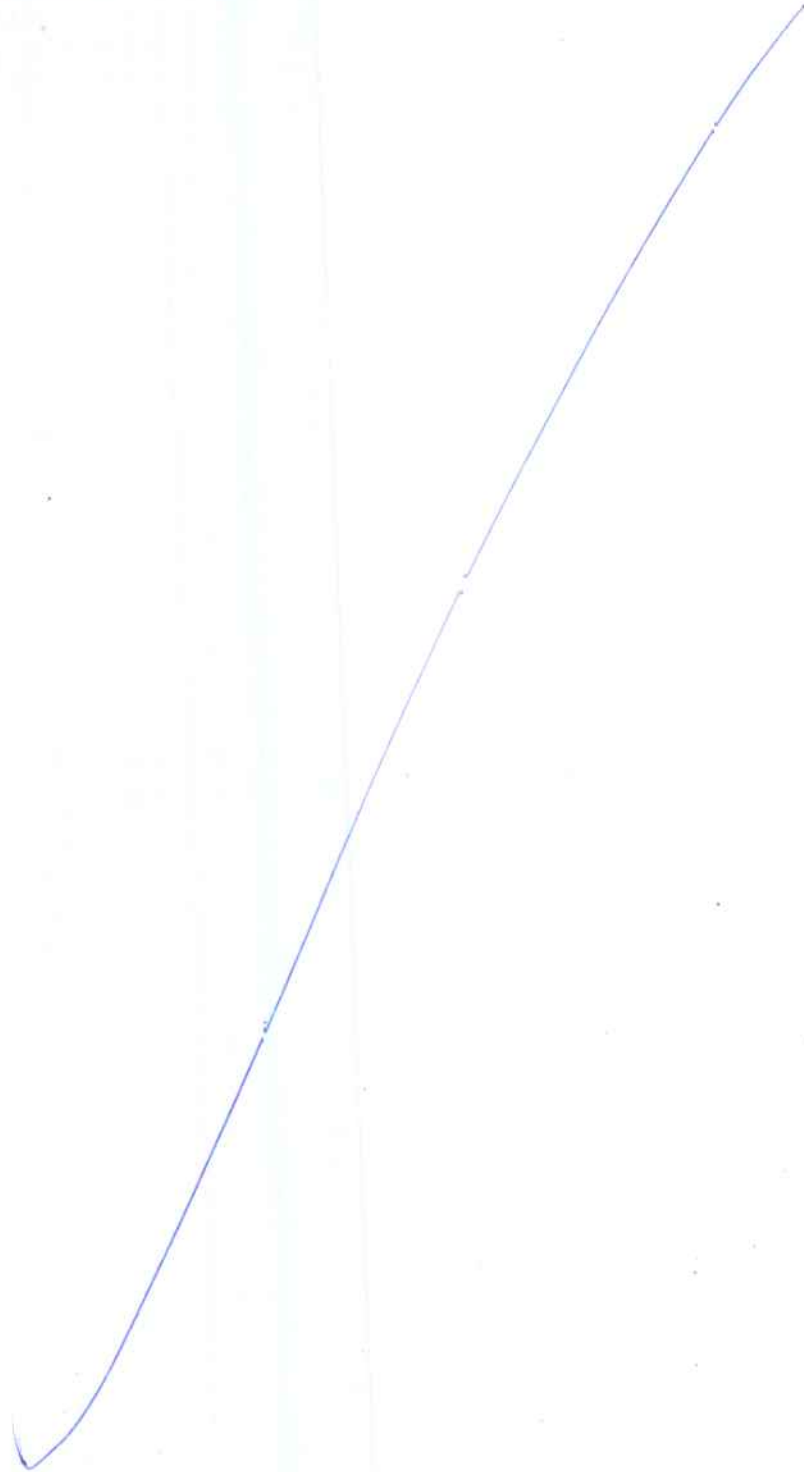


7. (b) Write a short note on New Right perspective on social stratification. 15

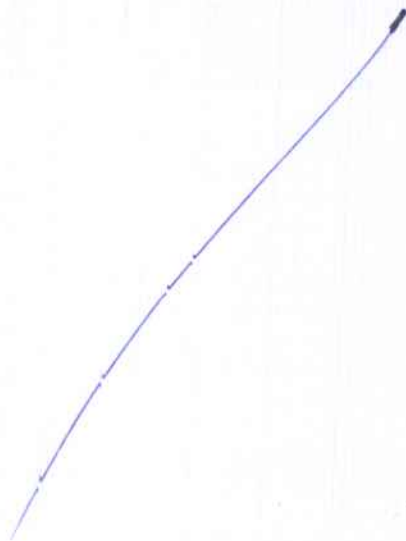
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7. (c) Protests and agitation are symptomatic of skewed development in society. Discuss in context of India along with relevant examples. 15



8. (a) Compare and contrast Talcott Parsons with Karl Marx with respect to their views on social change.

20

Social change has been studied by both Marx and Parsons. But their theories have many dissimilarities and certain similarities.

Talcott Parsons analysed social change from a functional perspective. He claimed that there is a slow, adaptive change. Any change leads to disturbance of equilibrium and systems rebalance according

to the change. Thus, he called it a moving equilibrium.

On the other hand, Marx, claimed that changes are rapid and revolutionary. He argued that instead of equilibrium, there is dialectics. Dialectics among forces of production and relation of production leads to growth of new mode of production.

Parsons treated all subsystems equally while Marx gave importance to economic subsystem which he called the infrastructure.

Parsons claimed that evolution would continue happening while Marx argued that change will stop at communism.

In Marxian scheme, only 5 stages are there while Parsons ~~did not give~~ any argued that society move from pattern variable A to B.

Parsons gave importance to consensus and cooperation while Marx gave importance to conflict.

but there are some similarities also. Both Marx and Parsons claimed that social change is linear and unidirectional. Parsons claimed that process of differentiation while Marx called it improving means of production.

Similarly, both Marx and Parsons gave importance to technological factors and their interaction with social systems as the cause of social change.

Hence, the theories of Marx and Parsons are different perspectives of studying social change, both of which explain certain aspects of reality.

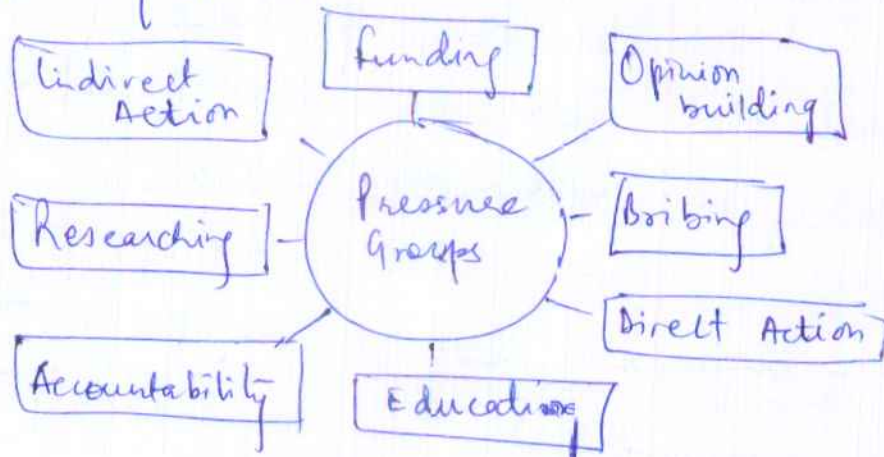
8. (b) Critically analyze the Pluralist perspective on power and state. Bring out the differences between Classical Pluralism and Elite pluralism. 20

Pluralist perspective on power and state has been devised to explain power in democratic countries.

The founder of this perspective is Tocqueville. They assume power to be constant sum. They argue that power is dispersed among people of the society. They exercise this power through the state.

They exercise power directly through political parties. Political parties are actually representing the interests of people because they face elections. Further they argue that apart from political parties pressure groups are used by people. Pressure groups put pressure on the state to take actions in their favour.

Pressure groups resort to many techniques like:



In the presence of a number of pressure groups, the state becomes an impartial referee and become autonomous.

- Criticisms:
- ① They ignore the non-decisions and ideological nature of decisions. [Lukes]
 - ② Kirk argues that in effect all decisions are taken by the elites.
 - ③ ~~They argue that~~ All pressure groups are not equally powerful.
 - ④ Not all groups are equally represented in pressure groups.
 - ⑤ They Marxist Poulantzas argued that even

a State controlled by bourgeois can be autonomous.

Improvements by elite pluralism:-

- ① They argue that not all the pressure groups are powerful equally.
 - ② They further argue that not all the sections of population are represented
 - ③ They argue that each pressure group is rule by a elite minority.
- While elite pluralism is closer to reality, there still remains certain defects.

8. (c) Elaborate on the social distribution of poverty in society.

10

Distribution of poverty is highly determinant upon the structural character of society.

A society dominated by achievement orientation and universal principles will have similar level of poverty in all sections of people. While, this may not be true about other societies. In societies, the marginalised sections are over-represented in

poverty. So, blacks in USA, Dalits and adivasis in India and Tamils in Sri Lanka are more poor.

Similarly, structural factors lead to more women, children and elderly being ~~more~~ poor than adult male.

Deviant families are more poor so, single headed families and same sex families.

Contingent factors like accident, disease infection, etc also lead to poverty. For example HIV & victims, leprosy victims are more poor.

Culture of poverty also decides poverty. & Certain section of poor internalize poverty and don't take efforts to alleviate themselves of Sex workers