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Name - Neeti Agrawal

Registration No. - 636519

Date - 6 July, 2023

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1(a) The Enlightenment Period or Age of Reason put man at the centre of the social world, opened up new discussions on society leading to emergence of sociology.

→ Held that man can change his social reality by attaching meaning to it (Interpretivist approach)

→ Held that man can work on his environment to change his economic position. This was coupled with Industrial Revolution which posed many challenges & opportunities.

→ Scientific progress led to change in division of labour and unequal terms.

→ Held that Religion can be understood in individualistic terms rather than collective orientation.

In brief, Enlightenment period posed following challenges which led to emergence of sociology.

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- ① New economic order → Division of labour → Greater efficiency → Mobility to urban spaces → Issues of urbanisation and change in family.
- ② Individualism → Degradation of moral authority posed by family.
- ③ Uneven migration → Change in demographic conditions.

Thus, sociologists like Comte, Durkheim, Marx and others tried to give a theory about how social changes can be corrected and understood in totality.

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1(b) Critical social science refers to that philosophy which takes into account specific and sectoral social problems of various social groups.

Critical Social Science & Social Change -

- 1) Conflict theorists such as Marx held that social classes (which share similar economic position) will result in alienation leading to social change.
- 2) Feminists were critical of ongoing theory which is devoid of gender perspective. ~~As~~ Sylvia Walby held how gender perspective leads to change in economic structure.
- 3) Black sociologists were vocal about how development is skewed against them.
- 4) Indologists held how village studies were ignored and subdued leading to ignorance of rural problems.

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5) Queer Sociologists posit that how heterosexuals area of study led to ignorance of their plights and social problems.

6) Anti-globalisation sociologists argues that how globalisation & Neo-colonialism are linked -

Thus, critical social science opens a new arena of social research where hitherto silenced groups are now represented.

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10) Hypothesis is the untested statement or relation between two variables.

### Importance of building Hypothesis →

- 1) Provides direction to researcher to delimit his scope of study.
- 2) Establishes linkage between unrelated objects. ex: Marx's hypothesis on relation of Capitalism & social conflict.
- 3) Hypothesis maintains consistency in research.
- 4) Directs how to collect, analyse and interpret data for research.

However, there are challenges in building a good hypothesis -

- 1) Data biasness especially when researcher is value loaded.
- 2) Primary data & Secondary data have varied level of challenges in terms of their reliability & validity.

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1d) Gig economy is the flexible, freelancing kind of economy where majority of the workers are of contractual type.

With new business models and digital penetration in economy, gig economy have gained prominence.

- Informalization of labour as defined by Keith Hart is characterised by low skills, easy entry, poor wages and capacity to absorb migrants.

- Gig economy and Informalisation of labour -

1) No job security, social security and income security.

2) No written rules of employment and contractual type of agreement between employee - employer.

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- (3) Gig workers are underemployed. Many of the gig workers are working not in conformity with their skill level.
- (4) Hire and Fire culture most prominent among gig workers.
- (5) exploitation and Poor wages.
- (6) gig economy is more exploitative for female workers.

Informalisation of economy leads to denial of rights and dignity.

In the wake of demographic dividend, NITI Aayog have argued for mission for gig economy workers on the lines of startup India.

1(c) Sex and Gender are different in the way that sex is biological construct while Gender is a social construct.

Reinforcing of Gender constructs through following ways:-

- ① Socialization reinforces gender stereotypes while assigning certain roles as masculine and some as feminine.
- ② Bioprogrammas approach is criticised for arguing how certain earning roles are limited to males only.
- ③ Sylvia Walby argued how patriarchy leads to gender roles perpetuation.
- ④ ~~For~~ Jessie Bernard developed linkage between educational curriculum and reinforcing gender roles.
- ⑤ Ann Oakley talks about dual patriarchy where women are subjected to

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discrimination both at home and then at workplace.

(6) Willmott and Young argued how industrialization led to confinement of women at home.

(7) Social structures such as marriage, education reinforces gender roles.

Thus, Gender differences are continuously reinforced through social structures and institutions.

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2(a) Society is influenced by variety of factors and economic factors is one of them. Marx was the prime thinker who argued that economic factors (Mode of production and Relations of production) impacts society in a prominent way.

But his theory was critiqued by Weber who postulated in his theory of Protestant ethic and spirit of capitalism that how social conditions influence economic processes.

◦ Where society is influenced by economic factors:

1) Marxian view of conflict and social change in which he held that alienation and inner contradictions exists in capitalism leading to revolution & ultimately social change.

2) Change in family structure due to Industrialisation as argued by Parsons. He held that structural differentiation leads to isolated nuclear families & their mobility.

3) Specialised division of labour as held by Durkheim which leads to greater interdependence & solidarity (Organic solidarity)

4) Ghurye held that with modernisation and Industrial change, caste will lose its relevance as status will be achievement based rather than ascriptive in nature.

5) Byron Wilson held that with structural change due to Specialised division of labour, religion will lose its significance leading to Secularization.

6) With Modern economic processes such as AI and Automation, education has evolved itself to meet the industry demand.  
(McIver and Page)

However, Economic processes are also influenced by Social conditions in the following way -

① Weber argued that Calvinists spirit led to the Inner world asceticism argument and

that led to emergence of capitalism.

2) Demographic changes such as growing youth population in India have led to emergence of new business models such as gig economy, e-commerce.

3) Feminists such as Nicky Hart argued that with women's movements, they have entered into workforce.

4) Religious theories such as Jainism which believes in 'no-harm' principles and entrepreneurial spirit led them to convert into business class.

5) Keith Hart held that low skilled and immigrant population make them susceptible to land them in informal sector.

6) Poor wages and push factors such as underemployment, less job security etc led migration from rural areas to urban areas in 1980s.

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Thus, economic processes and social conditions influence them in one or other way.

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2 (b) Positivists and Anti-Positivists often apply several specific methods but both influence and complement them in significant way.

## Quantitative research -

- Methods used by Positivists to arrive at generalisations and establish cause & effect relationships.
- Durkheim used variables to establish linkage b/w Suicide rates and social factors.  
He used social facts such as regulation and integration to determine the cause of suicide.
- Quantitative research is reliable as it uses data (primary/secondary) to arrive at patterns and thus form generalizations.
- The method uses two kinds of variables - dependent and independent. Such as in study of linkage of education level and

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employment level; education is independent variable while employment level is dependent variable.

However, Quantitative research have following flaws: -

- 1) Takes an over socialised view of man, ignores individual meanings.
- 2) Data may not be reliable as in case of suicide theory where secondary data was used.
- 3) ~~The~~ Method has poor validity.
- 4) Observer biasness is present.

Thus, Qualitative research is an advanced way to correct these flaws: -

- 1) Weber argued that through Verstehen technique researcher can understand the underlying meanings.
- 2) GH Mead held that man creates 'self' in socialization process and also individualistic innovations in the form of 'I' are present.

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- Qualitative researchers undergoes deep research to establish causal linkage between variables.
- Ethnomethodologists like Harold Garfinkel held that man has subjective consciousness which creates meaning in every interaction.
- Phenomenologists like Alfred Schutz also relied on common sense knowledge to bring out more realistic picture of social reality.

Thus, qualitative and quantitative research are not complete in itself but enriches each other in more visible way.

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2 (c) Education and social change have a symbiotic relationship ~~which~~ where one enforces the other.

Education in bringing about social change-

- 1) Pierre Bourdieu held that education (cultural capital) leads to perpetuation of social and economic capital.
- 2) Education in initiating social change such as removing social ills like Sati, ~~ban on~~ widow remarriage.
- 3) Education leads to economic efficiency especially in times of technological division of labour.
- 4) Amartya Sen argued that education improves the capability to lead a meaningful life.
- 5) National education policy, 2020 held that education should be liberating, promote social values of justice, fraternity, etc

However, education also maintains status quo in the following way -

1) Marxist scholar Althusser held that education is a great ideology conditioning device which perpetuates the ideology of upper class and thus subdues the lower class.

2) San Oakley held that girls are at disadvantaged position in schools as curriculum and school environment promotes role stereotyping.

3) Black feminists held that white people promotes their discriminatory attitude through education.

4) In Indian context, various reports have argued that education system is not inclusive of Tribals' interests.

Thus, Education system should be reimagined on the lines of Rabindranath Tagore's wisdom of liberating values and self realisation.

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3 (a) Development refers to the transition from lower state to higher state. It is a value laden term indicating positive changes in individual / social / nation's life.

Argentin held that low income countries are not under developed, rather misedeveloped. This was due to the following notions -

1) Inequal division of labour → Low income countries are more prone to informal economic system leading to poor job security and low incomes.

2) Trust deficit in governance due to poor and skewed distribution of socio-economic resources.

ex - Sri Lanka crisis due to china's debt trap diplomacy.

3) Wallerstein's dependency theory argued that world system is divided into core (developed), semi-periphery (Middle income) and Periphery (low income) countries.

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- (4) A.G. Frank held that Latin America is underdeveloped due to its over reliance on developed countries such as USA. which is leading to its resources drainage.
- (5) With Neo-colonialism in the garb of economic globalisation, developed countries impose their trading conditions on low income countries.  
Ex. - Stalling of WTO reforms.
- (6) It is argued that Geoeconomics rather than Geopolitics play a greater role in controlling countries' governance.
- (7) African economic and social crisis is often argued because of improper handling and corruption of managing the foreign aid.
- (8) Sectoral issues such as tribals, disadvantaged sections are often deprived and excluded from decision making process.

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However, there is other dimension too:-

- 1) Amartya Sen held that low income countries after being included into global supply chains have gained on socio-economic indicators.
- 2) Gunnar Myrdal in Asian Drama held that poverty in low income countries is also due to their poor governance structures and inner contradictions.
- 3) Recent surge in regional FTAs signing also indicates that with integration of global economies, there is win-win situation for all.
- 4) Pandemic highlighted the need of global interconnectedness to keep the economy moving.

Thus, dependency theories though give a interesting view on negatives of foreign aid, but critical analysis argued that there are pluralistic

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reasons why low income countries  
fare poor on socio-economic indicators.

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3b) Patriarchy as defined by Ann Oakley refers to the structures and behaviour patterns where male authority dominates over woman in almost every sphere of life.

Factors explaining the existence of Patriarchy -

(1) Socialization which leads to role stereotyping in the form of gender specific roles such as Masculine / breadwinner and Feminine / Care giver.

2) Parsons held that in a family, men plays an Instrumental role and women plays affective role.

3) Labour market too identifies and promote gender specific division of labour. Pink collar workers phenomenon substantiate this.

4) Family authority especially in Indian context perpetuate patriarchy.

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- 5) With global division of labour, women have taken up as Reserve army of labour argued by feminists Marxists.
- 6) She argued - that education factors too play a role. Educational inequalities lead to economic inequality.
- 7) Relationship between class & subordination. Even high class women are subordinate to men.

### Criticisms of Millet's Theory -

- Overgeneralisation of Patriarchy as a concept
- She ignored cultural specific notions related to patriarchy.
- In societies such as India, there are other factors such as Caste, class and family specific elements that perpetuates low social status of women.
- Marxists feminists held that class position decides women's social position.

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Despite the criticisms, Kate Millet provides an intriguing perspective on patriarchy which later became model for Sylvia Walby to describe women's position in economic market.

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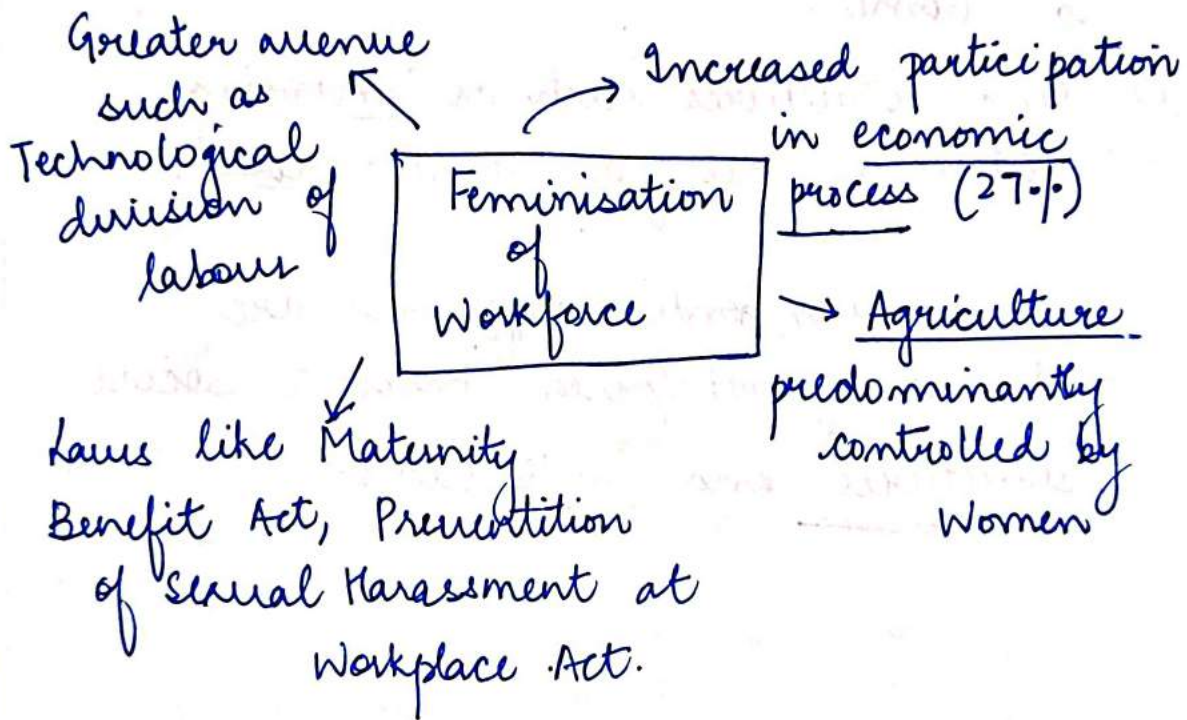
3(c) Multivariate analysis refers to the use of many variables to establish linkage between them and thus arriving at a theory.

- Multivariate analysis takes into account establishing linkage between a dependent and an independent variable.
- In Durkheim's study on suicide, he took many factors into account to come to the conclusion of varying suicide rates.
- Durkheim took two concepts - Regulation and Integration.
- He compared following variables to establish their linkage to suicide rate -
  - 1) Married vs unmarried people.
  - 2) Man vs Woman
  - 3) Protestants vs Catholics.
  - 4) Educated vs Uneducated.
  - 5) Rich vs Poor

- He held that all these factors play an important role in establishing their relation with Regulation and Integration.
- Held that unmarried people are poorly integrated thus prone to egoistic suicide.
- Held that soldiers are prone to altruistic suicide.
- Held that newly rich people faces normlessness and thus poorly regulated, so prone to anomic suicide.

Multivariate analysis broadens the scope of research and improves reliability.

5 (a) Feminisation of workforce refers to the representation of woman in economic system.



However, there are varied challenges -

- 1) Pink collarisation of work as argued by Sylvia Walby where women are mostly in feminine roles such as caregiving etc.
- 2) Poor representation in STEM field due to entry barriers, gender stereotyping, maternal issues.

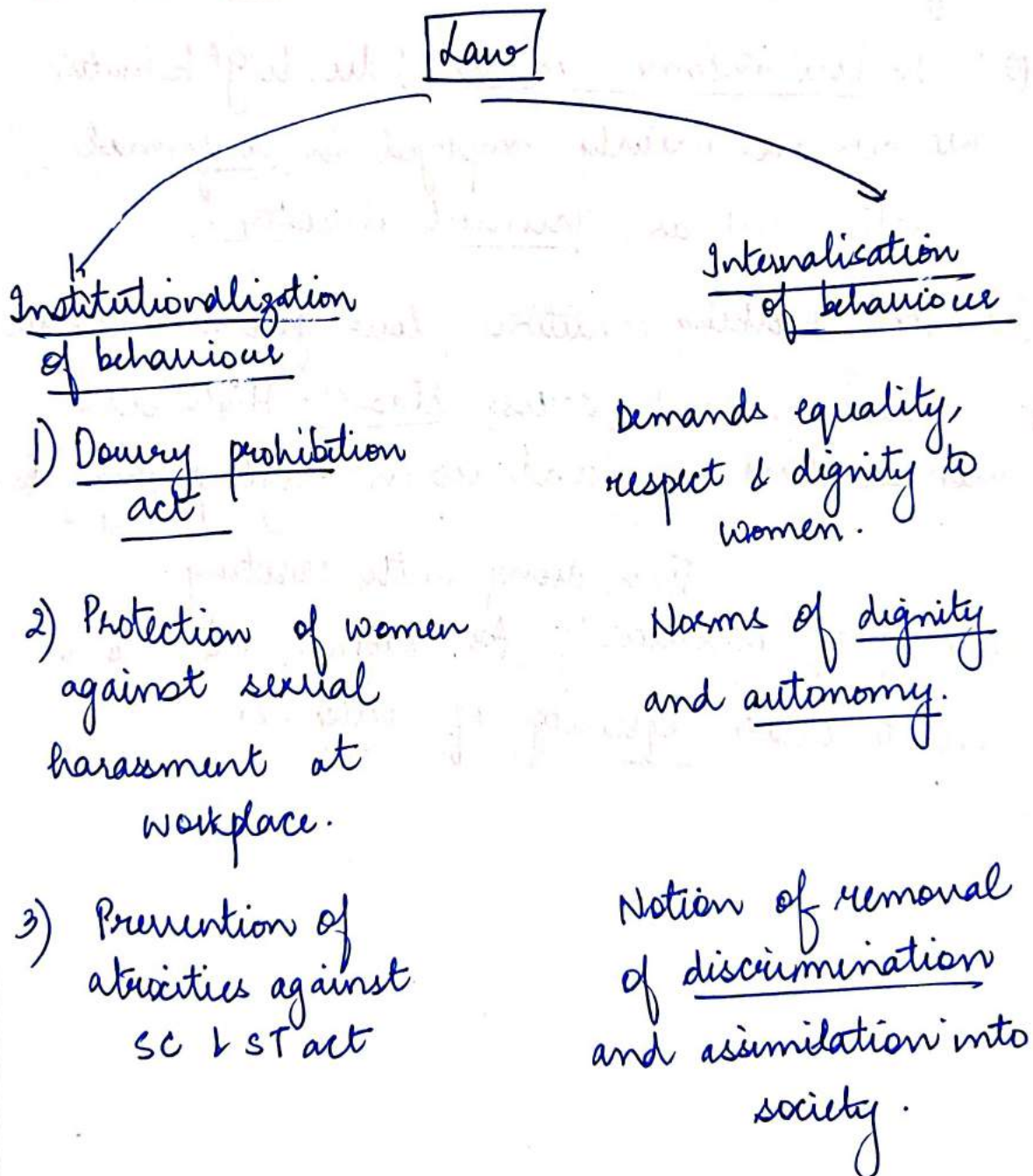
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- (3) In Agriculture sector, women mainly work as agri labour with low property rights.
- (4) few women at the leadership positions in an organisation due to domestic responsibilities.
- (5) In low income countries, due to globalisation, women are mainly employed in informal sectors such as Garment industry.
- (6) Poor working conditions, low job security etc.
- (#) Variation exists across classes. High class women tend to land up in high paying jobs.

Thus, along with creating equality of opportunity for women, there is a need to create equality of outcomes.

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5(b) Law is the explicit agent of social change.  
which refers to the written rules of  
accepted behaviours.



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However, law is not sufficient due to following reasons -

- ① Socialization patterns - Feminine roles inculcated in beginning & Gender stereotyping is a major issue.
- ② Law as an end itself creates problem of internalising the issue.

Thus, law has potential to bring out the change in behaviour and bring positive social change.

5(C) Murdock defined family as the reproductive unit which socially regulates sexual behaviour with economic rights and major responsibility of socializing the children.

However, family have been criticised where sex based relations are unequal & exploitative.

- ① Tarsons argued that men → Instrumental role and women → Affective role
- ② Fran Ansley argued that women provides emotional support to frustrated husbands.
- ③ Jessie Bernard talks about how expectations wrt marriage are different in terms of man & woman.
- ④ Sau Oaklay talks about how domestic violence leads to poor mental health of woman.
- ⑤ Willmott and Young in his study of symmetrical family argues despite women coming to labour market, sexual division of labour persists.

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However, there are certainly other dimensions too:-

- ① Conjugal roles are gaining prominence in modern day marriages.
- ② Edmund Leach argues it is due to over expectations that divorce rates are higher.
- ③ With nuclearisation of families, women are getting equal share in decision making process.
- ④ With economic freedom, women play an instrumental role in home making process.

Thus, there are variations across cultures, class. No single truth can depict this picture.

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5 (d) The quote famously captures Cultural Lag Theory by Ogburn which held that there is incongruency between material and non-material aspects.

Material aspects such as Technological change, economic changes happen faster in the form of specialised division of labour but non-material aspects such as culture, ideas, social structures and institutions does not change in response. This creates tension and conflict.

(Ex) → stem cell research → But poor acceptability towards designer babies (ethical concerns)

Ultrasonic machines → But used to know the sex of unborn baby

However, with rise of social media and AI, <sup>non-material aspect</sup> there is gaining pace and influencing material culture.

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5(e) Positivist methodology relies on data collection to arrive at pattern and build generalisations.

Positivist methodology argues that values (social desirability/undesirability) pollutes the research.

Positivist & Value neutrality -

- ① Uses Survey method to collect data of larger sample.
- ② Argued that value free research would produce objective, reliable, establish cause and effect relationship between the variables. However, Interpretivists criticised this approach on following grounds -
  - ① Weber highlighted that choice of topic and problem definition should be guided by values.
  - ② There can be value-fact distinction but not value-fact dichotomy.

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(3) Distinguished between value orientation  
and value-judgement.

(4) Argued that social life can't be  
laboratorised, thus can't be studied  
objectively.

Thus, Interpretivists inspired by  
Postivists held that value neutrality can  
be achieved by using tools like  
Ideal types, Triangulation etc.

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810) CW Mill's Sociological imagination held that man and society can & not be studied in isolation.

He undergone following researches to prove his point -

- 1) Study of poverty - An individual may be poor due to his individual conditions but social conditions such as social structures, institutions, ideas etc too play an important role.
- 2) The power to distinguish and establish relation between social structures and individual agency.
- 3) Argued that one methodology can't give full picture of a social reality.
- 4) Held that individual problems should be seen in broader (social) context and thus generalizations can be done.

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Thus, CW Mills theory gives a perspective to look beyond established individual patterns. His theory inspired later sociologists who established linkage between individual problems & their social cause such as theory of suicide & Anomie.

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8(b) Sociology is called as the child of Revolution which emerged in the aftermath of social changes done by Industrial Revolution, Intellectual development and Renaissance.

Founding fathers of Sociology sought to establish it as an independent, exclusive and separate discipline with distinct subject matter →

- ① Positivists like August Comte called sociology as Social Physics and wanted to establish as cure for all social problems.
- ② Spencer argued sociology analogous to organismic science.
- ③ Durkheim held that Social facts which are exclusive, exterior, coercive should be the subject matter.

However, contemporary sociology is wide, multi-perspective taking and dynamic taking into account many subjects such as.

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- ① Anthropology & Sociology → Sociology takes into account data used by Anthropologists to trace the evolutionary perspective of society.
- ② Sociology takes into account Political studies to establish linkage between how society (social structures, institutions, groups) and policy making influence & affect each other.
- ③ G.E. Howard argued that Sociology is Present History & History is Past Sociology.
- ④ Feminists too influence Sociologists to study linkage between Gender constructs and working of social institutions and perpetuation of social behaviour.
- ⑤ With progressive realisation of rights, Sociology takes into account concerns of hitherto untouched groups like Transgenders, disabled groups, etc.

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- ⑥ Globalisation gave new subject matter such as labour migration, unequal division of labour, dependency theory to sociology.
- ⑦ Foucault held that modern means of surveillance such as prisons, hospitals, schools etc broaden the scope of sociological study.
- ⑧ Behavioural economics and sociology converge at many ways where policymakers take into account interests of varied social groups and design economic policies.

Thus, contemporary sociology is influenced by number of interests. It helps to broaden the base of study and makes it inclusive.

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3(C) Phenomenologists gave systematic critique to Positivists. Alfred Schutz and Husserl were the phenomenologists who argued for typifications in social research.

Theory -

- 1) Study social reality in the form of meanings attached to phenomenon.
- 2) Argued that there is indexicality and reflexivity in studying social phenomenon.
- 3) Held that humans alter their meanings in response to every phenomenon.
- 4) Introduced interpretivist approach and methodology.
- 5) Held that social study can't be laboratorial so there are no general predictions.
- 6) Made use of common sense knowledge as a raw material to begin the research.

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However, they have been criticised on following grounds -

- 1) Purely speculative study with no empirical research.
- 2) Typifications based on context, thus can't be generalised, thus poor reliability.
- 3) Common sense approach is biased and not value free.
- 4) Theory was too relative.
- 5) Ignored the social constraints in which meanings develop.

Thus, Phenomenologists though tried to broaden the arena of qualitative research, felt short on validity.