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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 1527)

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Center	HYDERABAD	Date	11/03/2020

INDEX TABLE

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

Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. The Candidate should attempt FIVE Questions out of EIGHT questions strictly in accordance with the instructions given under each question printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. 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.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

- (a) "Methodological pluralism is a panacea that can solve all research problems." Discuss.

The principles of rationality and empiricism, as pillars of scientific method ensure that same research carried out yields same results in order to derive a theory and a universal law.

Sociology as a perfect combination of subjective and objective study requires reliability and validity of its studies through methodological pluralism.

For example, Suicide study by Durkheim concentrated on suicide rates with respect to level of social integration. However, studies by Atkinson delved on what is suicide and interpretive work on suicide delved on level of motive. Thus a comprehensive and holistic perspective could be evolved.

Despite advantages, methodological pluralism is not a panacea for all problems.

For example, Gunnar Myrdal explains in "Sociology & Objectivity" that the village Templostan in Mexico was viewed as Functional by functionalist perspective and Oscar Lewis viewed it as in Conflict. Multiplicity of methodology did not yield any conclusive result in the case.

T. K. Dorren suggests the only panacea for research problems is not only methodological pluralism but also temporal variation - i.e. same research method at different points of time. This ensures constant updation of knowledge and its relevance to current society.

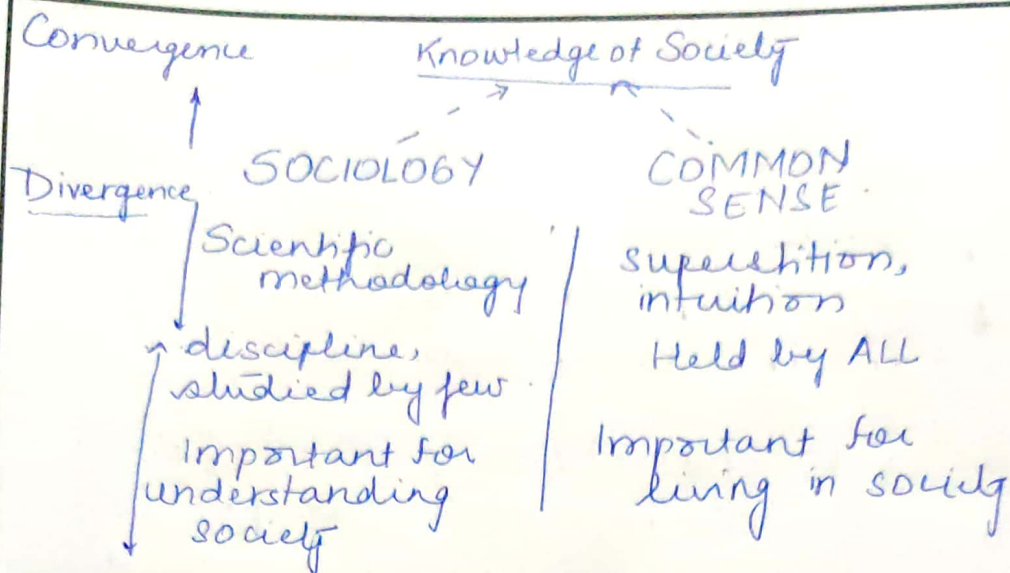
1. (b) Sociology and common sense converge at some points, but diverge more often. Evaluate the statement.

Sociology is the systematic study of society while common sense is set of beliefs, ideas & practices that are termed intuitive to an individual.

Different schools of sociology have evaluated the relationship.

Early positivists and functionalists viewed Sociology and Common Sense as two separate entities. Durkheim distinguished Sociology as subject matter of "social facts" and that they should be free of pre-conceived notions.

Points of convergence between Common sense and sociology was highlighted by Anti-Positivists who examined Common sense as a societal construct and needed to be studied by Sociologists.



Diagrammatic explanation.

Despite its point of convergence, sociology and common sense have higher degree of divergence based on usage, methodology, application and practical utility based on above explanation.

1. (c) Discuss the role of questionnaire as a tool of data collection in sociological research.

Sociological research makes use of various distinct methods for data collection, one of them being questionnaire.

ROLE OF QUESTIONNAIRE:

(-) Questionnaire, by virtue of it being written and posted, ensures higher degree of accuracy.

This ensures that the researcher and the responder do not come face to face, thus limiting influencing and biasing from both sides.

(-) It is cost effective technique thus ensuring the researcher to collect more data)

(-) It also ensures that specific questions can be asked to yield answers. For example, question of domestic violence can be

difficult to ask or answer in interview but is possible in Questionnaire.

Despite its advantages, it still has certain limitations.

(.) Questionnaire have very low responsive rates. For example, one of studies by Indian Sociologist Veena Das gained mere 5% response rate over 1500 questionnaires.

Apart from responsivity, they do not capture subjectivity. For example, someone does not support oil fracking because it is polluting, while other does not support because he is not able to generate income from it.

Also, the way of framing questionnaire requires to be customised and constantly followed up with calls, mails making it time consuming.

Thus it must be used based on the area, time, regional factors conducivity for data collection.

1. (d) Explain the institutional ethnography approach with examples.

Institutional ethnography is an alternative research methodology to scientific method where various narratives are taken into consideration which are considered equally valid.

For example, Kieran Desai's work on "Indentured Labour and their laws" ensures that various Indian immigrants and their problems in British Colonies.

The method ensures collecting various diverse perspectives across society and time.

For example, the work of phenomenologists such as Peter Berger accept that society is construct of individual mind and utilise various views to drive their study.

This method has been utilized in studying important institutions.

For example, Melinowski studied Teubriand Islands to understand their religion.

Similarly, G. B. Murdock studied over 223 societies to arrive at Universality of Family.

Despite its usage, its time, effort and lack of generalization have limited its application in field of Sociology, in adding value to existent research.

1. (e) Examine the utility of reliability and validity in social research by giving suitable examples.

Social research can be made significant and theorized based on extent of their reliability and validity indicators.

UTILITY of RELIABILITY:

- Reliability indicates that same research work produces the same results over periods of time.

This helps in effectively understanding, development of theories and deriving universal laws.

For example, Durkheim's theory of Suicide could not become a universally acceptable law because of studies conducted by Atkinson, Bernard & Thomas Kuhn questioning its reliability.

UTILITY OF VALIDITY

Validity is the extent of truth of the research conducted

It ensures that the research is free of any biases, data collection errors or interpretation mistakes.

Max Weber identified importance of subjectivity through his "VERSTEHEN Approach" which helped increase validity of sociological studies.

Validity and Reliability together serve as pillars of Objectivity and promoting concrete sociological knowledge.

2. (a) 'Sociology grew as a product of the reflection of great thinkers reflecting on society'. Comment. 20

Discipline of Sociology has its roots in the European Renaissance Era (13th to 17th AD). This Era marked the rebirth of intellect and reasoning.

This period started with the reflection of great thinkers of the society. For example, Plato's work dwelled on Nature of King and his subjects who are separated based on birth. i.e. NATURAL INEQUALITY

From works of Aristotle, the role of a King in protecting his subjects and importance of public trust was reflected upon.

Product of this reflection yielded many great thinkers, philosophers, artists, explorers, scientists who either set out to prove ancient theories as correct or to prove them wrong.

From art perspective, we have works of Leonardo Da Vinci & Michelangelo who enriched humanistic features through art.

Literary works by William Shakespeare, and works such as "Utopia", "in the plains of folly" served as reflection awareness to the educated classes.

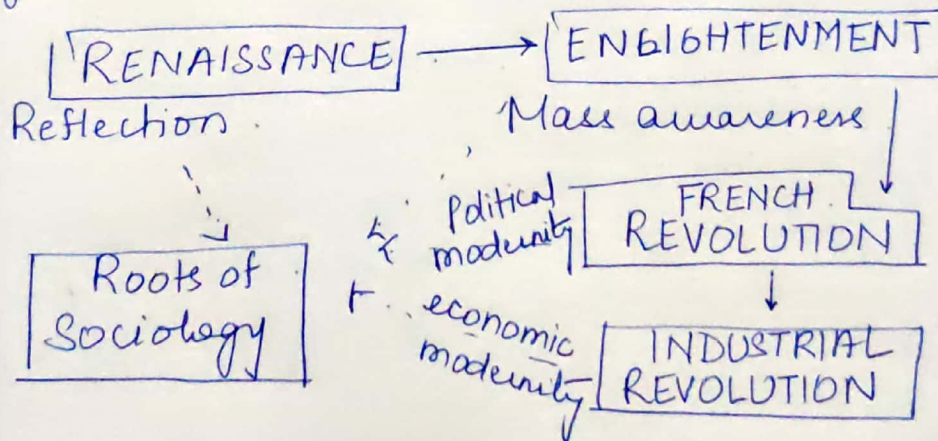
By bringing forward the spirit of humanism, many explorers ventured into the seas - Marco Polo, Vasco Da Gama.

Philosophers and Political thinkers such as Hobbes and Jean Jacques Rousseau reflected on "Natural Inequality" to yield work on "Social Contract theory" with basic root being that "all men are created equal".

This thought of Natural equality, even percolated into Spheres of sciences with Robert Bacon's empiricism - i.e. the need to keep testing particular scientific method for universality

Multi-sectoral renaissance brought new era with importance of realism, humanism & empiricism, which made the next phase of Enlightenment possible.

Diagram: The roots of sociology



Thus, sociology grew as a discipline with multiple roots to rapid changes in society which was fuelled by great thinkers and mass awareness of public

2. (b) Sampling is a convenient tool to gather information about a population, but it can be grossly misleading as well. State out the limitation of sampling in sociological analysis. 20

Sampling utilizes a portion of population to collect data and generalize it for entire population.

Despite it be cheap, time-saving and easier tool of data collection, it comes with number of limitations.

Firstly, Sampling methodology of probability in a society can lead to systematic exclusion of certain sections.

Secondly, Stratified sampling ensures equal representation of various sections but removes the possibility of equal representation opportunity.

For example in a stratified sampling, by selecting certain sections, we might be including intra-section and inter-section views for a Dalit study, by stratified sampling, we might not be accomodating women, trans-gender intra section and other backward

and identified likes in inter-section.

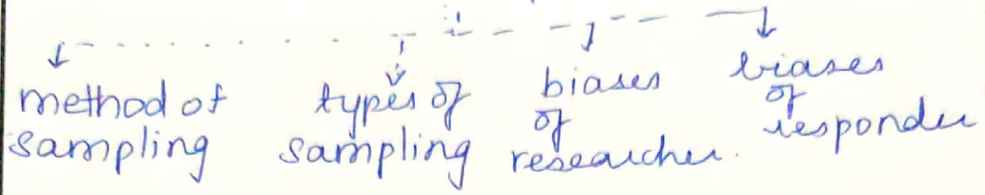
Thirdly, sampling presumes that portion of population can help generalise results for total population. This however cannot be achieved as each human is distinct unlike pack of cards or coins.

For example, Sampling Studies of Sashaana Zuboff to study Information Technology applications could not be generalised for under-developed African nations or developing India etc.

Fourthly, sampling with non-probabilistic methods like Snowball Sampling have inherent biases from the responder. This contaminate the results.

Also, other non-probabilistic Sampling techniques are prone to Sampling errors and cannot be generalised for entire population.

Sampling methodology - LIMITATIONS



These limitations have given rise to various other socio-specific methods like case studies, surveys and methods of triangulation that use multiple methods.

2. (c) 'A good hypothesis should be specific enough to be falsifiable'. Explain.

10

Hypothesis is a tentative statement that provides correlation between two or more variables.

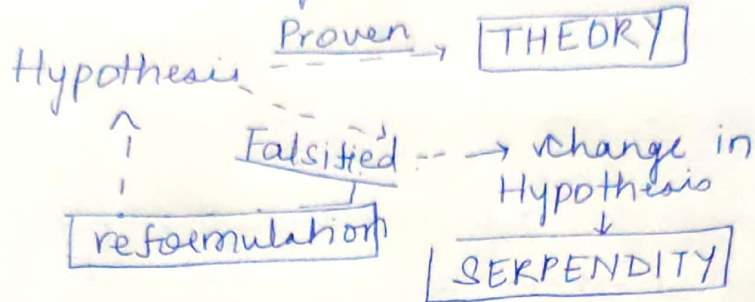
In Merton's "scientific method for Sociological research", he highlights importance of Good Hypothesis:

- (.) That it helps outline various variables.
- (.) It delineates independent & dependent variables.
- (.) That it should be specific enough.
- (.) That initial hypothesis can also "reformulate" its theoretical basis.

These characteristics ensure that Hypothesis can be easily proven or disproven / FALSIFY.

By falsification, Merton highlights that a hypothesis can derive results for another area of research.

He leans at the
"Serpensity Pattern"



For example, to study suicide, the hypothesis of Durkheim highlighted its relation to social integration with variables of religion, church attendance, different societies, number of married men etc

Hypothesis that was specific enough to be falsified can be envisioned through Hawthorne Effect. Elton Mayo's hypothesis was specific enough to study scientific management but could be falsified enough leading to study of Humanistic School.

Thus, Specific hypothesis must be the root for deriving concrete sociological knowledge.

3. (a) Sociology and political science are so closely related to each other that one becomes meaningless without other. Analyse. 20

Sociology and political science as two humanities disciplines, have very close relation.

Sociology studies the society and its various constituents - religion, family, education, polity, economy and their inter-relation with each other.

Political Science on other hand deals with study of power, state and processes related to powerholding in society.

CLOSE INTER RELATION - ANCIENT

From ancient times, political thinker not only explained politics but also its impact with respect to society.

For example, Plato through his distinction of gold, silver and iron bores justified inequality stating that this is from birth.

Aristotle explained man as
"Social animal" and how.

"poor, women and slaves" were
not to be treated equally.

Machiavelli in "The Prince"
highlighted the role of King in
binding the society.

Thus, initial ^{political & views} studies have served
to enhance sociological knowledge.

PRESENT DAY CORRELATION

Both the disciplines have enhanced
each other's knowledge through
research, borrowing methodology
and synthesising ideas.

Sociology has utilised views of
ancient political thinkers to generalize
view of society. For example,
Pareto's power circulation has
provided sociological knowledge on
traits of a leader

Stricter bureaucracy enhances
"Alienation" of individual.

Studies of Hawthorne ^{by Elton Mayo} ~~Taylor~~
provided explanation to importance
of worker relations in achieving
targets.

Similarly, Peter Blau explained
the role of informal structures in
Bureaucracy of information federal
agencies of US for swift decision making

Studies conducted at Gypsum
plant showed that rigid rules did
not enhance mining activity, thus
limiting applicability of rigid rules.

Suzana Zanoff studies on
IT Conglomerates showed need for
informal & flat hierarchy in rapidly
changing sectors.

Thus despite its need in certain
sectors, rigid bureaucracy is not the
only method to achieve organization
targets as visualized by cited studies

3. (b) Explain the difference between the positivist and interpretative approaches to the scientific method in sociology. 20

Study of society has been enriched with different schools of thought. Of this, two major schools - Positivist & Interpretive can be differentiated as follows:

POSITIVIST

- Positivist method envisions sociology as a strictly scientific discipline.

- Positivist method focuses on utilizing scientific process to derive knowledge.

This process can be enumerated as

1. Defining Hypothesis
2. Identify variables
3. Collecting data

INTERPRETIVE

- Interpretive method of Max Weber envisions sociology as a combination of scientific and humanities discipline.

- Weber developed own approach of "Verstehen" where he wanted to attach meaning and motive to each social action.

4. Collecting data - analyses
5. Generalize results
6. Prove Hypothesis
7. Formulate Theory

• Positivist method.
wanted to provide concrete theories

For example, Emile Durkheim utilized positivist method to explain suicide's inverse relation to social interaction.

$$\text{No of Suicide} \propto \frac{1}{\text{social integration}}$$

This process was to be carried out by empathetic liaisoning.

ACTOR₁ — Social actor₂
↓
ACTION

(interpretation) using empathetic liaison - placing oneself in their situation.

• Interpretive method recognized uniqueness of individual and its role in shaping society

Weber on other hand utilized social action to derive types of power based on social action & social action.

Positivist method ensured that sociology remains a distinct discipline from philosophy.

Despite its objectivity, positivist method subdues individual to society.

Interpretive sociology ensured that it remains relevant in understanding modern day society.

Despite its subjectivity, interpretive sociology cannot provide for society's role in individual development.

Thus, to ensure sociology remains relevant, holistic & concrete, there is a need for utilizing both methods such as triangulation to ensure the research remains reliable & valid.

3. (c) "Participant observation has many practical disadvantages."
Substantiate with examples. 10

Participant Observation utilizes researcher as a part of observant group to collect data for sociological research.

This method ensures very close level interactions and observations but has not been preferred by many sociologists:

(.) ETHICAL REASONS: To perform participant observation, sociologists have to deal with ethical dilemma of how to inform participant group of their status and also balance the original social group interactions.

For example, Field studies of M N Seinius in Indian village of Rampur was based on the knowledge of village residents.

(·) TIME CONSUMING: Participant observation takes some time for researcher to settle to understand social interactions.

For example, Malinowski to study Trobriand Islands utilized a lot of time to understand their "cultural uniqueness".

(·) NATIVIZATION BIAS: As a fellow participant and also as an observer, the researcher can develop a bias to practices of group endangering the research.

Work done by a sociologist to study Italian mafia in New York by middle of his study couldn't differentiate between him as a researcher and fellow mafia member.

Thus these disadvantages, limit its applicability in generalising discipline like Sociology.

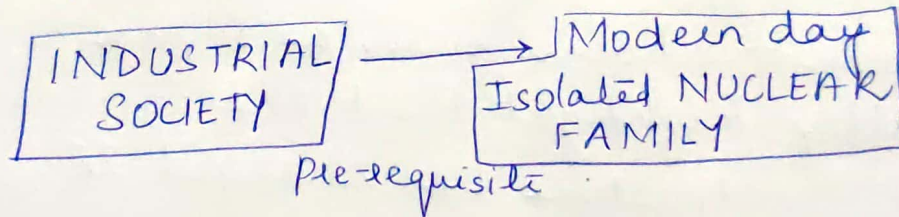
5. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

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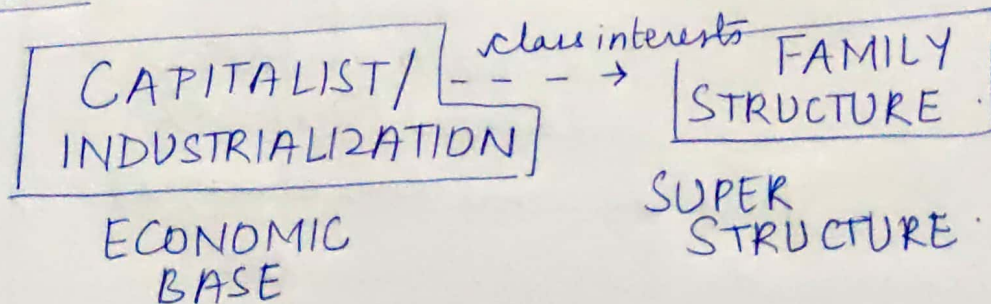
(a) Discuss the linkage between industrialization and changes in family structure.

Various studies have tried to establish correlation between Industrialization and family structure.

Functionalists like Parsons highlighted that Industrial and modern society requires a nuclear family to ensure society's progress.



Conflict theorists view family as part of super-structure and influenced by Bourgeoisie interests.



Sub alteren and Post-modernist
view industrialization as
Systematic exploitation of marginalized
For example, Xaxa highlights
how liberal families have become
parent-less with men and women
migration

INDUSTRIALIZATION → exploitation
[Migration] of only
Marginalized
families

Feminist scholars such as Sylvia
Walby highlight that the
family structure has changed to
increase income by women's productive
labour.

Women's
emancipation/
Assertion → Accelerating
INDUSTRIALIZATION
↓
Family Structure
change
(Ex: Long distance
relations / Divorce)

Thus various sociological
Studies provide holistic view on
changes in family with social changes

5. (b) Examine the functions and dysfunctions of 'informal sector' in India.

Informal Sector of India constitutes 90% of Indian workforce (LokNiti data)

Informal Sector is characterized by lack of government purview, outside payment of taxes, with no labour law stringency, flexible work hours and below par wage rates

FUNCTIONS of Informal Sector are:

- (.) Generation of employment for masses,
- (.) Facilitates movement of labour from agriculture into other sectors.
- (.) Support small and medium enterprise growth
- (.) Enabling women to join productive and remunerative occupations.

DYSFUNCTIONS(i) MANIFEST Dystunctions

- (-) Informal Sector is responsible for loss of tax income for government.
- (-) It promotes worker exploitation by lax rules, wages, work hours.
- (-) Also restricts formation of collective groups such as unions etc. to bring a change.

(ii) LATENT Dystunctions

- (-) It is leading to increasing INFORMALIZATION of Jobs with Contract work, Big economy, platform workers.
- (-) Increased depreciation resulting in crime rate increase.
- (-) Also, leading to child labour and women harassment.

Thus, Informal Sector has multi-dimensional impact on Indian Society.

5. (c) Self-Help Group (SHG) as an informal organization from a sociological perspective.

Self Help Groups (SHG) have evolved over time from the successful model of Professor Yunus in Bangladesh to spread over various underdeveloped and developing nations across various sectors.

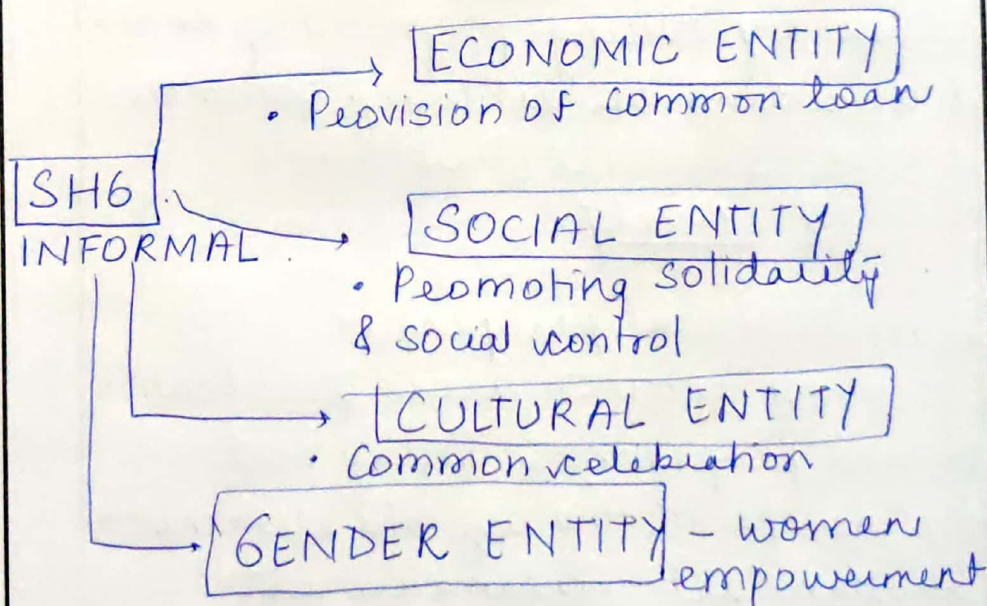


Diagram - role of SHG.

From an economic perspective, Self Help Group ensure securing credit, pooling resources and labour. Thus they ensure collective.

economic base to yield results for themselves, they stand as counter example to Marx's view of bourgeoisie dominance and orientation of results.

From a social perspective, Self Help Groups serve as collective orientation and social control holders by forcing payment of loans and deciding on utilizing common resources, similar to Durkheim's view of Society.

From cultural perspective, SHGs are serving common areas of celebration, cultural propagation. Today certain SHGs are promoting age old elements - Madhubani art, Kalamkari etc.

From Feminist scholar perspective, SHGs are ensuring women take role outside household and move into entrepreneurial regime.

Thus, they are serving various roles and ensuring growth and inclusive development at micro-scale.

5. (d) Critically examine 'cultural lag' theory of social change.

Cultural lag theory put forward by Ogburn explains that social change is limited by non-material factors despite material factor change, thus ensuring gradual social change.

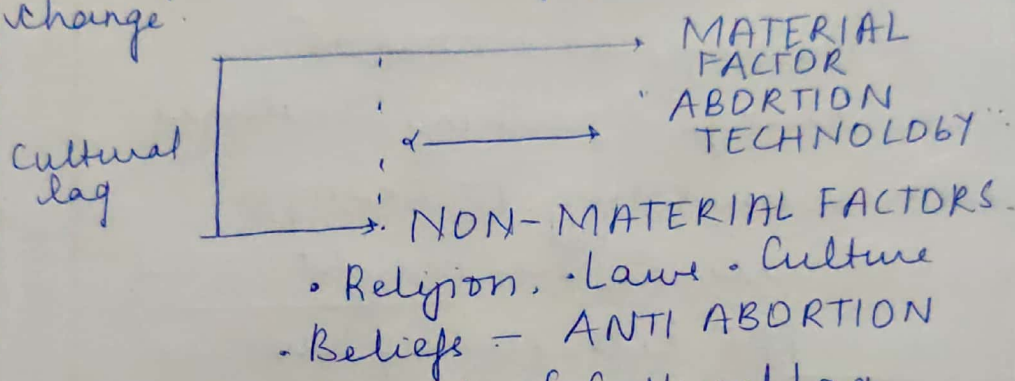


Diagram: Example of Cultural Lag.

This view of social change has been contested by Conflict & Marxist scholars who explain that social change is possible only with revolution. This has been substantiated by Arab Spring and Jasmine Revolution in 21st century.

Many sub alterns point out that excessive importance is given to

cultural factors but there is rising shift in material factors. For example, today's Bible ^{APP} download and online sermons are occurring through primary of materiality.

Technological Determinists view technology as central to social change & pushing cultural factors to backdrop. For example, COVID-19 vaccine ^{need} has bought social distancing, PPE kits, pushing cultural factors to backstage.

Feminist scholars have highlighted that cultural lag is largely based on circumstantial evidence based on men's cultural attributes. For example anti-abortion is championed by Patriarchal society and no cultural lag by women.

Thus, despite its explanation of gradual change, Cultural lag theory falls short of explaining other aspects.

5. (e) 'Feminization of work has not led to gender equality'. Do you agree? Comment.

"Feminization of work" ensures that women enter into productive and remunerative spheres.

This has been an impact of multiple factors of industrialization, rising capitalist society, feminist movements, urbanization and nuclear family structure along with universal proclamation of gender equality as a "SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL" (SDG-4)

Despite its aspiration, trend of feminization of work has not yielded its results in entirety - this is because:

There is creation of PINK COLLAR JOBS at lower rung of organizational hierarchy which are underpaid and lower productivity

For example, feminization of occupations such as teachers, secretaries, nurses while high paying jobs are still male oriented.

Despite lower rung spurt, there is very limited upward mobility which Feminists term "GLASS CEILING". For substantiating it, Forbes 500 companies have mere 28 women CEOs in 2018.

Apart from lower representation, female counterparts on whole suffer from sexual misbehavior at work place resulting in limited aspiration for working among women.

Also, developing countries are seeing trends of feminization in primary sectors - Example being India's feminization of Agriculture where we see very little economic empowerment.

Thus, as Global Gender Gap Report envisions, there is need for multi-sectoral role to enhance Gender Equality at work & other spheres.

6. (a) Critically analyze the impact of information technology on the social organization of work in the contemporary society. 20

Technology revolution is considered the harbinger of change with its multi-dimensional impact across family, religion, politics and also work in modern day society.

IMPACT OF IT ON WORK:

Many sociological studies have been carried out to understand the change in work:

For example, certain sociologists point out role of IT in increasing unemployment in society. UK study conducted, highlighted roles of data entry, typewriter became obsolete due to latest technologies.

Some post-modernists compare role of Information Technology in creating severe conflict in work place by equating to the

Luddite Movement of Industrial Revolution Era where machines were broken as they were replacing human labour.

Marxist scholars such as Habermas highlight that technology is a tool of bourgeoisie to increase the alienation and pauperization of the proletariat.

Technology pessimists highlight the negative role of work where lower classes/white collar jobs have to perform manual labour by sitting in front of a screen which causes various health problems.

Feminist scholars have highlighted Technology as a tool to restrict women to pink collar jobs in an organization. This can be substantiated with women in technical jobs being very low across the globe (3-4% - Gender Equality Index)

Despite the extensive criticism, technology has also got certain important positive notes

- (.) Today, despite COVID Pandemic, Technology enabled social organisations to work from home (WFH), conduct virtual meetings and presentations across the globe.
- (.) It has also enhanced global connectivity by increasing communication, organisations to work from different parts of the world.
- (.) Technology has also helped women to balance house and work life by remaining within household and operating virtually.
- (.) Today, many Startups are coming up by utilizing cutting edge tech which require very informal and loose hierarchy to promote creativity.

Thus despite its share of issues, technology is reshaping global organisations in 21st century.

6. (b) 'A rigid bureaucracy is not always the most efficient way to attain organizational goals'. Comment. 20

Bureaucracy indicates the development of organizational hierarchy with codified rules, chain of command and running a social organization.

Various studies have been conducted by sociologists to explain role of Bureaucracy in work and economic life.

Max Weber explains Bureaucracy as upkeeper of legal rational authority and importance of rigid bureaucracy to avoid maladministration or self-serving attitude development.

Certain Functionalists also view rigid bureaucracy as a way to limit external influences and enforce social control to achieve goals of organization.

~~The~~ implementation of strict principles of work through Scientific management by Taylor was implemented in certain organizations.

This was followed by "Fordism" where Henry Ford strictly codified division of labour which was considered an ideal state for Bureaucracy.

Despite these views, various sociologists have contested the role of a strict bureaucracy.

Merton provided critique to nature of rigid bureaucracy as "IRONCAGE" creating worker disinterest and losing innate creativity.

Marxist scholars have seen Bureaucracy as a "Bourgeoisie's Committee" and that

In a similar manner, sub alternis, feminists have utilized sociological studies to seek political power. Liberal feminists for example, have studied Housework and exploitation to view and seek their political emancipation in 20th century.

Political Science has borrowed the understanding of processes from Sociology - such as role of pressure groups, political parties in driving a society's power.

Both the disciplines have also synthesised to form "POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY" to explain the role of power in society and its constituents.

In modern day context, need to delve into social media and its repercussions on State's power is one example.

From careful consideration,
both disciplines have arena of
convergence which ensures
development of holistic knowledge
and beneficial for both disciplines
furtherment.

6. (c) Critically examine 'conflict theory' of social change.

10

Conflict theory of social change put forward by Karl Marx highlights the role of revolution as ultimate change bringer in society

CAPITALIST State $\xrightarrow{\text{Proletariat Revolution}}$ "Communist State"

Despite this view, different sociologists have provided grounds for social change.

Firstly, functionalists highlight the nature of gradual change in societies which ensures continuity of society and its values. This can be substantiated by change of strong capitalist states to present day welfare nature [USA - Obama Care, India - Ayushman Bharat]

Certain neo marxist scholars reject revolution on grounds of diversity across the world and that different societies have different social change rates.

Weber rejects social change means of revolution citing the increasing middle class i.e. EMBOURGEOISEMENT with no class consciousness.

Also scholars such as Frank Parkins reject a utopian concept of "State-less / Class-less" state by citing ^{old} Russia (USSR) which was far from ideality.

Apart from this, certain scholars such as Sorokin reject unidirectional change by giving example of cyclic social change based on example of Roman empire

Rise
of
empire.

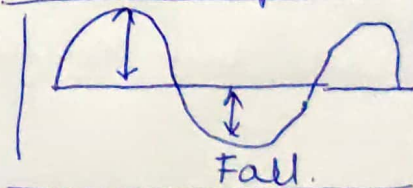


Diagram: Cyclicity of Social change.

True despite its merit of viewing conflict as basis, it suffers from certain limitations.