

Ans:2 Precis

Determinants of Social Stratification

According to sociologists, social stratification is a societal based system, that shows social inequalities.

This stratification is socially constructed based on groups and classes and has an impact on person's social standing. Different societies have different beliefs that support the ^{determinants} factors of stratification. In some societies, it is based on wealth that categorize rich and poor, in some it is based on the knowledge and personality that one acquires.

However, parents standing is also a factor determinants that sets an identical class for their children and their standing transfers from generation to generation.

Further, in some societies, some occupational inequalities are found like for a teacher, who is supposed to perform this noble duty for students' well being rather for earning interests. While, the same concept is not acceptable for businessmen in the business world. Such cultural school of thoughts support such determinates of stratification and create inequalities in societies.

word count : 145

PART-II

Q. 2 Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

(15+5=20)

Sociologists recognize that social stratification is a society-wide system that makes inequalities apparent. While there are always inequalities between individuals, sociologists are interested in larger social patterns. Stratification is not about individual inequalities, but about systematic inequalities based on group membership, classes, and the like. No individual, rich or poor, can be blamed for social inequalities. A person's social standing is affected by the structure of society. Although individuals may support or fight inequalities, social stratification is created and supported by society as a whole.

Factors that define stratification vary in different societies. In most societies, stratification is an economic system, based on wealth, the net value of money and assets a person has, and income, a person's wages or investment dividends. While people are regularly categorized based on how rich or poor they are, other important factors influence social standing. For example, in some cultures, wisdom and charisma are valued, and people who have them are revered more than those who don't. In some cultures, the elderly are esteemed; in others, the elderly are disparaged or overlooked. Societies' cultural beliefs often reinforce the inequalities of stratification.

One key determinant of social standing is the social standing of one's parents. Parents tend to pass their social position on to their children. People inherit not only social standing but also the cultural norms that accompany a certain lifestyle. They share these with a network of friends and family members. Social standing becomes a comfort zone, a familiar lifestyle, and an identity.

Other determinants are found in a society's occupational structure. Teachers, for example, often have high levels of education but receive relatively low pay. Many believe that teaching is a noble profession, so teachers should do their jobs for love of their profession and the good of their students, not for money. Yet no successful executive or entrepreneur would embrace that attitude in the business world, where profits are valued as a driving force. Cultural attitudes and beliefs like these support and perpetuate social inequalities.