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Sociology

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Q. Discuss the application of Sociology in agriculture, health and industries with example?

Introduction:

Sociology, as the scientific study of society and human behavior, play a crucial role in understanding and addressing challenges in various fields. This discussion will delve into the application of Sociology in three (3) key areas.

(1) Agriculture

(2) Health

(3) Industries

Background:

The intersection of Sociology with Agriculture, Health and Industries is grounded in the recognition that these sectors are deeply intertwined with social structure, norms and dynamics. Sociological perspectives offer valuable insights into the ways societal factors impact these domains.

Application in Agriculture:

1. Sociology in Agriculture Practices:

Sociological principles guide the study of rural communities, land distribution and agrarian structures. As the earth was plowed, more nutrients were returned to the soil, making the land more productive. The food surplus of the agricultural revolution was unlike anything ever seen in human history. It allowed even more people to engage in activities other than farming.

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In this new agricultural society, people developed cities and what is popularly known as "culture" activities such as

- Philosophy
- Art
- Music
- Literature
- Architecture

The social inequality of Pastoral and historical horticultural societies turned out to be only a hint of what was to come. When some people managed to gain control of the growing surplus of resources in agricultural societies, inequality became a fundamental feature of life in society. To protect their expanding privileges and power, this elite surrounded itself with armed men. For instance, analyzing land ownership patterns through a sociological lens can reveal disparities and help design more equitable policies.

Example of Agriculture:

Agrarian Reforms: In countries facing issues of land concentration, sociologists advocate for agrarian reforms to ensure fair distribution. The Philippines Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) is a prime example, aiming to distribute land to landless farmers.

According to Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 2021 approximately 500 million small scale farmers worldwide contribute significantly to global food production.

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Critical Analysis

Despite the positive impact of agrarian reforms, challenges persist. Social resistance, political issues and economic constraints often hinder effective implementation.

Sociological Analysis helps identify and address these barriers ensuring sustainable agricultural practices.

Application in Health:

2. Sociology in Public Health:

Sociology examines the social determinants of health, emphasizing how social, economic and cultural factors influence well-being. Understanding these factors is crucial for developing effective health policies.

Example of Health:

Health Disparities:

Sociologists highlight the health disparities by examining how socioeconomic status affect access to healthcare.

In the United States (U.S) studies show that individuals with lower incomes are more likely to face barriers in obtaining necessary medical services.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that social determinants such as

Income

Education

Employment significantly impact health outcomes globally.

Critical Analysis:

While recognizing the importance of addressing health disparities, sociologists also emphasize the need to tackle the root causes, economic inequality and social justice, to achieve lasting improvement in public health.

Application in Industries:

3 Sociology in the workplaces

The third social invention also turned society upside down. The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain in 1765, when the steam engine was first used to run machinery. Just as a surplus in the new industrial society was greater than anything that preceded it, so also was its social inequality. Sociological perspectives shed light on workplace dynamics, organizational culture and the impact of industrialization on societies. This understanding is crucial for fostering positive work environments.

Example of Industries:

Genders in the workshop:

Sociological studies on gender roles influence policies promoting workplace gender equality. Norway's gender quota legislation, requiring a minimum of 40% representatives of each gender on corporate boards, reflects a sociologically informed approach.

"The individual and society are interdependent. You cannot understand one without the other."

Emile Durkheim

According to the International Labour Organization as of 2020, global gender pay gaps persist with women earning on average 16% less than men.

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Critical Analysis of Human Health / Industries :-

Sociologists critically analyze policies and workplace practices to ensure they address the root cause of inequality. Despite progress, challenges such as

(i) Unconscious bias

(ii) Stereotypes

Still hinders full gender equality in many industries.

Conclusion :-

In conclusion, the application of sociology in Agriculture, Health and Industries is instrumental in addressing complex challenges. By examining societal structures, norms and inequalities, sociological perspectives contribute to the development of more inclusive and sustainable policies in these vital sectors.

"Recognizing the interconnectedness of individuals and society is key to creating positive social change."
Émile Durkheim

