Define social control and explain the most significant steps to attain social control in society. Elaborate on the most functional agencies to maintain social control in post-industrial societies.

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1) Introduction:-

Social control refers to process via which a society maintains its control on individuals. The most significant steps to attain and maintain social control are using a balanced approach comprising of both informal and formal means of social control. Informal steps include making use of norms, promoting positive values and adherence to folkways. Propagation of ideologies, use of art and religious ideas are also crucial steps to attain social control. Formal steps include use of education, exercise of governmental power and enforcement laws via incentives and coercion.

In post-industrial societies, the most functional agencies of social control are

government, religion, and education and family. Together they can keep control over post-industrial societies.

2) **Defining Social Control :-**

Social control refers to the system via which a society maintains its normative social system.

" Social control refers to the patterns of pressure which a society exerts to maintain order and establish rules"

— Ogburn and NimKoff

i. **Aims**

According to Parsons, the aim of social-control is 'to nip the deviant tendencies in the bud' or else 'a brutish and nasty state will prevail"

3) **Steps to Attain Social Control :-**

Attainment of social control involves the use of both primary institution and formal agencies.

a) **Promotion of Norms**

Norms are the standards of

behavior and are regulatory in character. Their implementation can be promoted via instilution of family, education and government

b) Instilling Values in New Generation

Values are the culturally defined goals that promotes cohesion in a society. These values can be instilled in the new generation via education. Tools like incentives, rewards and punishment can also be used

c) Teaching Folkways to Children

According to F.B Reuter and C.W. Hart folkways are "simple habits of actions common to members of a group". Teaching children to practice and adhere to folkways can be a crucial way to maintain social control.

d) Promotion of National Ideology

Promotion of national ideologies can help promote social control and solidarity at national level

Example:- Ideological basis of Formation of Pakistan and ideology of national solidarity i.e 'Unity in Diversity'

e) Promotion of Religious Belief System

Promotion of religious belief system (like the concept of monoheism in Islam and Dharma in Hinduism) can also provide cultural basis for unity and social control.

f) Enforcing Laws

Uniform application of laws can also strengthen social control. The tools that can be be employed here are incentives, rewards, punishments and coercion.

g) Teaching Uniform Curriculum

Education is a crucial tool for enforcing control, especially if it is uniform across all educational institutions.

Example:- The effort of Pakistan's Government to employ Single National Curriculum in all provinces is based aimed at the same goal.

4) Social Control Theory: A Guide

According to this theory, the aim of social control should be to achieve 4 goals for attaining effective social control

Four Key Factors For
Successful Social Control

Attachment Commitment Involvement Belief

5) Most Functional Institutions of Control in Post-Industrial Society.-

In post-industrial societies, the main institutions that excercise or can exercise effective control are different from industrial or agricultural societies. Let's take a look at main institutions

a) Democratic Government (Most Functional)

In post-industrial societies, where individual rights and liberties are most important, democratic, liberal government holds the most control to maintain social harmony while ensuring the protection of rights and duties of individuals.

b) Education — A passive tool of control

This might not be an active institution like government but it can exercise control on societies via cultural transmission or cultural annihilation

Example:- The removal of mughal era history from Indian National Curriculum is such an attempt.

c) Family

In post-industrial societies family is the only primary institutions that wields some

social control. It's true that the control of family is diminishing, yet it still holds the ground when it comes to socialization of children and teaching them about cultural values and norms.

d) Religion

At the Dawn of Industrial age, Nietzsche claimed that "god is dead" but in post-industrial civilization we see the revival of the control of religion. Although this control is minimal yet we cannot deny its presence.

6) Conclusion:-

Social control refers to the control of society on its individuals. It aims at maintaining harmony via the use of various methods. In the post-industrial age, we see the rise of government and education as main agents of control. However, family and religion also held some importance.

answer is fine but incoherent
add charts and segregate between formal and informal
write theories separately
need improvement 10/20