

⊗ SOCIOLOGY ⊗

⊗ PART II ⊗

QUESTION 2 ⊗

- ⊗ Social Institution ⊗

ANSWERS ⊗

- ⊗ Introduction ⊗

A social institution refers to a set of organized beliefs, rules and practices that serve to meet basic societal needs. These institutions provide a framework for organizing and structuring human behaviour, relationship, and interactions. Social institutions are foundational element of a society, shaping its norms, values and interactions. Social institutions are foundational element of a society, shaping its norms values and interactions. Key social institutions include family, education, religion, government, economy and healthcare.

Role of different social institutions in building a civilized society

Family:-

The family is a primary social institution responsible for socializing individuals. It instills cultural norms, values and behaviour. The family provides emotional support and is crucial in shaping a person's identity, values and social skills. Stable family structures contribute to a sense of security, which is fundamental for the development of individuals and society.

Education

Education is a key institution for transmitting knowledge, skills and cultural values. It equips individuals with the tools needed for critical thinking, problem-solving and informed decision making. Education fosters social mobility, allowing individuals to contribute effectively to society.

Religion

Religious institutions play a significant role in

shaping moral values and ethical norms within a society. They provide a moral compass, guiding individuals in their behaviour and interactions. Religion often promotes social cohesion, providing a shared set of beliefs that can contribute to harmonious and civilized society.

Government

The government is crucial institution for maintaining law and order, protecting individual rights and providing public service. It establishes a framework for social organization through laws and regulation. Democratic governance allows for the participation of citizens in decision-making processes, contributing to a more just and civilized society.

Economy

Economic institutions such as markets and business play a pivotal role in providing resources, creating employment opportunities, and facilitating the production and distribution of goods and services. A stable and well-functioning economy contribute to the overall prosperity and well being of society.

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Health Care

Health care institutions are essential for maintaining the well-being of individual and society as a whole. They contribute to the overall health and productivity of the population, ensuring a workforce capable of contributing to the development of a civilized society.

Media

While not always recognized as a traditional institution, media plays a crucial role in shaping public opinion, disseminating information and influencing cultural norms. Responsible media can contribute to an informed and engaged citizenry, fostering a more enlightened and civilized society.

Legal System

Legal institutions provide a framework for resolving disputes, ensuring justice and protecting individual rights. They contribute to the establishment of a fair and orderly society by upholding the rule of law.

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Conclusion

In Summary, social institutions are the building block of a civilized society, providing the necessary structure and function for the orderly functioning of communities. Each institution plays a unique role in shaping individual behavior, fostering social cohesion and contributing to the overall well-being of society. The synergy and proper functioning of these institutions are essential for the development and sustainability of a civilized and harmonious community.

QUESTION 78

→ Social Contract theory vs.

Organismic theory

ANSWER

→ Social Contract

Overview

Social contract theory is theory most notably associated with philosophers like Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau proposes that individuals enter into a social contract to form a society. According to this theory people willingly give up some of their natural rights in exchange for the protection of remaining rights and the benefits of a stable, organized society.

- "Individual, in a state of nature ← voluntary Action ← key tenets
 willingly come together to establish a political society through social contract"
- "Governments derive their legitimacy from the consent of the governed. If the government failed to protect citizen's rights that social contract is broken."
- Government Legitimacy
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- 1 Implications
- "Emphasis on individual rights and the protection of personal freedom"
 - "Government role is to maintain order and protect citizen rights."
 - "The legitimacy of authority is contingent on the consent of the governed."

ORGANISMIC THEORY

This theory is influenced by thinkers like Herbert Spencer and Emile Durkheim views society as an organism with interdependent parts. Society is seen as a complex system where institutions and individual work together to maintain equilibrium. The health and