

Noa Mock Test

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Part II:-

Q1:-

Compare and
..... theory.

Ans 1:-

Sociology is defined as the study of human interactions in a society. Various theories emerged with the passage of time. According to Emile Durkheim, sociology "is the science of social facts".

In the following paragraphs, a comparison and contrast has been presented among the various schools of thought in sociology such as functionalist, conflict and symbolic interactionist perspectives.

1. Functionalist Perspective: Stability through Independence:

The functionalist perspective was developed by Emile Durkheim posits that society functions as an interdependent system where institutions like family, education, and the economy maintain stability and cohesion. Durkheim's concept of organic solidarity explains how modern societies rely on the specialization of roles for unity. For e.g., the role of education in Pakistan during 2023's economic crises has been vital in creating a skilled labor force to address structural unemployment. The IMF's recommendations for Pakistan emphasized investing in education to stabilize economic growth. Similarly, the global focus on climate change such as the UN's 2024 COP29 summit illustrates how nations must collaborate to address ecological disruptions. These examples reflect that functionalist harmony relies on coordination and adaptation, demonstrating how disruptions in

one sphere can ripple across society reinforcing Durkheim's emphasis on systems equilibrium.

2- Conflict Perspective: Struggles for Resources and Power:-

Conflict theory grounded in Karl Marx's critique of capitalism views society as a battleground where powerful elites exploit resources while marginalizing weaker groups. This is evident in the widening wealth gap reported by Oxfam in 2023 where the richest 1% controlled nearly two-thirds of new wealth created globally. In Pakistan, the sugar and wheat crises exemplify how powerful cartels manipulate markets exacerbating inflation and food insecurity among the working class. Additionally, social conflicts in the US such as the 2023 police brutality protests reflect how systemic inequalities persist despite legal frameworks. In short, these examples show how Marx's notion of class antagonism

Continues to explain modern social dynamics emphasizing that inequality is a structural rather than incidental feature of society.

3 - Symbolic Interactionism: Constructing Reality through Shared Meanings:

The theory of Symbolic Interactionism was suggested by George Herbert Mead and Erving Goffman. Their work explores how individuals create and interpret social meanings through interaction. Goffman's **dramaturgical approach** likens social life to a theater where individuals perform roles based on societal ~~expected~~ expectations. For e.g. the rise of online advocacy in Pakistan such as **#JusticeForWomen** movements highlight how social media redefines traditional gender roles and empowers marginalized voices. Similarly, the shift in workplace norms, like **hybrid work models** post-pandemic demonstrates evolving interactions

Where symbols like virtual
platforms now signify productivity.
In short, Symbolic interactionism
underscores that society is fluid,
constructed and reconstructed through
shared symbols reaffirming the
transformative power of individual
interactions in shaping macro-level
social change.

Q 3:-

Explain
.... stability?

Ans 3:-

Deviance:-

Deviance refers to any behavior, belief or condition that violates societal norms or expectations whether in a subtle or overt manner. Howard Becker famously stated that

“deviance is not a quality of the act a person commits, but rather a consequence of the application by others of rules and sanctions to an offender”

A deviant behavior is relative demanding from society to society

• As a labelling process-

Sociologists like Goffman and Erikson highlight that deviance involves a process of labelling. Deviance can seem to both highlight societal norms and

challenge them & encouraging social change.

EXAMPLE:

Deviance range from minor infractions like breaking curfew to major violations like criminal activity.

Durkheim's Perspective on Deviance and Social Cohesion-

Durkheim's Functionalist Theory posits that deviance plays an essential role in maintaining social stability, such as he explained deviance in its work 'The Division of Labour in Society'.

Example:-

The global climate strikes initiated by Greta Thunberg ~~highlights~~ highlights how young activists challenge entrenched norms regarding environmental policy making & deviance a force for social change. In short deviance is something

that helps in social unity
and stimulates social change.

The Role of Deviance in Social Control and Stability:-

Deviance also defines the moral boundaries of a society and helps to consolidate collective conscience. When deviant acts occur, societal responses such as legal sanctions, public shaming or social exclusion help restore order. For e.g. the global #Me Too movement represents how societal reaction to deviant behaviors has led to significant cultural shifts promoting gender equality.

Critique of Durkheim's Perspective: Power and the Social Construction of Deviance:-

Despite Durkheim's insightful contributions, his functionalist view of deviance has been critiqued for overlooking the role of power. Sociologist Michel Foucault suggests that deviance is a product of power relations rather than an inherent society need. In his work, **'Discipline and Punish'**, Foucault explains that institutions such as the state, police and the judiciary define what is deviant often reinforcing the interests of the powerful. This perspective is evident in the **Black Lives Matter** movement which challenges the labelling of Black protestors as deviant by the police or state authorities in the United States. In short, Foucault's ideas illustrate that deviance is not merely a functional tool for social

& cohesion but also a social construct shaped by political and institutional forces.

Contemporary Societies and Deviance

Durkheim's approach fails to account for the complexities of modern societies, where multiple competing moral systems exist. For e.g. ~~sex~~ same sex marriage was once a deviant act, now gradually accepted in Canada and US, etc. Similarly, the legalization of marijuana in ~~some~~ some countries challenges the traditional labelling of drug use as a deviant, often blurring the boundary between deviance and normal behavior.

~~Durkheim~~

Conclusion:-

Despite its criticisms, Durkheim's theory of deviance remains a cornerstone of sociology. In short, it provides an

insight about the dynamics of power in the construction of ~~human~~ human behavior in a society.

Q4:-

Evaluate

change?

Ans4:-

With the passage of time, modernism and globalization are eroding traditional cultures across the world. The following are the impacts:

1- Sociological Impacts of Modernization and Globalization on Traditional Cultures:-

I. Modernization and Cultural Transformation:-

Modernization is a process marked by industrialization, urbanization and education. It often disrupts traditional

cultures. Talcott Parsons emphasized that modernization involves a shift from particularistic to universalistic values. This creates a 'cultural lag' (Ogburn) where traditional norms struggle to adapt.

II. Globalization and Homogenization vs Hybridization:-

Globalization as theorized by Anthony Giddens leads to 'time-space compression'. While it fosters global interconnectedness, it risks cultural homogenization. For e.g. McDonaldization in world.

2- Dependency Theory and Neo-Colonialism:-

Frank argue that globalization perpetuates neo-colonial exploitation. For e.g. fast fashion dominating local industries and people. Such as the culture of wearing western outfits like

pants and skirts in Pakistan.

3- World-Systems Theory: Core-Periphery Dynamics

Wallerstein's world systems theory explains how the global core exploits peripheral nations by diluting their cultures on them. For e.g. use of technology such as zoom ^{in poor countries.}

In short, modernization and globalization both lead to cultural erosion and dynamism.

Q5:-

Discuss feminist

Ans 5:-

Feminist Theories in Sociology:
Addressing Gender Inequality
in Education, Employment and
Politics

I- Liberal Feminism

This theory emphasizes the importance of equal opportunities for women in education.

For e.g. globally women are underrepresented in STEM fields reflecting societal stereotypes. So liberal feminism rejects such stereotypes. Also, ~~less strength~~

II- Radical Feminism:-

This theory of sociology highlights how patriarchal structures within educational institutes reinforce gender roles and marginalize women. Concepts like 'glass ceiling' and 'gender pay gap' illustrates how women face systemic discrimination. Radical feminism rejects such systematic flaw. Women should be given representation in climate governance.

III- Intersectional feminism:

It is a more recent theory of sociology that recognizes the women's experiences are shaped by the intersection of

gender with race, class and
sexuality. It highlights the issues
of women of color and
~~the~~ LGBTQ+

In short feminist theories of
sociology raises the voice of
marginalized community which has
helped in global recognition
of some rights of women in
various aspects of life.