

Part-II

Q # 2

1- Introduction

Sociology is the study of how societies interact and maintain norms, values and structures. The interplay of these established culture and systems of controls that maintain power, social order and at times reinforces inequality in societies.

The structural functionalist approach views institutions of power and control necessary and beneficial for the society. However, conflict theory views institutions of power and control as instruments to exacerbate inequality and divide in the society. Meanwhile, Max Weber saw power at an individual level that is imposing one's will on other despite resistance.

Similarly, Weber viewed exercise of power based on authority and bureaucracy as an instrument of social order. These sociological perspective are important in today world, as their application is evident and empirically proven.

2- Structural Functionalism

Approach on power, inequality and social order in Contemporary societies

2.1- Institutions of Power foster rule of law in society

Structural Functionalist scholars like Emile Durkheim view institutions of power as necessary structures that foster rule of law in society. For instance, institutions of law enforcement agencies like police have immense powers yet they function as deterrence against crime and protect citizens from lawlessness.

2.2- Inequality necessary to move upward in society

Structural functionalist view persistent inequality in society as a driving force that makes people to work more and do more hard work.

Moreover, it compels people to learn skill set of knowledge that payout high pays. For instance, many people want to become Doctors and Engineers because these professions earn more than others.

2.3 - Functionalist view institutions of family control in maintaining and transmitting culture

Functionalist view that social control of family helps transmit cultural values in generation.

This regulate behavior and maintain social order. For instance, gay behavior is considered repulsive behavior in Pakistan and is strongly shun by families to regulate individual behavior.

2.4 - Functionalism legitimises absolute authority

Structural Functionalist legitimises absolute authority. This is because they view that absolute authority put everyone in line and is not about domination. For instance, during COVID-19 states imposed lock down in whole cities this disrupted economic activity and led to massive unemployment.

However, it saved lives of countless of millions people. Hence, it legitimizes absolute authority in cases of emergencies.

3- Conflict Theory Perspective on Power, inequality and Social order

3.1- Power favors the Elite

Conflict theorist in particular Karl Marx viewed that power is a continuous struggle of resources between the ruling and ruled class. However, power has been focused toward elites in controlling resources. For instance, according to IMF Governance Diagnostic Report of 2025, elites in Pakistan get preferential treatment from the state. They influence policies in sectors like sugar and wheat and get massive benefits.

3.2- Inequality maintained to exercise control

According to conflict perspective, inequality is deliberately kept to exercise control over resources. For instance, Feudal lords in Pakistan control massive land while keep their workers poor and uneducated so that they can control their norms, behavior and mindset.

3.3- Social order as a tool of coercion

Conflict perspective view that social order is a tool of coercion to control and regulate individual behavior. For instance, the idea of surveillance, cameras and policing is done to coerce individual behavior in communities to control dissent and difference of opinion.

3.4- Institutions as means to exploit and control behavior

Conflict approach view social institutions like family, clan and identity as means to regulate and control social behavior.

For instance, boys being told not to play with dolls, not to wear pink and not to cry as ways to control and make behavior in society.

4- Weber Perspective on power, inequality and social order in society

4.1- Power is multidimensional

Max Weber viewed that power is multidimensional. He viewed that at an individual level power is the ability to ~~impose~~^{one's} will on an individual despite resistance.

For instance, bureaucrats have explicit power to impose rules and regulation in public administration matters.

4.2- Types of authority determine outcome

Max Weber viewed that there are different types of authority. For instance, traditional, charismatic, and legal rational authority are exercised by ~~power~~^{individual} of power.

For instance, Donald Trump uses charismatic and traditional power to influence public decision and discourse.

4.3- Bureaucracy as instrument of social control

Bureaucracy are used as instrument of social control. He viewed that bureaucracy hierarchical structures maintain social control. For instance,

a university bureaucracy can decide which clothes students should wear or not. Hence, to regulate behaviour.

4.4- Emergence of multidimensional stratification

Weber viewed that inequality is not merely economic but it operate through social and political structures. For instance, high income individual faces social exclusion due to their belonging to a particular race, culture or religion.

5- Conclusion

To summarise, sociological theories explain the phenomena of power, inequality and social order. Structural Functionalism view power as a structure that give stability. However, conflict school view it as a destabilising exploitative force. Lastly Weber view power and inequality an individual level experience.

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IDEA OF QUESTION IS PICKED BUT ANSWER LACKS EXAMPLES AND CHARTS
PRESENTATION IS NOT GOOD

Q # 3

1- Introduction

Epistemology refer to the phenomena how knowledge is maintained, what constitute a knowledge and how social reality is maintained in a society.

In sociology various theories explains epistemological foundation that include Positivism, critical theory and Anti-positivism. These different epistemological foundation have given immense importance and fluidity to sociology as a discipline. Similarly, application of quantitative and qualitative methods have given sociology as a discipline immense scope in studying various social phenomena like inequality, deviance and social change.

2- Epistemological foundation of social research.

2.1- Positivism

Positivism refers to ^{the} use of scientific methods in finding a

(a)

Solution to any problem. Positivism was propounded by August Comte who is the father of sociology. He tried to use method of objectivity to make discipline of sociology scientific.

2.2 - Anti-positivism

This idea of anti-positivism or interpretivism was given by Max Weber. He argued that social functions at an individual level are subjective. His idea of power is subjective, in which he argues that reality is subjective to one's view and interpretive understanding. He argued for a qualitative discourse and study.

2.3 - Critical Theory

Critical Theory view knowledge is based on historical and political context. Which is shaped by one's reality of power structures. It rejects neutrality and power emancipation. It views that there is inherent contradiction in flow of knowledge due to biases.

3- Quantitative Methods Usage in studying complex social realities.

3.1- Quantitative Methods Strength

A- It can be Generalised

The result of a quantitative method can be generalised on the whole population. For instance, to study phenomenal drivers of inequality in Pakistan a sample of 100 individual based on random sampling from 4 provinces of Pakistan can be used. Afterwards, the results of the study can be generalised on whole Pakistan.

B- It can be reliable and accurate

The results of quantitative methods are reliable and accurate. Moreover, it can be used for different context of study. For instance, it can be used to study patterns of high inequality, power relations and structures in Pakistan's rural areas. Moreover, its results can be used as policy instrument to control inequality.

C - Objectification of social problem

Main benefit of quantitative method is that it quantify social problem. For instance, rising level of crime if measured can help prevalence of crime in areas and help in forecasting and ending it.

3.2 - Quantitative Method Weaknesses

A - It dilute context

Similarly, quantitative method dilutes context of a problem.

It gives overemphasis on data and number. For instance, Polio is a major endemic in Pakistan, data is available but the problem lies in people lack of trust over it.

B - False objectivity

Similarly, in quantitative study variables are used. However certain usage of variables deviates objective truth. For instance, giving only 4 option to subjects and limiting their choice influence results.

C - Misreporting of data

In quantitative study, there is a high chance of data misreporting.

For instances a researcher may fudge data to achieve a desirable results.

4 - Qualitative Method Usage in Studying complex social realities.

4.1 - Qualitative Method strengths

A - Incorporate social understanding of a problem

Qualitative method incorporate social understanding of a problem that is often overlooked by quantitative method. For instance, People refusal to Vaccinate themselves lies in their suspicion and mistrust over the vaccine.

B - Rich in data

Qualitative method is rich in data and emotions. It provides immense understanding to a social problem. For instance, it helps study to

and document
explore a experience and exclusion
faced by various ethnic group

C - Theory Generation

Qualitative research follows generation of theory. For instance, dependency theory and critical theory help explain inequality in societies in the developing world. These theories argue that the developed world has done immense exploitation to reach heights of development on the back of underdeveloped countries resources.

4.2 - Qualitative Method Weakness.

A - Researcher Subjectivity

Similarly, subjectivity in research is a big problem in qualitative research. As subjectivity influence outcome and biases can distort outcomes. For instance, researcher bias in proving Baloch Sardar as necessary for development of Balochistan can lead to distortion of results.

3.2 - Results can not be generalized

The results of a qualitative research cannot be generalised. Rather their application are selective and limited. For instance, suicide rate in Gilgit can not be generalized to whole of Gilgit Baltistan.

3.3 - It cannot forecast.

Similarly, qualitative research can not forecast trends, behavior or outcomes. Hence, this makes its utility limited.

5 - Conclusion

Epistemology is the idea of gaining knowledge, and what constitute a knowledge. Therefore, to attain knowledge quantitative and qualitative methods are employed. Quantitative methods bring generalization in results, highly applicable and give policy recommendation. However, qualitative give skewed results which are rich in data and subjective opinion.

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Q#5

1- Introduction

Social stratification refers to the division of society on the bases of inequality, deviance or social change. The structural functionalist view social stratification as an important stabilizing factor that leads to progression of society on an individual, and collective level. Hence, it plays a positive role. However, conflict perspective view social stratification as an instrument that is in place to maintain exploitation and regulate control and behavior of an individual. This leads to subjugation of individual and certain classes. Thus it leads to a system based on exploitation and immense control.

2- Social Stratification in the context of functionalist

2.1- Ensure society stability
Stratification leads to stability in society. Functionalist school

View that Society is like an organism. Each organ performs distinct function. Hence, social stratification ensures stability.

2.2- Ensure Social order

Similarly, social stratification ensures social order in a society. As it gives clearly defined roles. For instance, in Pakistan women goes to teaching and medical profession and very few become business person.

2.3- Inequality in society a merit based allocation

Similarly, social stratification in society on the basis of income is due to merit based allocation. For instance, Doctors earn higher due to their higher knowledge as compare to cab drivers.

2.4- Caste system ensure stable division of labour.

The pervasive system of caste ensure division of labour. For instance, in India the Shudra Caste

perform all low mental labour work. This is because their caste is lowest in hierarchy.

2.5- Stratification a source of motivation for higher mobility

Stratification ensures progression to higher mobility. People work hard to achieve status. For instance, in Pakistan CSS is viewed as a ticket to higher mobility. Hence, thousands work hard to achieve it.

3- Social stratification in the context of Conflict Approach

3.1- Exploit people to remain in poor cycle

Social stratification trap people in an endless cycle of poverty. For instance, Tamils in Sri Lanka were denied jobs and security from the Sri Lankan state hence, they were trap in a cycle of poverty.

3.2 - Control Agency of women

Similarly, social stratification control agency of women. For instance,

in Pakistan women are not encouraged to ride motorcycle. Hence, restricting their mobility and chance to become independent.

3.3 - Caste as a tool of hereditary oppression

In South Asia, caste are used as a tool of hereditary oppression. For instance, caste in Hinduism gives privilege to Brahmins while discriminatory attitude rooted in offense is subject to shudras. Hence it is used as a tool to foster oppression.

3.4 - Stratification as instrument of domination

Conflict scholar view that stratification is used as an instrument of domination by ruling people. The purpose is to control people's behavior.

For instance, BJP government projecting muslim as a threat to India is an example to destabilise Indian society and secular fabric.

3.5- Stratification as Mechanism of Elite control.

Stratification is used as an instrument by the elite to control society. This is done by spreading information via media or text book. For instance, Indian government under BJP has adopted every media tool to spread hatred of Pakistan in local hearts and mind.

4- Conclusion

Social stratification is a tool that can be used to bring good in the society, as structural functionalist argues. However, conflict approach view that stratification is a destabilizing instrument of the elite and rich to exploit people of their ~~agency~~ ^{agency} and autocracy.

ANSWERS ARE TOO BLAND AND AVERAGE
NEED A LOT OF IMPROVEMENT