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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 1527)

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Medium Eng/Hindi	English	Registration Number	342734
Center	online	Date	24/12/2020

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1 (a)	10		1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). 2. The Candidate should attempt FIVE Questions out of EIGHT questions strictly in accordance with the instructions given under each question printed in ENGLISH & HINDI 3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. 4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. 5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. 6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
(b)	10		
(c)	10		
(d)	10		
(e)	10		
2 (a)	20		
(b)	20		
(c)	10		
3 (a)	20		
(b)	20		
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4 (a)	20		
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5(a)	10		
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(e)	10		
6(a)	20		
(b)	20		
(c)	10		
7 (a)	20		
(b)	20		
(c)	10		
8(a)	20		
(b)	20		
(c)	10		
Total Marks Obtained:			

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1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) "Methodological pluralism is a panacea that can solve all research problems." Discuss.

methodology provides a systematic way to study a subject matter of any discipline. without methodology, the discipline can become mere Common Sense

Methodological Pluralism

methodological pluralism is a way to use more than way methodological perspective in a study.

In sociology, quantitative and qualitative methods are important. Positivists usually use quantitative methods while interpretivists use qualitative methods.

Advantages of methodological Pluralism

— NORMAN K DENZIN gave the concept of triangulation (i.e. combining

more than two methods). It advocates that triangulation improves the efficiency and accuracy of research.

— ALAN BRYMAN (2012) describes the benefits of methodological pluralism as:

- ① The loopholes in one method can be bridged by other method.
- ② one method can complement other. eg. surveys can identify which people to interview.
- ③ It gives holistic understanding of the concept being studied. for e.g. qualitative and quantitative methods are used combinedly in participant observation.

Hence methodological pluralism improves efficiency and accuracy of a research. Deficiency of one methods can be bridged by other one

1. (b) Sociology and common sense converge at some points, but diverge more often. Evaluate the statement.

Sociology is the study of social structure, institutions and pattern of interrelationship. While common sense is the knowledge that a layperson has about day to day life.

Divergence between Both

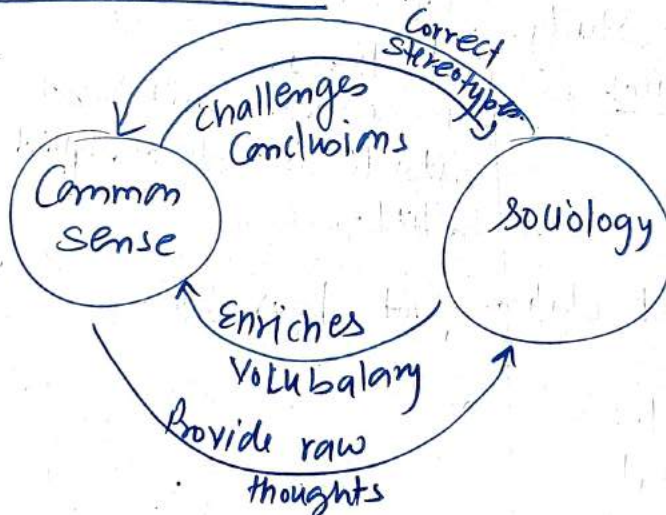
Sociology

Common Sense

- | | |
|---|--|
| ① It is based on <u>evidence</u> .
eg. suicide study by <u>Durkheim</u> . | Not based on <u>evidence</u> .
Can be <u>stereotypical</u> at times.
eg. women can't work outside is stereotypical belief. |
| ② Cause effect relationship can be established. Experimental methods can be used. | Not provable. |
| ③ Theories and generalisation can be build. | Not Theory making possible. |

- ④ It is reflexive.
Eg. Many sociologists
reflected on suicide
study. (ie. Atkinson)
- ⑤ It is change
oriented
- Not reflexive
But it is indivi-
dualistic many
times.
It is status
quoist.

However there are many
convergences also :



According to Anthony Giddens, sometimes sociological knowledge itself becomes part of Common Sense. Hence both Common Sense and Sociology have convergence as well as divergence.

1. (c) Discuss the role of questionnaire as a tool of data collection in sociological research.

Questionnaire is an instrument in sociological research in which a set of questions are administered to individuals for their response.

Role of questionnaire

- ① It can provide quantitative data if questions are operationalised well. Hence it's preferred by positivist sociologists.
- ② The doubts of the responder can be resolved if questions are administered by a moderator.
- ③ If sample individuals are dispersed spatially, questionnaire can be send through mail or post. Hence it is more practical.

- ④ Questionnaire can also provide qualitative data. Hence it can be preferred by interpreters and phenomenologists.

for eg. Goldthorpe conducted a study based on questionnaire during his study of affluent workers.

- ⑤ Questionnaires have high reliability. As same questions can be asked to many individuals.

- ⑥ Since it can produce quantitative data, it can have high objectivity.

- ⑦ Validity of research can be increased through collection of qualitative data.

Hence in many situations, questionnaire is the most practical way. It can improve validity, objectivity and reliability of research.

1. (d) Explain the institutional ethnography approach with examples.

JUDY PAXNE defined Ethnography as collection of data about a group or society about their Culture, way of life and customs etc. Usually participant observation is the method used in Ethnography.

for example - Sudhir Venkatesh conducted a study on ~~criminal~~ criminal gangs of Chicago. Radcliff Brown studied Andaman and Nicobar Society through Ethnography.

Institutional Ethnography can be useful in studying a society holistically. Various institutions of society, their role in the society, pattern of

inter relationships can be studied in a more efficient way.

for eg. Skeggs conducted a 12 year study on life of women and she exposed the institution of patriarchy.

Ann Oakley studied mothers and women during their childbirth and studied about their problems.

Hence institutional Ethnography has high validity (ie. Ecological validity given by Alan Bryman). It can capture the culture and working of institutions in the society in a more accurate way. However the reliability is low in such cases.

1. (e) Examine the utility of reliability and validity in social research by giving suitable examples.

Reliability and validity are two parameters in sociological research which determine its accuracy and acceptance.

Role of Reliability

Reliability can be defined as chance of producing the same result if the research is done many times.

- High reliability increases acceptance of research.
- It makes the reflexivity possible on research. Other sociologists can also study the same phenomenon.
E.g. many sociologists studied suicide.
- It helps in maintaining objectivity in the research.

Role of Validity

Validity is the how accurately the research can explain the given phenomenon or behavior. ALAN BRYMAN described 4 types of validity (i.e. Internal, external, ecological, measurement validity)

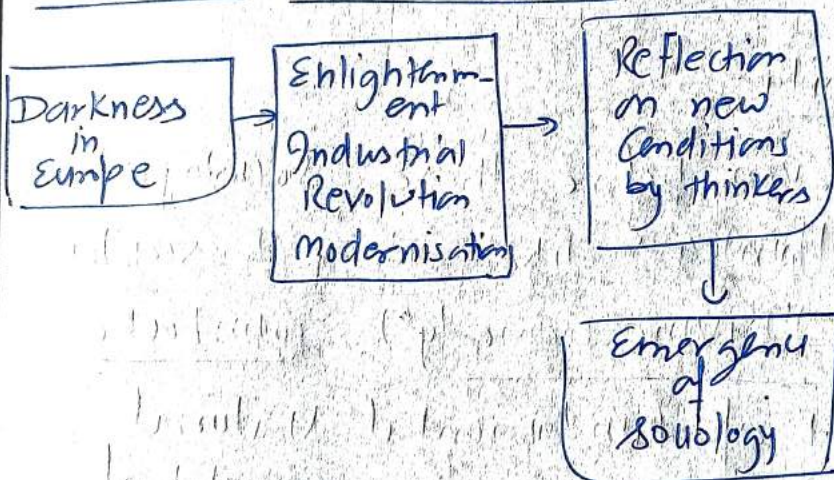
- High Validity makes the theory or generalisation more close the Reality. for eg. Ethnography can improve validity (Radcliff Brown's study on Andaman island)
- Theory making or generalisation is easy.

quantitative methods have high validity and reliability than qualitative methods. Hence validity and reliability make research more objective, acceptable and accurate.

2. (a) 'Sociology grew as a product of the reflection of great thinkers reflecting on society'. Comment.

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Sociology emerged in Europe as a result of social upheaval in Europe due to modernisation and consequent reflection on this by great thinkers like - John Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu etc.



The social challenges posed by modernity, Industrial Revolution, French revolutions like - slums, poverty, reducing solidarity in society led to many early sociologists discussing these issues.

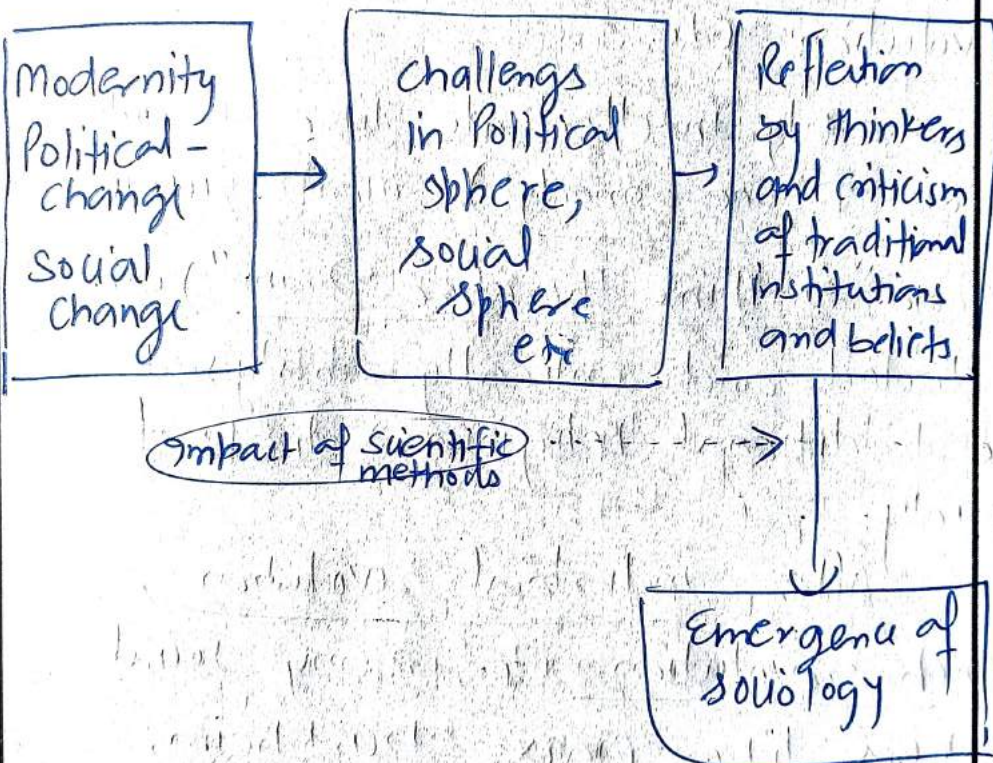
KARL MARX studied about the

exploitation of labourers by Capitalists. DURKHEIM reflected on specialised Division of labor, anomie and solidarity in society. Herbert Spencer and Parsons wrote about modernity.

Even before these sociologists, great thinkers like - Rene Descartes (~~Book "Divine Comedy"~~), John Locke (Concept of fundamental Natural rights), Montesquieu (Concept of separation of power) etc. discussed issues in the society.

Hence sociology in Europe emerged ~~it~~ as a product of reflection of great thinkers. In India sociology emerged to correct the colonial version of Indian society. (Ex - Ghurye, MN Srinivas)

IRWIN ZETLIN argues that sociology emerged as a result of enlightenment and many intellectuals reflecting on the conditions of society.



T.B. BOTTOMORE argues that sociology emerged as a reflection of social changes and was affected by political philosophy given by

Montesquieu, Rousseau etc., philosophy of History, Philosophy of organic Evolution and movements for social and political reforms like - French Revolution etc.

Early intellectuals like - Dante (Book - Divine Comedy), Montesquieu (Book - "I think therefore I am") etc. reflected and critically analysed the traditional religious beliefs of society.

After Industrial Revolution, French Revolution etc., many social thinkers like - Marx, Durkheim, Comte etc. reflected on problems faced by the society.

Hence sociology emerged as a consequence of Industrial Revolution, modernity etc. and reflection on issues by intellectuals.

2. (b) Sampling is a convenient tool to gather information about a population, but it can be grossly misleading as well. State out the limitation of sampling in sociological analysis.

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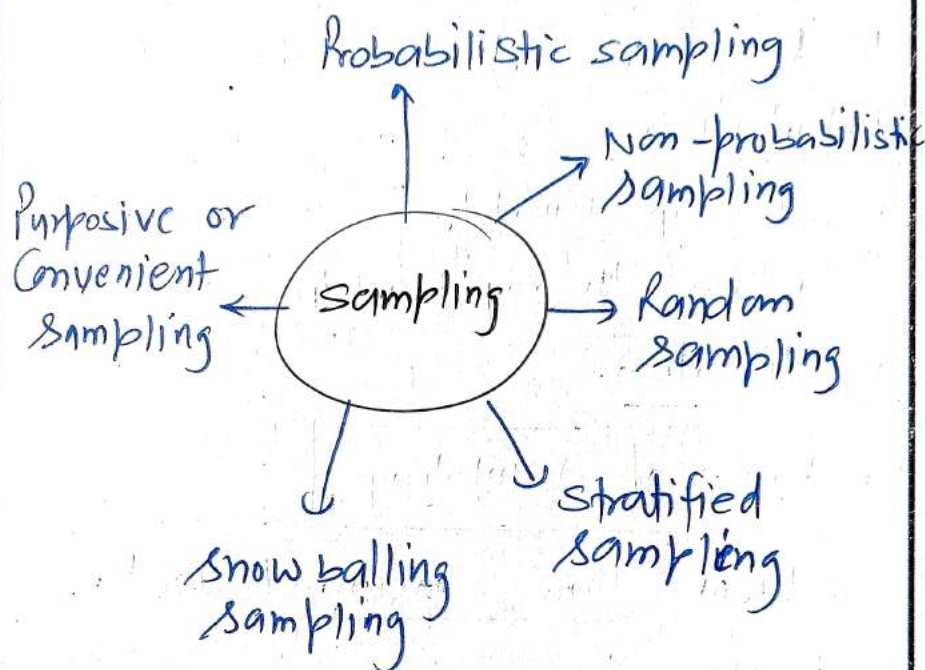
Sampling is a technique used in sociological research where a group of people or things is studied as a representative of a population. The information so gathered by sample can be used for further theory building and generalisation.

Importance of sampling

- ① It reduces time consumed in the research.
- ② Large data about whole population is not easy to organise. While the sample's data is relatively less, hence easy to study and organise.
- ③ It is more practical.
- ④ KARL POPPER advocates that an untypical sample ~~of~~ can falsify

a theory.

Types of sampling



limitations of sampling

① Non representativeness :

If sampling not done appropriately, it might not be representative of the population. It might distort the further research.

② Not enough information about attributes of population: sampling

methods like - stratified sampling and multi stage sampling may mislead the research if all attributes of population are not clear. For E.g. - married status of sample unit may not be clear from census (~~max~~ sample population)

③ Non-Response from the sampling unit

Probabilistic sampling sampling rely on randomly choosing people to study. Some people so selected might not respond. People having strong view about the issue are the one responding more. For E.g. people/sample unit having marriage issues may respond more in a research on marriage.

④ Distorted result sampling methods like - snowballing which uses personal contacts to select a sample may be biased by the researcher

- ⑤ multi stage sampling while more practical in many studies may not represent true picture. for eg. opinion polls in elections many times predict in wrong direction.
- ⑥ ALAN BRYMAN advocates that convenience sampling is more common today. But the personal bias of researcher may distort the whole research. for eg. - a researcher might study only his friends who belong to a certain class.

Hence sampling as a method to gather information saves time of researcher and his commitment if done properly it ease out the process of research. But if done in non-appropriate manner, it can mislead and distort the whole research.

2. (c) 'A good hypothesis should be specific enough to be falsifiable'. Explain.

GOODE and HATT defines hypothesis¹⁰ as a proposition which is still to be tested. Northrop says that a good hypothesis guides the research like a pole star.

A good hypothesis should be based on sound reason and not just stereotypes. It might be false during later research. Even a false hypothesis guides the research, it tells about what attributes' information needs to be collected etc.

KARL POPPER advocates that a hypothesis or sociological research to be scientific, it should have scope of being falsifying. for eg. marx's hypothesis that Communism will come is not scientific as

it can't be falsified.

A good hypothesis should be specific that it clearly defines the relationship between the variables. At the same time it must also have a scope to be falsified.

If it is not falsifiable, it becomes the reality i.e. truth.

Hence a good hypothesis should have enough scope for falsification.

3. (a) Sociology and political science are so closely related to each other that one becomes meaningless without other. Analyse. 20

Sociology studies the social structure, social relationships, institutions of society and the pattern of behavior of individuals.

While political science studies the stratification of powers and political behavior of members of society.

Relationship between Both

Political sphere is an integral part of society. DURKHEM advocates that power is present in every sphere of society and not just in political sphere. for e.g. family also have power differential. Hence society sociology needs to study this power inequality to explain

the society in a better way.
Political behavior of society does not operate in isolation. But various facets of society like - gender, class, caste etc. influence the political behavior.

for example - caste plays an important role in politics in India. RAJNI KOTHARI calls it politicisation of caste. caste associations affects the political orientation of people.

Gender dimension also impacts the power relationship in the society. There is low representation of women in politics of almost all countries due to patriarchy in the society.

Class also influence the political behavior of individuals. many class based pressure groups influence the pluralist democracy in many countries.

Menel Sociology while studying gender, caste, class etc. helps political science to explain the power differential more accurately.

Pareto and Mosca while giving their theories about circulation of elites described the power differential between elites and masses and how elites use ideological state apparatus to suppress masses.

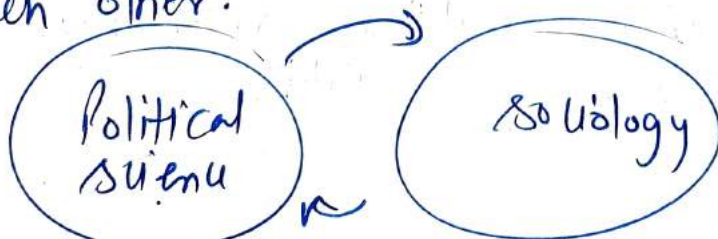
Dependency theory (Immanuel Wallerstein, Andre Gunder Frank) explained the international politics where rich countries exploit poor and developing countries.

Dynamics of political sphere also have impacts on society. for e.g. Emergence of dominant caste (MN SRINIVAS) in politics in India influenced the traditional stratification of the society.

Panchayati Raj institutions and reservation to women has questioned the patriarchy in India and has led to women empowerment.

Steps taken by government like - Anti-discrimination laws etc. have bearing on structure of society.

Hence sociology and political science are complementary to each other.



3. (b) Explain the difference between the positivist and interpretative approaches to the scientific method in sociology. 20

Positivists and interpretivists are two set of methodologies in sociology which while being different in approaches try to explain the social reality:

Difference between Two

Positivist

- ① It sees social world as observable directly and objectively.

- ② The attributes of social world can be quantified.

- ③ methods similar to natural science can be employed

Interpretivist

social world can't be observed directly because of meanings and motives of individuals.

meanings and motives are dynamic and can not be quantified.

scientific method similar to natural science can't be used.

for E.g. Durkheim used quantitative methods in his study of suicide.

④ Experiments can be done on the quantitative data.

⑤ causal explanation can be attained. for. Eg. Durkheim gave reasons for suicides in various societies.

⑥ General and Universal law is the aim.

Experiments similar to natural sciences are not possible.

while symbolic interactionists and Weber advocates the possibility of causal explanation. But phenomenology completely denies it for Eg. Harold Garfinkel advocates that motive of sociologist should be to explain phenomenon and not causal explanation. General laws are not possible because

for E.g. Comte claimed that he has find out the law of evolution of society.

meanings and motives are dynamic and can't be predicted.

⑥ They prefer scientific methods like - structured interviews, questionnaires, surveys etc.

more qualitative methods like - participant observations, focussed group studies are preferred.

⑦ Human behavior is guided by external world and it can be predicted.
for eg. social facts of Durkheim are the driving force of behavior of person (i.e. social currents, morality etc.)

Human behavior is guided by meanings and motives (weber), Common sense (phenomenologists) Hence human behavior is not scientifically arrestable and predictable.

Hence both positivists and interpretivists have different ~~aims~~ and objectives and methodologies but both try to achieve higher reliability, validity and objectivity. Some sociologists like - Alan Bryman advocates the coordination and usage of both positivism and interpretivism to enhance the accuracy of research.

Hence both positivism and interpretivism have divergences but some convergences at times.

3. (c) "Participant observation has many practical disadvantages." Substantiate with examples.

10

Participant observation is a technique of data collection. Researcher observe the behavior and actions of individuals in their natural environment. Holistic study of society in terms of customs, values, way of life etc. is possible.

Practical disadvantages

- ① Demand of personal commitment of researcher.
for eg. Skeggs conducted a study on women for 12 years.
It demands time commitment from the researcher.
- ② ethical problem: If covert method is used, ethical problems may arise because of non-informing the members.
- ③ Howthorne effect: If presence of researcher is known to members

society (ie. overt method), their behavior might change.

④ NIGEL FIELDING advocates that ethical problem arise especially when studying vulnerable sections

⑤ WILLIAM FOOTWHYTE who studied Italian Americans criminal gangs in Boston, argues that approach of researcher is unique, hence can not be replicated (ie. low reliability).

⑥ making personal rapport with the group is difficult. for eg. Sudhakar Venkatesh (Chicago study) found it difficult to intermingle with criminal gang he was studying

Despite of these limitations, the validity of research is high using participant observation and it gives holistic view of society.

4. (a) 'Total objectivity in sociological research is an illusion that can never be achieved.' Comment.

20

objectivity can be defined as when researcher refrain away from his past experiences, personal biases, his background etc. Researcher should not look society in a stereotypical manner. Values and preferences of researcher should not come in way of research to make it objective.

ALVIN GOULDNER advocates that objectivity is an illusive goal in sociological research. Facts and values can not be separated in sociological research.

Positivists like DURKHEIM, Comte etc. advocates complete objectivity in the research. while

Interpretivists and interaction theorists do not advocate complete objectivity in the research.

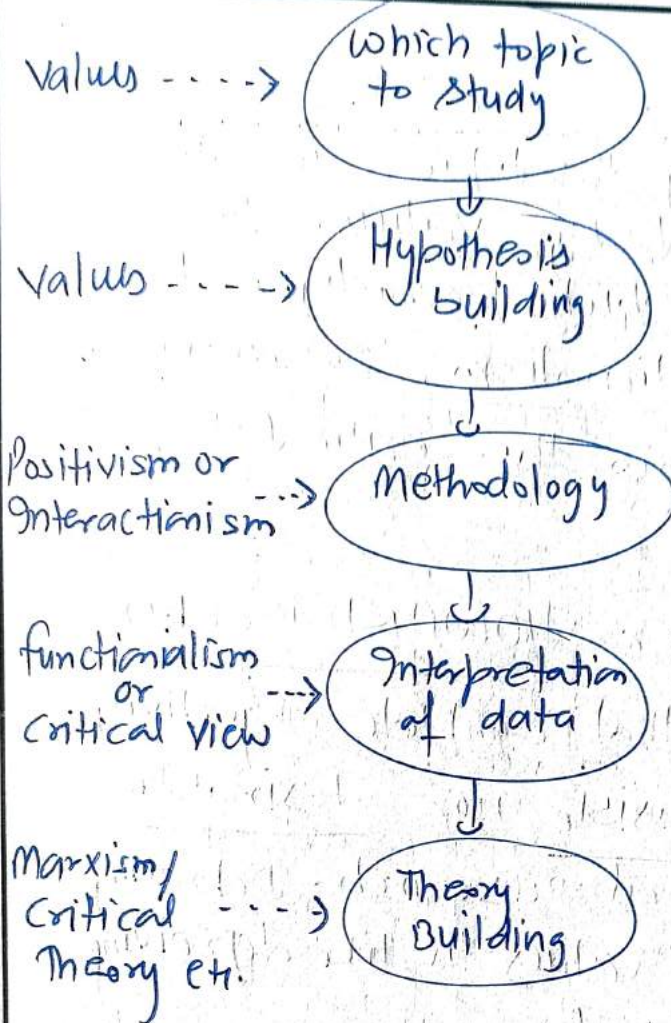
Critical theorists like - ANN OAKLEY advocates that without values, the emancipating aim of sociological research can't be achieved.

Values and biasness of researcher can impact the research at every stage.

WEBER suggested to maintain Value-Relevancy in his book -

"The Rules of sociological methods"

The values of a researcher can influence the choice of topic but after that complete objectivity should be achieved.



The ongoing happenings in the society influence the choice of topic to study. for e.g. DURKHEIM studied suicide and Religion because of lack of solidarity in French society. WEBER studied Bureaucracy etc.

Even after selection of topic,

how to study the topic can also be influenced by values. for example - which paradigm to follow - functionalism, marxism etc. Feminist follow the critical perspective.

However HOWARD BECKER advocates that complete objectivity is neither feasible nor desirable in sociological research. Depriving sociology of values is like depriving it of its soul.

In India MN SRINIVAS advocated that disenchanted view of society is not desirable to study pressing issues. IRK MUKHERJEE also advocated value accommodating approach.

Hence complete objectivity is not possible in sociological research.

4. (b) 'Though they take very different approaches to study society, both 'micro' and 'macro' sociology aid our ability to understand the social world. Comment.

20

Micro sociology focuses on small scale interactions and meanings and motives of individuals. While macro sociology focuses on larger society as a whole. It studies its institutions etc. for Eg. functionalism.

Different approaches of both

Micro sociology considers that individuals have meanings and motives which drive their behavior. Their behavior is not driven and coerced by the society.

While macro sociologists like - Durkheim advocates that society coerces individuals to act in particular way. It considers and study working of society as a whole.

Micro sociology describe the behavior of individuals and small scale interactions. Phenomenologists argue that there is no social order in the reality. The reality is just a intermix of personal experiences. Members of society classify their world into different categories. Alfred Schutz subscribed to this view.

Ethnomethodologists like Harold Garffinkel also argues that the organised social reality is a myth. But members of society describe their world according to common sense that they have.

Weber argues that since individuals have meanings and motives. Hence first understand them to understand the society and interactions.

Macro sociologists like Talcott Parsons argues that society is made of different institutions and they perform some functions to integrate the society.

Taking the macro view, Durkheim argued that society has its own existence and is sui generis. Hence it is independent of its members. However members act like substate for the interaction in the society.

Both micro and macro view complement the limitations of other. for example - macro view can explain the institutions like - Democracy, democracy etc but the real interaction between individuals inside these institutions can be explained by micro sociologists.

Hence both micro and macro view of sociology enhance our understanding of social world by explaining facts of society through different perspectives.

4. (c) Highlight the various 'Social Pathologies' within Marriage in contemporary times. 10

Marriage is not a consensual relationship between two individuals but sometimes conflicts also arise.

Social pathologies in marriage

- ① Divorce rate : According to ALAN and CROW, the divorce rate is increasing separating of individuals but emotional distress to the them.
- ② Domestic Violence : with empowerment of women, on one hand their decision making in family is increasing, on the other hand domestic violence is increasing. In India, challenges to patriarchy is met with violence.
- ③ Increasing instances of love marriage have reduced the influence of society on couples. It has made marriage unstable. Nicky

Hart advocates that marital breakdown is more Common today.

- ④ Increased individualism has reduced importance of children. It leads to neglect of children. Anthony GIDDENS calls it plastic sexuality (marriage for fun but not valuing children)

- ⑤ Increasing instances of separate living after marriage has lead to problems of old age. Non-~~presence~~ presence of old age homes in society like- India has aggravated the problem.

- ⑥ Increasing divorce rate has bad impact on women especially.

Hence many social pathologies are emerging in the institution of marriage today.

5. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) Discuss the linkage between industrialization and changes in family structure.

Industrialisation is a process where the production separates from house boundaries and is done in factories.

Industrialisation and changes in family

① Emergence of Nuclear family :

Talcott Parsons argues that isolated Nuclear family (INF) are more compatible to industrialised world and they are increasing. INF provides geographical mobility to individuals.

② Emergence of symmetrical family
(Willmott and Young)

with increasing opportunities for women in industries, they have achieved equal status to men in family. Decisions are taken by both today. with industrialisation and subse-

③

quent modernisation, alternative families like - same sex marriages (Anthony Giddens), Cohabitation (Alan and Crow) etc. are increasing.

(4) Increasing Households instead of joint family in slums due to industrialisation. AM SHAH subscribe to this view in Indian Context.

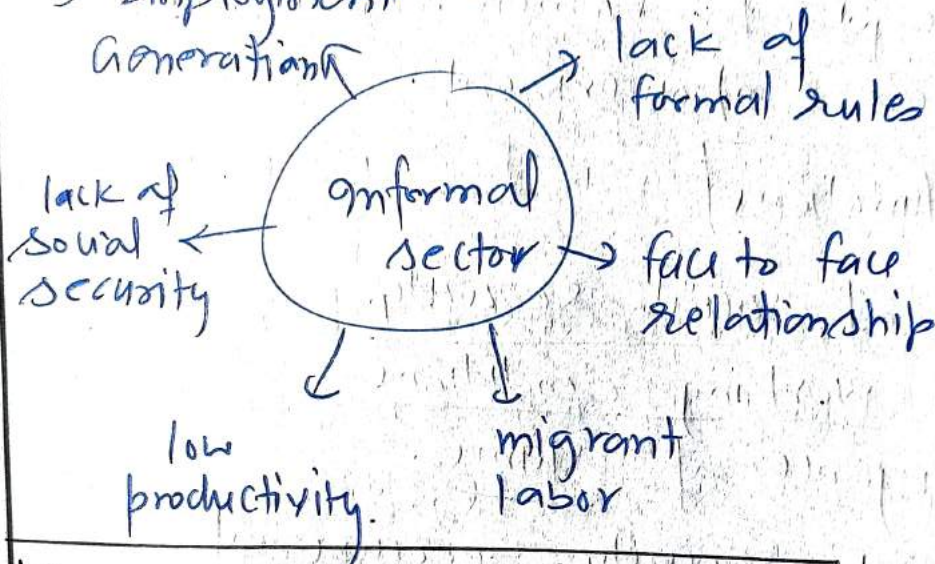
(5) Single parent Households are increasing according to Alan & Crow.

(6) with high individualism, fertility rate is reducing. Hence small families are emerging -

Hence industrialisation has affected the structure of families as well as interaction inside those families also

5. (b) Examine the functions and dysfunctions of 'Informal sector' in India.

Keith Hart coined the term informal sector. It is characterised by the following:



functions of Informal sector

- ① Employment: large population is engaged in it. for e.g. more than 90% of workers of India are engaged in it.
- ② Even low skilled workers get job.
- ③ Contribution to GDP growth.
for e.g. Informal sector contribute 45% to GDP of India.

- ④ More interaction between workers in such units reduces alienation.
- ⑤ more jobs for women. It leads to women empowerment.

1 Dysfunctions

- ① lack of social security.
- ② Bad working conditions.
- ③ Emergence of slums.
- ④ No job security because of lack of contract.
- ⑤ Child labor. For Eg. Beedi factories in India mostly engage child labor.

Hence informal sector has both functions and dysfunctions. Countries should try to reduce their informal sector to give more job satisfaction and social security.

5. (c) Self-Help Group (SHG) as an informal organization from a sociological perspective.

An informal organisation can be characterised by lack of legal laws & rules, personalised relationship, lack of social security etc. SHGs are organisations where members come together for their collective benefit and pooling their common resources.

Sociological Perspective

- SHG can employ women and it leads to women empowerment.
- It gives voice to marginalised and vulnerable. for eg. small and marginal farmers can form SHG.
- SHG improves social capital because of interaction among members.

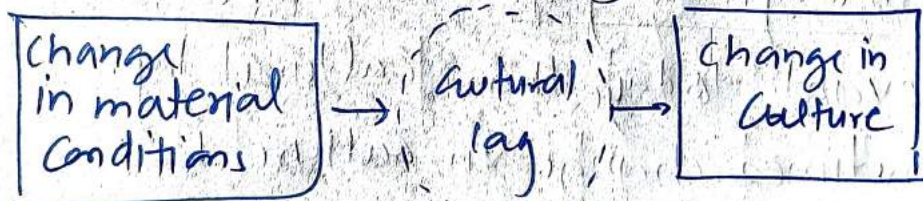
- It improves the fraternity of individuals.
- SHGs contribute to economy of a country.
- However, in SHGs, some dominant individuals can capture power and exploit others. Daniel Thorner showed the presence of politics in cooperatives of Gujarat.

Hence SHG can play major role in upliftment of marginalised people. It can also reduce the inequalities in the society.

5. (d) Critically examine 'cultural lag' theory of social change.

OGBURN in his book "Social Change with respect to culture and original Nature" provided a critic to economic determinism.

He advocated that values, Culture etc. of a society does not change directly ~~so~~ and quickly after change in material world. But there is a gap between both phenomenon. It is called cultural lag.



for example - advent of more efficient automobiles did not led to creation of infrastructure

for them because of cultural lag. ~~A~~ Advent of tractors in India and usage of tractors in pilgrimages shows the cultural lag.

Criticisms of Cultural lag

- ① McIver & Page : Cultural lag concept is vague. It does not explain which aspects of culture do not change.

"Technological gap" is more relevant today than Cultural lag.

- ② Sometimes change in culture ~~to~~ precedes material change.
for example - Quest for improving living conditions led to industrialisation and capitalism.

- ③ Reasons of cultural lag are not explained by Ogburn.

5. (e) 'Feminization of work has not led to gender equality', Do you agree?
Comment.

Feminisation of work is a process of increasing women participation in the employment and work.

participation of women in work has increased due to industrialisation, urbanisation and modernisation.

Why Gender Equality despite of it?

- ① Confinement of women in some sectors and their clustering. for ex - Nursing is a female crowded job.
- ② Glass ceiling: women are not encouraged to get into high posts in an organisation.
- ③ wage Gap between man and women. International labor

Organisation (ILO) report in 2018
Shows 34% wage gap.

- (4) clustering of women in low paid
job. for eg. feminisation of
agriculture and informal sector
in India.
most women are engaged in
informal sector because of
flexibility.

leela Gulati in her
Kerala study shows that econo-
mic participation of women has
not led to improvement of their
self esteem and respect.

Hence changing patriarchal
attitude of society is needed
for gender equality in all spheres
and not merely their participation
in economic work.