

Sociology Revision Guide

Paper 2 – 1 ½ Hour Exam

Core 2 - Inequalities in Society – 60 marks – approx 50 minutes.

(You also need to be fully aware of the knowledge and terms learned in Core 1)

In this section be aware of how many points are on offer. This is a guide to how much to write and how long to take i.e. 1 minute for 1 mark. Remember: **ANSWER THE QUESTION**

Core 2 – Inequalities in Society

Class

There are and have been in the past various stratification of society. For example: The Feudal System in Medieval Britain. The Caste system within Hinduism (Mainly India). Slavery within the British Empire. Common theme – virtually impossible to move out of your 'strata' (group)

- Stratification = different groups in society
- The class system in GB is different. It allows for '**social mobility**,' movement from one class to another.

Class in the Past – The sinking of the Titanic showed how deeply divided GB was in 1912. The first class passengers had much more chance of surviving.

Class Today

- Middle Classes, life expectancy = 77 years average
- Working Classes, life expectancy= 73 years average

Why? Many reasons to do with socialization of that class. E.g. attitudes to: smoking, education, health care and diet, housing

What class is someone in?

- Many sociologists use 'Occupation Scales'
- e.g. 1= Professional and Management, e.g. doctor 2=Lower Managerial, e.g. police officer 7= Unskilled manual worker, e.g. cleaner

However many factors influence class. E.g. Occupation, hobbies, speech, house, possessions.

Karl Marx (Marxism) Two classes. The ruling class (Bourgeoisie). The working class (Proletariat). The bourgeoisie pay the proletariat as little as possible. They control them. The proletariat will realise this is wrong, develop a 'class consciousness' and start a revolution to bring equality.

Weber – Similar to Marx but recognised there was more than two classes and all these classes were competing with each other.

Poverty and Welfare

What is Poverty?

- Absolute Poverty – Not having the basic necessities of life: food, clean water and shelter
- Relative Poverty – Someone is poor compared to others. A poorer standard of living. E.g. No holiday, not going out for meal, no birthday party for children, no fridge in house.
- Subjective Poverty – When a person ‘feels’ poor
- Environmental Poverty – Living in an area that stops a good quality of life. e.g. no hospitals, no school, high pollution etc

Who are the poor (Relative/ Subjective/ Environmental) in GB?

- *Lone Parents, Unemployed, Low paid, Asylum seekers, disabled, elderly*
- ‘*Minority ethnic groups*’ – e.g. Pakistanis because they end up in low paid jobs and the cultural differences mean many of the women don’t work. Afro-Caribbean due to family breakdown and lone parenting
- *Women* – more likely to be lone parents. Less likely to get ‘good’ jobs so earn less. Women live longer so are alone when very old.
- *Children* – **Rowntree Foundation** in 1997 said ‘1 in 10 are poor.’ That is that they don’t get three meals a day, a bed and new shoes that fit. ‘1 in 30 are severely poor’

Why is there Poverty in GB?

- It is their own fault - **Culture of Poverty** - A bad attitude to money and life
 - If you have money spend it
 - Fatalism – Can’t do anything about your situation
- Cycle of Poverty (Deprivation)
 - Poor Education – Poor Jobs - Possible crime – Crime =no job – Live in Relative Poverty – Children born into this situation – Children socialised into attitude of ‘poverty’ – Poor Health - Poor education etc etc etc
- **The New Right** – a stricter version of **Functionalists** (Charles Murray) say the cycle of deprivation has caused an ‘underclass’ that have a **dependency culture** – they depend on the state and refuse to work. The New Right say the solution is to cut welfare to force people to work.
- **Marxists** say the Capitalist society led by the ruling class is designed to trap people, to keep the poor down. They believe the system is unjust and the welfare state should help even more to bring equality.

Welfare State – ‘from cradle to grave’

- Beveridge Report (1942) – Need to slay the giants of: Want (Poverty), Disease, Ignorance, Squalor (Housing), Idleness (Unemployment)
- From this time the Welfare State took shape. Social Security Benefits, State Pensions, Development of NHS, Secondary Education, Good Cheap Council Houses,

By 1960s GB had the Golden Age, where there was full employment and increasing benefits.

The welfare state has clearly helped bring equality, health and education to society. But it was never perfect. People still live on streets, some council houses (blocks of flats were poor), it could never bring full employment.

In the USA they do not have a Welfare State that compares to Britain's. They have to pay privately for Health Care. This results in many poor people suffering.

The Problems

- The increasing cost of paying for 'The Welfare State' – through increased taxes
 - VAT on many items now at 20%
 - 60% of the cost of petrol is tax
 - National Insurance (Tax) up to 9%
 - High Earners – Tax now 40%
 - NHS and teachers pensions now increased top 9%
- The creation of a Dependency Culture, where people feel it is their right to be looked after in various ways
- Did it help break down family ties as people look to the state not to family for help

The Way Forward

- **The New Right – a stricter version of Functionalists** (Charles Murray) say the solution is to cut welfare to force people to work.
- **Marxists** say taxes should increase for the rich and the welfare state should help even more to bring equality.

Likely to happen

- An increase in Voluntary groups and Charities to help poor.
- Private Companies charging for services. E.g. Health Care and Pensions as State Pension decreases

Gender

- **Sex** = Your 'biological' make up. E.g. male or female
- **Gender**= How you are socialised to behave. E.g. Masculine or feminine
- Nature vs Nurture. - Many sociologists believe children are socialised into their gender. E.g. Male children are socialised to become masculine.
- In most societies there is a link between being male and masculine characteristics but NOT all. **Feminists** say this shows that men purposely 'dominate.' They call this kind of society, '**Patriarchal**'. They say examples where this is not the case shows things can change and equality can happen.
- **Sexism** – Discrimination against people due to their sex. Historically women have been discriminated against, in regard to leadership positions and occupations. Even today there are much fewer MPs and women earn less.
- This discrimination has come about due to some simple ideas: '**women are the weaker sex**', '**men are the bread winner**' '**women are the homemaker**'
- **Feminists** have argued against these ideas and it has become accepted that women should be treated equally. E.g. The Sex Discrimination Act in 1975.
- There are many positives of the socialisation of females to be 'submissive' and 'gentle'. E.g. Less likely to be criminals, better health as they go to doctors, girls do better at school.

Changes in Attitudes

- The rise of Feminism is bringing change. By mid 1990s many women were putting off having a family to pursue a career. There is a rise in women in high earning jobs. (But only 20% compared to men)
- A laddette culture has developed where young women behave similar to traditional masculine men. (Drinking, being loud, sexualised). But this shows many women are becoming 'confident'
- However many sociologists would say the **patriarchal system** is deeply engrained into society and socialisation still massively leads women to be feminine, gentle and submissive.

Men and Gender

- The current change in attitudes to sex and gender has led to many men to have a 'crisis of identity.'
 - Men still feel need to be masculine (Due to socialisation) e.g. Being aggressive, being bread winner, being tough and unemotional. This leads to: Men's life expectancy being poor. They are still more likely to take risks. They are less likely to go to doctors.
 - BUT the need to be a 'Modern man' can lead to men feeling confused and trapped (Higher suicide rate for men)

Ethnicity

Race – Biological Distinctiveness. This term is not used by sociologists because **there is no one 'race'**- one group of people with exactly the same biological characteristics. Most **people are in some way 'mixed race'**

- In the past there were three 'races' – Caucasian (White), Negro (Black), Mongolian (Asian)
- The 1997 census said that 94% of Britain was 'white' but this is incorrect as people reported their own 'race.' They would not realise that in some way they were 'mixed race'

Biology vs Sociology - Some people say that certain 'races' are better at some things than other 'races' e.g. Black people are better at sprinting but worse at swimming because of their **biology**. There is some evidence for this but most sociologists would say the sociological reasons are stronger. E.g. Many black people haven't had access to swimming pools

Terms

- Ethnic Minority – An ethnic group that does not make up the majority of the population. **(Acceptable)**
- Black, Immigrant, Afro Caribbean, Asian, **(Use with Caution)**
- Coloured, Negro, Nigger, Half Caste **(Never use)**

Ethnic Groups – Will be 'culturally' different from other groups. Because of one or some of the following: religion, language, customs, dress, country of origin, identification with a group's history.

Most Ethnic Minorities live in the major cities of Britain. They migrated from other countries after World War 2, usually countries that were part of the British Empire or latterly the Commonwealth. Nations such as: India, Pakistan and the West Indies.

- Prejudice – Judging first without knowledge
- Stereotype – A set of prejudices combine to form a stereotype
- Racism – A stereotype that has built to a belief that one race is superior to another
- Scapegoat – When racism leads to an ethnic group unjustly blamed for problems
- Racial Discrimination – Against the Law due to 1976 Race Relations Act
- Institutional Racism - **The MacPherson Report** – Stephen Lawrence (A black teenager) was murdered in 1993 and the MacPherson report concluded in 1998 that the Police Force was 'institutionally racist.' (The whole police force had a racist tendency)

Age

Chronological Age – Your actual age in years. This determines many things in society e.g. when allowed to drive, marry, retire etc

Biological Age – Each person's body develops at its own rate, e.g. Some young people hit puberty before others. Some older people's bodies remain fit and healthy well into old age.

Childhood and Adolescence

- Children turning into adults is a **process**. Children gain more and more rights and responsibilities from the age of 10.
- Most people in Britain recognise 18 as the '**coming of age**.' However there are still limitations for people up to the age of 21.
- In other cultures childhood finishes at a set time with a **rite of passage** (A ritual)
- Adolescence is a period of '**transition**' where young people develop independence
- This transition has led to 'youth culture' and many youth 'sub-cultures' with it e.g. Emo, Goths where young people express their individuality.
- Often young people are 'stereotyped' – yet every young person does not fit this stereotype

Old People

- 65-74 = The Young Elderly, 75-84= The Old Eldery, 85+ = Very Elderly
- 1901= 1.7 million (4% of population) 2010= 12 million (18% of population)
- By 2030= 17million (25% of population)

People are living longer and this brings many issues.

- Paying for people's retirement. Pensions are costing more
- People will have to work for longer (Retirement age increasing to 68 soon)
- Paying for more health care as people who live longer need more medical assistance
- Loneliness as one partner dies and extended families live far apart. People in other cultures see Old people's homes as horrific. They look after their old themselves.
- Dealing with prejudice (**Ageism**) can be difficult:
 - Many people treat older people with a lack of respect e.g. 'Old Codger.
 - Some employers will not employ older people (but they will not admit it)

Positives for the future

- Older People will become a force to be reckoned with as there are more of them
- Because there are so many older people businesses are/will try to appeal to them

Work – Essay Question Section

- a. 10 marks = Describe – 10 mins
- b. 10 marks = Explain – 10 mins
- c. 20 marks = Discuss – 20 mins

- For the (c) question 20 marks you need to be aware of the three views below and be able to express how **at least one of these type of sociologists** would view a situation. You might need to do the same for the (b) question but rarely for the (a) question.
- Remember in the essay style questions they DO NOT ask for your opinion so say something like, 'Some sociologists would say.....' Then put your comment in a neutral way e.g. 'This is a very interesting point because
- In this way you develop an argument without getting too personal

Marxist – Believe everyone in society should be equal! However they are unhappy because they see society is run by the ruling class so everything in society is purposefully organised to benefit the ruling class whose sole aim is to increase capital (money and possessions). Marxists are fiercely against what has happened in regard to the changing nature of work because of Globalisation. They see that the desire to make capital (Money) has caused the working classes to be exploited and for society to be de-humanised.

Feminist – Believe women should be equal with men. But they see that society is largely run by men (Patriarchy), so everything in society is organised to benefit men and disadvantage women. Feminists believe society should have positive discrimination for women to bring equality. They would see the changes in the world of work as being of benefit to women as it has enabled women to be empowered. However they would be cautious about the changes because they believe that the big multi-national companies that drive the world of work are usually led by men.

Functionalists – Believe society and its structures (e.g. education, police, media etc) should be ordered to be functional, to bring about order for as many as possible. They would probably believe that the changes in the world of work as a result of globalisation have been positive. British society has largely remained stable and living standards have gone up. Although many norms and values have changed as a result of the changes in work it hasn't brought total disorder. Society is still functioning quite well.

2013

- a. Describe what is meant by the Marxist term 'alienation.' 10
- b. Explain the role of Trade Unions. 10
- c. Discuss the impact of new Technology on workers in G.B. 20

2012

- a. Describe the three sectors of the economy in the UK. 10
- b. Explain why some people earn more than others. 10
- c. Discuss how work has changed for women in the UK since 1945. 20

2011

- a. Describe the meaning of the terms work and leisure. 10
- b. Discuss why people work. 10
- c. Discuss why jobs have changed in modern Britain. 20

Exemplar

- a. Describe the difference between work and leisure. 10
- b. Explain the importance of employment for people. 10
- c. Outline and explain why the nature of work has changed since 1945. 20

What is work?

- Work normally refers to the job or **employment /job** someone does
- It can also be used when talking about voluntary leisure activities. E.g. 'I worked in the garden today'

Why do people work? (Employment)

1. Job Satisfaction – (Intrinsic)
2. For external rewards like money and prestige – (Extrinsic)

Who gets Intrinsic Rewards?

- **Any** job can give intrinsic rewards – job satisfaction. For example: You could feel proud that you have swept the roads well for the general public
- However the most obvious jobs where people get intrinsic rewards (Job satisfaction) are jobs where **people help others**. – e.g. **Doctor, nurse, teacher**, etc

What about extrinsic Rewards?

- Any and every job can give **extrinsic rewards (money)** but repetitive and menial jobs (like factory work) is usually done 'purely' for the money so the person can 'live their life' outside of 'work'
- Ironically the jobs that people get the most extrinsic reward from (Money and prestige) – doctors, lawyers, etc usually have the highest intrinsic rewards (job satisfaction) as well

What is Leisure?

- It is an **act of relaxation and/or enjoyment** 'usually' outside of employment
- In today's society most people 'go to work' and come home where they then do leisure activities
 - Most people who do **leisure activities (e.g. sports, arts, relaxation)** do them according to **the money they earn and the class they have been socialised into**:
 - The 'norm' for upper class leisure activities would be high cost and high culture – e.g. opera, ballet, sailing, hunting. They are designed to keep their '**status**' high in society
 - The 'norm' for middle classes leisure activities would have some significant cost and usually be equal to their **status**. For example: rowing, swimming, cycling, theatre etc
 - The 'norm' for the working class leisure activities would be equal to their income and socialisation. For example: Football, darts, snooker, certain type of TV programmes
 - However these class distinctions are breaking down in the 21st century because of the availability of the variety of activities to all. E.g. Skiing was just for upper class until recently because of the cost of air travel. Now air travel is affordable so other classes go skiing, partly because they want to be seen doing 'higher status' leisure activities.
- Some people's **leisure and work can be the same**. E.g. Professional footballer could be paid for his job but they do it because they love it as well. Any job where a person gets a lot of intrinsic reward from their job could be classed as a form of leisure.
- This was true **200 years ago when there was no such thing as leisure**. People didn't 'go to work.' They lived and breathed their work. **Work and leisure was largely the same thing in the past.**

What types of work are there?

There are three sectors of work:

- **Primary** – taking from the earth e.g. mining, farming
- **Secondary** – making things e.g. clothes factories, toy factories, steel works
- **Service** – Jobs that serve people e.g. Shops, doctors, teachers, office work

Manual Work – jobs that require physical work. Found in the Primary and Secondary sectors. Manual Workers are sometimes called '**blue collar workers**' because years ago people wore blue overalls.

Non-Manual Work – jobs that **do not** require physical work. Found mainly in the service sector but also those people who are managers in the primary and secondary sectors. These are sometimes called '**white collar workers**' because they often wear a white shirt and tie'

Before 1945 70% of the workforces were in the Primary or Secondary sectors. Most of the population were manual / blue collar workers. Now only 30% of the workforce is in the Primary Sector.

Why the change from Primary and Secondary sectors to the Service sector in the last 70 years?

- **Globalisation!!!!** The world is now one big economy, where businesses don't just trade (**do business**) in one country, they do it **across the world**.
 - A clothes company like **PRIMARK** want to make profit. They do this by making their clothes as cheaply as possible and selling them for as much as possible. So they get their clothes made very cheaply in India or China because they can pay the factory workers a small wage. (For e.g. £10 a week as compared to £300 a week in G.B)
 - An Electricity business like **EDF** want to make profit by selling electricity to us all. They now buy the coal from Russia and South America to produce the electricity because it is cheaper than getting it from coal mines in the UK. This has meant that most of the coal mines have closed down
 - The affect of this is that most factory work and mining now takes place abroad
 - So most factory and mining jobs are no longer there in GB
 - This has meant we only have 30% of work in Britain in the Primary or Secondary sectors
 - Jobs have been created in the service sector in the last 50 years – mainly in shops, selling the goods made in India and China

How has Globalisation affected the world of work?

- Globalisation means multi-national companies produce things as cheaply as possible to make profit. This means that businesses **standardise** the working process, making it as simple and **robotic** as possible, so it is efficient.
- They might also standardise everything about the product so it looks the same wherever it is in the world.
- An example of this is MacDonalds where each person in the shop **does one specific job over and over again** and **the product is the same in Hong Kong and London. Everything is standardised.**
- This has now become known as **MacDonaldisation.**

Globalisation = Deskilling= Automation= Piece Work

Over the last 200 years we have come to rely more and more on new machinery and new technology. As a result people's skills have been needed less and less.

Deskilling - People have less skills

- 200 years ago craftsmen would hand weave cloth. Then there was the introduction of power looms which meant the skill of weaving wasn't needed.
- 50-100 years ago furniture was usually made by a skilled craftsman in their own workshop. Now most furniture is made by a machine on a production line.
- 50 years ago a thousands of butchers in G.B would skilfully kill animals and slaughter them. Now the production of meat is largely done by machines.
- 20 years ago people in Britain needed vast amounts of skilled 'print makers' to skilfully produce leaflets, posters and publicity material for companies. Most have gone out of business as computer technology has allowed anyone to do their own.

Mechanisation – It is the introduction of mechanisation (machines) that has deskilled people

Automation

- This has meant the work process has largely become **automatic and controlled by machines**, not by skilled people. The work is broken down into **small tasks** so the worker does not take part in the whole process like the skilled craftsmen of old. E.g.:
 - A person in a car factory may just fit a wheel before it moves down a production line. He/she might do this 300 times in a day – and the next day and the next day.....
 - A person in MacDonalds might just put fries in the fryer, and retrieve them in 2 minutes and deliver them to the serving hatch again and again for 8 hours.

Piece Meal Work

- To improve efficiency and help make more profit people are often paid for what they do, rather than the hours they work. This is called **Piece work / or piece meal**
 - For example a person might get 30p per tyre fitted

- Piece work is very common in developing countries like India and China. People are **exploited** as a result. They are given such a low payment per item (e.g. 3p per tyre) that they are then forced to work 12-16 hours a day to earn a decent wage. This is usually in factories we call 'sweatshops'
- Most people in UK now have **Minimum Wage** (approx £6 an hour) to stop this kind of exploitation

Deskilling/Mechanisation/ Automation/ Piece Work = Dehumanising / Alienation

- Karl Marx felt the process described above was **exploitation** and it was de-humanising because it:
 - It **alienated** (separated)people from:
 - each other as they worked
 - from the real purpose of work – to produce and help others
 - from their own minds as the jobs became so 'boring' and 'repetitive'
- It makes people feel less human and **alienated** because they are effectively treated as a piece of machinery themselves.
- It is difficult for them to find any job satisfaction from the job they are doing.

Trade Unions – natural reactions to the dehumanising affects of Globalisation

- A Trade Union is a group of workers (e.g. miners, teachers, factory workers) who are members of an organisation that argues/ fights / protests for better working conditions for their group.
 - The leadership of the Trade Union usually discuss what they want with business leaders and agree a compromise. This might be:
 - Better working conditions
 - Better pay
 - More tea breaks
- The Trade Unions in Great Britain have been massively successful at improving working conditions for workers in G.B in the last 100 years. They have forced governments to pass laws to make businesses:
 - Give holidays to workers
 - Increase wages so people aren't in poverty
 - Restrict long working hours
 - Stop children working in mines and factories
- However Trade Unions can also take more severe action. They can **strike (stop all their members from working** to make a point to the owner of the business.) For example:
 - The National Union of Mine workers went on strike for a year in 1984 to stop many mines being closed down
 - The National Union of Teachers went on strike in 2013 because the Government were bringing in dehumanising working conditions for teachers
- Although the Trade Unions have been successful they haven't been able to stop the move to Globalisation. Most of the mines closed down in 1984 as coal was bought more cheaply from Russia and South America

What are the affects of the changes in work in the last 100 years?

Negative

General

1. **Feelings of alienation and depression** because of being part of a automated process and not being treated as a human being

Gender

2. Depression / increase in suicide (Mainly men) due to unemployment caused by Primary and Secondary jobs going to developing countries
 - Were in traditional masculine physical roles – e.g. mining / steel works.
 - Many men now in '**feminised**' roles – e.g. office work / shops
 - Many men have suffered **crisis of masculinity** because of changing roles
3. This depression is helped along by the changing nature of family structures
 - Traditional nuclear family with man as 'Head of Family' to new modern family types
 - Women more equal so men feel vulnerable as the 'Head of Family'

Re: Class / Age / Ethnicity / Gender

Positive

General

1. There has been a massive increase in Service sector jobs which are more 'people based' thus enabling a more 'social'

Gender

2. This move to the 'Service Sector has led to retraining for many in dealing with people. This has led to:
 - a. Many stereotypes of what is a 'mans' role 'woman's' role has been broken down
 - b. This has given opportunity for **women who are traditionally better in 'people skills' to advance in society**
 - c. This in turn has enabled a quicker move to an equal society

Re: Class / Age / Ethnicity

Crime and Deviance - Essay Question Section

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e. 10 marks = Explain – 10 mins

f. 20 marks = Discuss – 20 mins

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- In this way you develop an argument without getting too personal

Marxist – Believe society is split into two groups. The ruling class and the working class. Society is run by the ruling class so everything in society is purposefully organised to benefit the ruling class who are allowed to increase in capital (money and possessions) and disadvantage the working class. They would argue that the laws are passed to keep the working class in their place and laws are often laws are not passed to deal with the upper classes. They would say crime statistics are wrong because they focus on working class crime when they should focus on all the white collar and corporate crime of the middle and upper classes

Feminist – Society is split into two groups. Men and women. Society is run by men (Patriarchy), so everything in society is organised to benefit men and disadvantage women. They would say that women are often the victims of crime but these crimes go unreported because women have been socialised not to mention things like domestic abuse.

Functionalists – Society and its structures (e.g. education, police, media etc) is ordered to be functional, to bring about order for as many as possible. They would not agree with the Marxist or Feminist. They would say the norms of society are set by society so no one is favouring anyone. They believe in firm punishments to keep society functioning well.

Past Questions to think about and practice

2013

- a. Describe what is meant by Deviancy Amplification? (10)
- b. Explain why corporate crime sometimes goes unreported (10)
- c. Discuss explanations of youth crime (20)

2012

- (a) Describe what is meant by **white collar crime**. [10]
- (b) Explain why we have a police service in the UK. [10]
- (c) Using sociological knowledge, discuss reasons why some people are more likely to be convicted of crime than others. [20]

2011

- (a) Describe the meanings of the terms **crime** and **deviance**. [10]
- (b) Explain the role of the Police. [10]
- (c) Using sociological knowledge, discuss problems with the accuracy of official statistics of crime. [20]

Exemplar

- (a) Describe the difference between crime and deviance. [10]
- (b) Explain why men are more likely to be convicted of crime than women. [10]
- (c) Using sociological knowledge, outline and explain reasons why we need to have social control in our society. [20]

Reporting of Crime

Types of Crime

White Collar Crime – Fiddling expenses, tax evasion, taking company products home. These are often seen as minor and often don't result in prosecution. Why? **Marxist Sociologists** would say it is because they are committed by the middle and upper classes so somehow become perceived as acceptable whereas the working classes are more likely to commit 'real crime' where the figures are recorded.

Corporate Crime - Crimes committed with the approval of the bosses of a big company usually to maximise profits. E.g. Purposely using slave labour in India to keep costs down.

Governmental Crime – The breaking of international law. E.g. Using torture in prison system.

Crime Figures

1950 – 500,000 crimes 1992 – 5.6 million 2012 – 5.1 million

Most crimes are committed by young men from working class backgrounds.

Plus the % of black young men convicted are over represented in the population

Crime Figures – Can we trust them?

- The figures are just the crimes that are recorded by the police (see white collar crime)
 - There could be more going unrecorded
 - The police might not record them because of lack of evidence
- It is in the police's interest not to record certain crimes so they look like they are solving more

The Dark / Hidden Figure

The **British Crime Survey** (A Survey of 47,000 people) shows that the actual crime figure is **much higher** than what the police record. **It says 10 million crimes not the 5 million the police say.**

- It shows that police are accurate in recording 'violent crimes' but not so with lesser crimes like theft. Interestingly it is easier to solve the violent crimes than theft.

Why the difference in between the PRC (Police recorded Crime) and the BCS (British Crime Survey)?

- Some crimes **NOT REPORTED** – e.g. people are scared, don't think anything will be done etc
- Some crimes **NOT RECORDED** – e.g. Police record 10 houses being burgled as one house

Self Report Studies - People given an anonymous questionnaire asking them what crimes they have committed. Usually it is done with teenagers. These reveal a much higher percentage of minor crimes being committed in GB.

Dealing with Offences

Sentences: Absolute Discharge, Conditional Discharge, Fine, Probation Order, Community Service Order, Combination Order, Prison

The Penal System – How criminals are punished. It is Prison and Probation Service. The aim: Punish, Reform, Deter

Cost: Probation=£183 a month Prison= £2070 a month

Types: From Open Prison to Maximum Security depending on severity of crime

Problems with Prison:

- Prisoners begin to conform to the norms and values of other prisoners, sometimes making them worse.
- Prisoners get institutionalised and struggle to adapt when they are released
- Reoffending is as high with people who go to prison as with probation

Social Control – How society tries to make people conform to the norms, values, rules and laws

Formal Social Control– Laws and rules with consequences given out by the police, judges and prison.

Informal Social Control – Are the same as agencies of Socialisation: Family, education, peer groups, work, media and religion.

The Police

- Small traditional societies (e.g. Tribal) do not have police forces. Informal Social Control is usually enough
- First police force in London – 1829
- 200 separate forces in GB by 1850
- Over 100,000 police in GB now

Role: Prevent crime, Protect Property, Maintain public order

Marxists Sociologists see the police force as a tool of the ruling (upper) classes. They think to advance capitalism (wealth making) the ruling classes needed a force to keep the lower classes in their place. E.g. Margaret Thatcher used police to suppress the miner's strike in the 1980s. Is this a fair portrayal of the police? You decide.

Reasons why people commit crime

Biological Explanations why people commit crime

Lambroso – 1850s said that criminals could be identified by their looks, particularly their jaws. (Although this theory is outdated – note the appearance of criminals in films plays to this stereotype)

Modern Day – Scientific tests are revealing certain types of criminals have higher *testosterone* levels (leading to aggression) and lower levels of *serotonin* (leading to lack of empathy) than others. Experiments on psychopathic killers have revealed the development of their frontal lobes, in their brains are underdeveloped.

ETHICAL QUESTIONS – Should such people with a certain genetic disposition be ‘dealt with’ before they commit a crime? E.g. Minority Report. Would this lead to a superior race?

Psychological Explanations why people commit crime – Similar to Biological

Hans Eysenck (Psychologist) – Extroverts are more likely to commit crime because they are risk takers.

Certain mental conditions cause people to commit crime. E.g. schizophrenia, kleptomania, etc. These psychologists believe much crime is not crime because people cannot help themselves. They are ill.

Sociological Explanations of Crime and Deviance

General Socialisation

Crime and Deviance occur as a result of a failure of socialisation, a failure of norms and values being transferred properly. E.g. For boys without a father around can lead to anti-social behaviour.

Problem children tend to grow into problem adults and then produce problem children. Peer Group influences norms and values more than primary socialisation (family). Lack of opportunity – e.g. poor education, no jobs – causes people to lose hope but still clamour for status that can only be achieved through crime.

Functionalist / Sub-Cultural View – Albert Cohen

- People can't achieve society's norms, values and goals of health wealth and happiness. They have little status!
- They feel blocked (Anomie) and have '**status frustration**' so they feel the need to get their **status** from being deviant and committing crime.
- They either commit crime so they can get money or they commit crime to get their status from a gang / sub-culture.
- That's why gangs form and they commit crime like vandalism and graffiti.

Interactionist View – Howard Becker (The Labelling Cycle)

- **Labelling**- Stereotyping of a person because of the way they behave. E.g. Known as a family of thieves because dad went to jail for stealing

- **Master Status** – The label that people give a person ‘sticks’ and this *defines who they are*. They often then become that label. E.g. Labelled as a trouble maker because brother was then become a trouble maker.
- **Deviant Career** – They feel they might as well be what people say they are and they become what they have been labelled as

Interactionist View – Deviancy Amplification and Moral Panics – Stan Cohen

- Whole groups get ‘labelled’ as bad by the media even though they aren’t e.g. Mods n Rockers. They become ‘folk devils’
- The public get worried and a MORAL PANIC happens where the public want action against them
- The police clamp down but this causes a reaction
- This leads to ‘Deviancy Amplification’ – the original deviancy which wasn’t that bad become worse and worse.
- An example of this is the London Riots of 2011

Marxist View

- A society that is built on competition and gaining wealth (capitalism) is bound to lead to more crime as those who are ‘not succeeding’ (i.e. gaining more wealth) want what others have got and in the end will do it by any means.
- The crime figures aren’t right because they are controlled by the upper classes and most ‘corporate crime and white collar crime are not recored.

Who Commits Crime?

Gender and Crime

Why do women commit 5X less crime than men?

- Socialisation – girls expected to be more passive, boys expected to be tough
- Opportunity – Girls tend to be more closely supervised (protected). Boys given more freedom
- Biology – Are boys more susceptible to testosterone and aggression?

Self Report Studies - Recent studies suggest women are engaging in more delinquent behaviour (minor crime). Why?

- A change in socialisation (Increase in feminism and the need for women to be assertive and equal to men)
- Increasing opportunity and freedom

Women's treatment as criminals and victims

- Women often given lighter sentences (Possibly because of traditional view that men have to look after women) - **the Chivalry factor**
- Women given harsh sentences if it is child neglect (Possibly because of traditional view that women are homemakers)
- Women more likely to be victims of sexual abuse and not likely to report it

Feminists say that the figures for sexual crimes against women are much higher than recorded but women do not report them because they believe they will not be taken seriously. Feminists say this is evidence that GB is still a sexist country!

Age and Crime

Juvenile Delinquency – Undesirable and anti-social behaviour by young people, some including minor crime. (E.g. swearing, graffiti, being loud, littering, sexual promiscuity)

Average age of Criminal is 18 – Why?

Possible Causes: Family issues, poor education, alcohol and drugs, peer groups, sub-cultures

See **Functionalist / Sub- Cultural view and Interactionist View** for more detail

Sociologist Albert Cohen says: Delinquents are those who are not gaining recognition through normal ways, e.g. at school, in a sports team etc so get recognition from peers for being rebellious

Sociologist David Matza says: Most older people have a rebellious streak but they have learnt when and where they can show this. (E.g. when it is ok to be loud, swear etc) Juvenile delinquents haven't yet learnt this but usually will.

Minority Ethnic Groups and Crime

Afro-Caribbean people are **7X** more likely to go to prison. Why?

- More likely to commit crime for certain reasons
 - Children of Immigrants so lacked opportunity,
 - Deep racism in the past has led to lack of opportunities for this group,
 - High level of family breakdown within this group
- The Criminal Justice system is/was racist
 - The MacPherson report in 1998 concluded that this was true

Asians are no more likely to end up in prison as rest of population. Why?

- Strong family ties (Thus good socialisation)
- Strong community ties (Thus good socialisation)
- Good economic success
- Religious Belief

Joseph Rowntree Foundation – In 1999 this research found that for many Black and Asian people verbal abuse was common place and they had to learn ways to cope with it

Racism Corruption and the Police

- The police are human beings with 'power' and this sometimes leads to 'bent coppers', police who: take bribes, keep stolen goods, organise protection, assault suspects.
- **The MacPherson Report** – Stephen Lawrence (A black teenager) was murdered in 1993 and the MacPherson report concluded in 1998 that the Police Force was 'institutionally racist.' (The whole police force had a racist tendency) This was because as Stephen lay dying the police officers automatically thought because he was black he must have brought the knifing on himself. They didn't even try to save him.
- Since 1998 there have been major changes in the attitudes of the police force. They can even report a 'bent copper' secretly (anonymously)

Terms

Crime – Breaking of the 'laws' of a society.

Deviance – Behaviour that 'most' people in society disapprove of, where the 'norms' and 'values' are broken. (Doesn't necessarily mean it is a crime) e.g. swearing loudly at a posh dinner.

Rules – Norms and Values are unwritten rules. Rules are written and explicit. E.g. No using mobile phones in hospital.

Sanctions – The punishments for breaking the norms, values or a crime. E.g. 25 years in prison for murder or a 'tut' and a shake of the head for breaking wind in a posh dinner.

Deviance changes over time and in different countries and cultures – e.g. swearing in public was deviant 50 years ago in GB. Now it generally isn't!

Crime is different in different cultures – e.g. drinking alcohol in Saudi Arabia is against the law.

Crime and the Future

Change in formal social control:

- Private Security Firms being hired by companies and neighbourhoods to protect as police funds are cut
 - How will they be monitored? Could they employ the wrong people?
- Because of Prisons being so expensive – possibly turning to Restorative Justice (As in South Africa in 1994)
 - Will this really work? Will people just say sorry to stop going to prison? Is it just a cost cutting exercise?
- Increased reliance on technology to prevent crime. (CCTV, DNA, eye scanning technology etc)
 - Will the price of security be our loss of freedom? Will we turn into a Big Brother state where everyone lives in fear of stepping out of line?

Globalisation and Crime

The Internet has meant that global connections have massively increased in good and 'bad' ways.

- The Drugs Trade, Terrorism, Slave Trade, Internet Theft and Scams

How will global crime be policed? A new international law? A new International Police Force? What if a country doesn't comply?

Sample GCSE Essays Analysed

Example 1

(C) Using sociological knowledge, discuss whether the working class experience poor life chances. (20 marks)

Answer 1 4 Marks out of 20 G Grade

The working class may experience poor life chances and they do not normally get that good an education and therefore their life choices are limited. People from a working class background are more likely to live in poor, rough places where crime is very high therefore working class people may not then want to carry on pushing for a good life but just accept the fact that they are always going to be working class people. Working class people do not have a real family role model and are brought up thinking that working in a factory is just the normal job as most people they know work in one.

Comment [g1]: Band 1 – top end

Very short answer, though some ideas are present

Comment [g2]: Unders link between education and life chances

Comment [g3]: Explain why this is so

Comment [g4]: What evidence is there?

Comment [g5]: Sociological language

Answer 2 6 Marks out of 20 F Grade

Once you are in a working or a lower class, it can be hard to get out of or to work your way up. This is because people may not have time to study anything or gain qualifications as they can't afford it or are too busy working. As a result of this, people may experience poor life chances. They are just expected to work and they have a family so that pattern can be hard to exit. They may have poor circumstances and have to continue to work to support other people. They will therefore not be able to gain qualifications to get a better job. As a child of working class status in a school, they may have had many distractions or not a good enough education to gain good GCSE results. This could affect their whole life and give them poor life chances.

Comment [g6]: Band 2, bottom end.

Some sociological language and ideas, but still short.

Comment [g7]: Gives a reason

Comment [g8]: Understands what life chances are but doesn't make it plain enough.

Comment [g9]: Link between education and life chances

Example 2

(C) Using sociological knowledge, discuss the functions of the family in our society. (20 marks)

Answer 1 8 Marks out of 20 E Grade

Comment [g10]: Band 2 – middle range

Short, but some ideas present even though they are not developed.

The main **function** of a family is to love and care for one another. A family is people you can go to for affection and support. You should be able to go to your family with any problem and not worry about the outcome. A family is there to **teach** the children the things that they need to know to survive in our society.

Comment [g11]: Understands the meaning of the term.

Comment [g12]: Socialisation – but the word should have been used.

A family is there to bring up the children in a happy, healthy way so members of a family should have clothes to wear and shelter. Also, they should have food to eat so they will need to go to **work** for each other as well. The **norms** of one family may be different from another family but they all care for each other.

Comment [g13]: Understands about supporting the family and the economic role.

Comment [g14]: Uses sociological language well.

Answer 2 12 Marks out of 20 C Grade

The family is there to **socialise** the children. They teach the way of life of a **culture** and explain to children how they should behave and what they should do. They teach the children the way of life and are there to care for children.

Comment [g15]: Band 3 – bottom end
Very short but specific sociological knowledge present

Comment [g16]: Uses sociological terms

Comment [g17]: Sociological term

The **New Right**, they suggest that a family's function is to teach children what is right and what is wrong so that they are able to function in society. **Feminists** believe that the function of a **nuclear family** is to exploit the women by making them stay at home and look after the men. This is the Dark Side of the family. The family is there to teach children the gender roles and teach their role in life.

Comment [g18]: Theory mentioned

Comment [g19]: Theory explained

Comment [g20]: Knowledge of family structure.

The typical function of a family is where the parents provide the **money** in order to give themselves and the children the things that they need to survive as it is the function of the family to provide support for one another.

Comment [g21]: Economic function identified

(c) Discuss social reasons why there have been changes in divorce rates in Britain. (20 marks)

Notice how the answer: ALWAYS answers the question in every paragraph, expands each point fully and uses lots of sociological words

19 marks out of 20 - THIS IS AN A* answer

(c) Firstly, the introduction of contraception in the 1960s has enabled women to decide whether or not they want children. This has meant that they do not have to commit to a relationship to increase the chance of success or

emotional stability of a child. **Having less restrictions such as these makes a divorce more swift for the female and much more likely.**

However there have been other factors that have increased divorce rates. **Many economic crises** have made employment hard to come by since the 1990s. This has meant that the 'breadwinner' husband has not been able to provide for his family and this has been disastrous for marriage and divorce as some men have felt worthless and this has **caused conflict in families and ultimately divorce.**

In answering the question we can look even deeper and further back in history. Since 1939 – during the war women were employed in making ammunition for the war. This created friendship between women and a sense that they were as able as men. This meant that women began to feel entitled to earning their own money. **This led to women wanting more independence. Females now had the opportunity to apply for a divorce without financial dependency** on their husband. Because the courts often sided with women they also kept the children.

However the New Right approach meant that a new equality between men and women was introduced, where men began to get equal access to children. This produced a greater equality amongst couples, allowing independency for both partners. **But it also helped to slow down divorce rates as it encouraged partners not to leave a marriage.**

Divorce rates have also changed due to a change in government rules. Acts of Parliament being passed in the 1980s and 90s have meant more equality for women. Quite often before this women had little claim to property. **The law gave women a right to 50% of property. This obviously meant that they became freer to leave and still have access to possessions and a life. This encouraged divorce.**

Also in the last 20 years different types of family have become more socially acceptable, whereas 60 years ago a divorced woman would be severely frowned upon, even shunned by certain cultures. Now many men or women can live in a single parent situation without being ostracised from society. **This new socialisation encouraged the wealthy and hard working to divorce rather than endure unhappy marriages. There is now an introduction of new norms and values. This has obviously increase divorce rates.**