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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

**ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com**

Q2(b)

**Examine the problems of maintaining objectivity and value neutrality in social science research.**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2015 · Sociology GS 1 · 15 marks · Sociology as Science

Sociology as Science: Science, scientific method and critique; Major theoretical strands of research methodology; Positivism and its critique; Fact value and objectivity; Non-positivist methodologies.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-1/2015/examine-the-problems-of-maintaining-objectivity-and-value-neutrality-in-social-science-research/>

**Weber**

Value-relevance selects questions; demonstration must still follow evidence and ideal-typical clarity.

**Durkheim**

Used official suicide files that were already administratively constructed.

**Harding**

Strong objectivity: making standpoint explicit can yield more disciplined knowledge.

**Oakley**

Showed the interview as a gendered social relation, not a neutral extraction.

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