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Q4(c)

With suitable examples, explain how conformity and deviance coexist in a society as propounded by R.K. Merton

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2021 · Sociology GS 1 · 10 marks · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx - Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle; Emile Durkheim - Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society; Max Weber - Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism; Talcott Parsons - Social system, pattern variables; Robert K. Merton - Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups; Mead - Self and identity.

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.

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Strain theory

Merton: deviance as adaptation when approved goals and legitimate means are mismatched.

Innovation

Acceptance of success goals with illicit or extra-legal means.

Ritualism

Abandonment of ambitious goals with rigid clinging to rules.

Anomie

In Merton, a split between culture and opportunity structure, developed from **Durkheim**.

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