

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

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

Q8(c)

How do you understand the relationship between patriarchy and social development ?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Sociology GS 1 · 15 marks · Social Change in Modern Society

Social Change in Modern Society: Sociological theories of social change; Development and dependency; Agents of social change; Education and social change; Science, technology and social change.

Core demand of the question

- How do you understand the relationship between patriarchy and social development?
- Keep the answer within a 20-mark length

Revision summary

Patriarchy is male dominance across household, work, and state.

It shapes development by hiding care, skewing property, and producing capability failure.

Sen, NFHS, SHGs, and feminized labour show mixed gains and a double day.

Parsons and modernisation underplayed this structure.

Inclusive development must reorganise care and voice, not only output.

Introduction

Patriarchy is a system of male dominance across household, work, sexuality, culture, and the state. Social development is the expansion of capabilities, security, and participation. The relation is not accidental. Development that leaves patriarchy intact is a partial and often self-blocking process.

Body

Patriarchy as structure

- Sylvia Walby named six structures of patriarchy. Ann Oakley made unpaid housework visible as a development variable, not a private leftover.
- Friedrich Engels tied women's subordination to property and the monogamous family. The household still reproduces labour-power without a wage.
- **Sandra Harding's standpoint:** development indicators written from a male public actor miss care, mobility, and violence.

How patriarchy shapes development

- **Human development:** Amartya Sen's missing women and capability failure show that growth can coexist with sex-selective harm. NFHS sex ratio, anaemia, and agency items are the Indian dashboard.
- Education and fertility can rise while property and office stay male. That is stratified development.

- **Labour:** feminization of work and SHGs expand women's market presence and can intensify the double day.
- **Political development:** reserved panchayat seats include women and still meet proxy representation where kin patriarchy holds.
- Environmental and displacement projects, as in Narmada, distribute costs through male land title and female livelihood in commons.

How development can unsettle patriarchy

- Schooling, own income, and law against domestic violence shift bargaining.
- Public care, land in women's names, and enforcement of inheritance are structural, not sermon, counters.
- They do not automatically win. Backlash in honour politics and in online misogyny is also "change".

Theoretical caution

- Parsons treated the family as latency for the system; that functional story naturalises patriarchy as development's helper.
- Modernisation theory expected patriarchy to fade with industry. It reappears in gig ratings, caste endogamy, and office glass ceilings.
- World-system development can use cheap female labour in garments as a competitive edge, which Frank would read as a gendered periphery.

Understanding, stated

- Patriarchy is a constraint on whose development counts.
- Social development that is inclusive has to reorganise care, property, and voice, not only raise GDP.

Flow diagram

Patriarchy -> Unpaid care property violence
 Social development -> Capabilities voice security
 Unpaid care property violence -> Unequal development
 Capabilities voice security -> Can unsettle patriarchy
 Can unsettle patriarchy -> Patriarchy

Conclusion

Patriarchy organises the household, labour, and state so that social development is unequally distributed. Oakley, Walby, Engels, Harding, and Sen make that relation thinkable. NFHS, SHGs, panchayat proxies, and Narmada show it. Development without a shift in patriarchy is growth with a male face.

Facts & figures

Walby

Patriarchy as related structures, not a single household custom.

Sen

Missing women and capabilities: development measured by what women can do and be.

NFHS

Indian evidence on sex ratio, nutrition, work, and household decisions.

Oakley

Housework as labour; development that ignores it miscounts social product and welfare.

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice. · <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-1/2022/how-do-you-understand-the-relationship-between-patriarchy-and-social-development/> · ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com