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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.

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Q1(d)

Is reference group theory a universally applicable model? Elucidate

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Sociology GS 1 · 10 marks · Sociology

Sociology - The Discipline: Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology; Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences; Sociology and common sense.

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-1/2023/is-reference-group-theory-a-universally-applicable-model-elucidate/>

Robert K. Merton

Systematised reference group theory, anticipatory socialisation, and the link to anomie.

The American Soldier

Stouffer's wartime study that showed satisfaction tracked comparison, not absolute conditions.

Anticipatory socialisation

Learning the norms of a group one hopes to join before membership is granted.

Sanskritisation

Srinivas's account of lower castes adopting the practices of a locally dominant higher caste as a reference.

Relative deprivation

The gap between what a person has and what a reference group leads that person to expect.

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