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Q1(e)

What are the 'basic and irreducible' functions of the family as proposed by Talcott Parsons? Explain.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2024 · 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.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-1/2024/what-are-the-basic-and-irreducible-functions-of-the-family-as-proposed-by-talcott-parsons-explain/>

Primary socialisation

The family's task of giving the child a first internalisation of social values and role skills.

Stabilization of adult personalities

The family's task of managing adult emotional strain, especially for workers in industrial society.

Instrumental and expressive roles

Parsons's gendered split: husband toward occupation, wife toward emotional care inside the home.

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