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Q7(b)

Examine the impact of industrialization and urbanization on family structure.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Sociology GS 2 · 15 marks · Systems of Kinship in India

Systems of Kinship in India: Lineage and descent in India; Types of kinship systems; Family and marriage in India; Household dimensions of the family; Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.

Core demand of the question

- Examine the impact of industrialization and urbanization on family structure
- Keep household versus family distinct

Revision summary

Urban work favours smaller or differently crowded households.

Joint family as process often survives as extra-household kin.

Gender ideology lags behind residence change.

Class splits the urban family into salaried nuclear and migrant huddle.

Yogendra Singh's modernization of tradition fits better than simple nuclearisation.

Introduction

Industrialisation and urbanisation have shrunk many co-resident households and stretched kin across mill, slum, and metro. Family as lineage and duty has changed more slowly than the roof.

Body

Household impact

- Factory and office housing favour smaller conjugal households, which A. M. Shah would count as household change.
- I. P. Desai's jointness continues as remittance, ritual, and elder duty among split units, a **modified extended family**.
- Informal industrial labour may crowd kin into slum rooms, which is urbanisation without a suburban nuclear ideal.

Kinship and gender

- Karve's regional patterns mix in the city; cross-cousin and village exogamy both meet classifieds and caste matrimony sites.
- Leela Dube's Seed and Earth still organises who inherits the village plot while daughters work in town.
- Age at marriage and some love choice rise, beside dowry inflation.

Class split

- Salaried nuclear homes and migrant joint-like messes are both urban family structures.

Flow diagram

Industry city -> Smaller or crowded households

Industry city -> Extended duty remittance

Seed line caste -> Extended duty remittance

Conclusion

Industry and city change family mainly as household form and as women's double shift. The Indian family as caste kinship adapts rather than becoming a Western isolate.

Facts & figures

Modified extended family

Separate urban households tied by strong kin obligations.

A. M. Shah / I. P. Desai

The pair that stops us reading every small roof as the end of family.

Dowry in cities

An urban intensification that shows kinship not dying with industry.

Migrant mess

Male industrial housing that is urban yet not a conjugal nuclear family.

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