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It is argued that sociology, to its detriment, has failed to incorporate a theory of communication, one adequate to the explosion of social media and the recent rise of populist politics, here instanced by Donald Trump. Realizing the underlying importance of communication technology in all social relationships, and treating these two aspects in a complementary fashion, is the purpose of this essay in sociological theory. Learning from Quantum Mechanics Excerpting a statement from network theory, a core idea of relationality is as follows: They exist when they interact. Referencing Heisenberg gives us considerable license to push the envelope on the sociological theory of relationality; to the extent of re-defining what we mean by the social in relationality. The license is, however, limited and we cannot expect to match social theories to the strange behavior of electrons as formulated by quantum theory. Humans are very large macromolecules, directly observable and causal agents. While their behavior might be unpredictable, we as social theorists are not faced the same problem of indeterminacy. Instead this paper re-thinks what we assume to be the nature of the social by borrowing some of the conceptual thinking that attaches to relationality and granularity in quantum physics. I certainly do not advance as far as Gerhard Wagner who is applying quantum mechanics to the behavior of neurons in the brain in an attempt to reach a new version of Humean causality Wagner, pp. So this is not an intellectual effort to reduce social theory to theories taken from the natural sciences. Rather, I am following the suggestions recently put forward by Swedberg of devising, imaginatively, heuristics in order to think about the social in new ways. Werner Heisenberg is an inspiration in this sense, especially the well-known anecdote of him puzzling over the movement of electrons while sauntering through a Copenhagen park one evening. He watched a passer-by fade into invisibility as the person walked beyond the arc of light given by a street lamp, and then some short time later the person re-appeared under the next lamp along the path. It was, of course, the same person who re-appeared at the next pool of light. Electrons do more than disappear out of sight, they cease to exist. There is no continuous determinable trajectory of an electron. Emboldened by this ideaâ€”a heuristicâ€”he then heroically worked out the maths Pais, pp. The heuristic I am emboldened by is to think as if the social may only exist at the point of contact between two persons. As the physicist Rovelli puts it in respect to electrons which I naively and erroneously supposed to move in continuous orbits that are separated by quantum leaps: The world of existent things is reduced to a realm of possible interactions. Reality is reduced to interaction. As sociological theorists, we presume the social as existent, as always there. I will argue that a theory of pure relationality should only invoke the social at the point of collision. This is in line with my opening excerpt above: Psychoanalytic theory has a nice quip to illustrate the point: This is a more rigorous application of the injunction, but one that tends more generally not to be consistently followed. In social network analysis, pure relationality is usually discarded. What network sociologists do instead is to track existing social relationships and map them empirically and mathematically. I shall give two examples of this. Separating Relationality from Social Relationships In a widely disseminated article Mucha deliberately overlaps social relations with social relationships. Basically, he was calling for a greater appreciation of the micro-sociology of relationships, a project started by Simmel in his book *Sociology*, elaborated by Weber in his *Economy and Society*, and further contributed to by Florian Znaniecki. There is insufficient agreement in sociology about how these different theories are termed, and overlap and hence confusion remains. I will shortly clarify what I take to be the social in social relationship theory. My other example is taken from *Social Capital* by Nan Lin which seems to be fairly typical of the way in which network theorists piggy-back on social relationship theories. This would not have worried Mucha, because that was the general direction in which he wanted sociology to proceed. An interpretive sociology should have no objection to this manner of proceeding. And from my perusal of patterning theories of networks, they are by majority extensions of pre-existing social relationships. Network theory is empirically important and adds to our sociological knowledge, but it remains very much mapping and tracking exercises of pretty standard forms

of social relationships. Interpretive sociology was a breakthrough in the creation of classical social theory and it opened up much of history as well as the formation of modernity itself to proper sociological analysis. That, in my view, is not sufficient for today where there has been an explosion in relationality based on the technology of digital communication. Weber and his contemporaries lived in a world of face to face communication, the letter, the newspaper, and the book. We increasingly do not. Classical sociology remains valid but is unable to comprehend the relationality of new forms of communication. Let me illustrate this point. Weber saw the same phenomenon on the streets of Munich in "the socialist Kurt Eisner and the right-wing Freikorps. Weber was contemptuous of these forms of direct democracy"the demagogues died in the gutter of street politics being one of his more unpleasant utterances. The charismatic leader was defined by his or her oratory in front of an audience limited in size in principle to hearing distance. Big American capitalism has frequently displayed some nasty traits, mostly on the extension and withdrawal of bank credit, and American voters have reacted with populist and evangelical movements. What is notable from the above list of populists is that none has ever succeeded to high office. Twitter and social media re-defined the relational impact on politics. Previous political legitimacy resided in well-defined and practised social relationships"appeals to sectional interests, conservative or social-democratic values, intra-party democracy and procedure"made through old media. The urgent inquiry is to ask what is the nature of relationality that, for me, resides in communication. The Social in Social Relationships I will turn to relationality in the second part of this paper. First, I want to set up the theory of social relationships in a way that its separateness from relationality becomes distinct. Social relationships are built from and between units, more usually social actors. At the minimum, two social actors form a social relationship based on meaning. Changes in meaning alter the nature of the social relationship, rather like the dial on a radio set. These basic sociological concepts are the building blocks of more complex theories"of the state, of society, of the firm, etc. A social relationship is a bond between, at minimum, two people. Stripped down to its essentials, a social relationship is a meaning-link between two positions. One way of thinking about this is to say that each party is a meaning generator. How meaning is generated and linked up has been a topic of penetrating debates in classical sociology. Phenomenology, pragmatism, and interpretive sociology each have their own answer. The commonality here is that social relationships flow from the units, the actors, involved. But on the ground, littered everywhere, are meaningful relationships. This is the granularity that underlies the sociology of social relationships and one way of thinking about granularity is to think, heuristically, of actors or individuals as posited in a field constituted of meaning. Analytically, we could then proceed to the unitization of meaning. On a vertical scale, meaning could be valorized from low to high, and in a further operation it could be differentiated as intensity. The area of the graph is the general field of meaning. In three dimensions, we would arrive at time-meaning-space, and it would be quite interesting to explore bending of this fabric by power forces. Tradition is literally handed on social action and it is a set of meanings that are handed on; for example, in a caste system meaning is daily ritualized through the observance of taboos. It would be far simpler for Weber to accept that all his types draw from a field of meaning. The base unit I contend is meaning not rationality. The second form is Weberian causality, where intentional meaning is the basis for attributing causal action and effects in the social world Bruun and Whimster, pp. Rational social action is deliberated, purposeful action, and is the basis for the much lauded concept of agency. Emotional action, as in charismatic leadership, is also a type of agency. Latour , pp. He is not alone in this. Luhmann , pp. Luhmann drops a very large hint about what we should be looking for"the communicative capacity of interfaces between social domains. Of course this is not a hint, it is his theory of society. Harold Garfinkel is another notable for problematizing the social. When social interaction has become taken for granted"e. A Garfinkel experiment today would confiscate all mobiles from the family table and then observe as old-style sociability stumbled back into life. Eating together, culturally, is a big thing. We have to revisit the original meaning in order to retrieve the nature of the social in a relationship. It is the small font case studies, provided by Weber in *Economy and Society*, where understanding is secured. Top-down societal explanations are forbidden in social relationship sociology. This is why this school of sociology has been so important. It resists the short cut of placing the explanans in society, or culture. Social relationships are activated by meaning propagators.

Relationality as Communication We have not picked out relationality in our sociological theories because, until recently, it was subsumed within a social relationship. Had we chosen to look carefully, we would have found it. This is a point analogous to the discovery in the tumultuous period of the micro granularity of the physical universe, unitized as the Planck constant which is a very very small number, though probably not for electrons. Because of our ability to hermeneutize the text, we are oblivious of the underlying communication technology. In relationality, entities individuals, actors do not generate and create the relationship. Instead, they take their cues from some pre-existing connection that links individuals. There is a much cited article that maps the network patterns of the blogs posted, respectively, by sex workers and clients Rocha et al.

**Chapter 2 : A Sociology Timeline from**

*Science and sociology: predictive power is the name of the game / Sheldon Eklund-Olson and Jack P. Gibbs. HM E44*  
*Max Weber's methodologies: interpretation and critique / Sven Eliaeson.*

I begin with a general introduction into the discipline of sociology, before providing a definition of its applied branch. Lastly, I present an outline of the professional skills that a degree in sociology can offer its graduates. My discussion on applied sociology refers to those professionals who use the principles of sociology outside a university setting in order to provide their clients with an in-depth understanding of some specific facet of society that requires information gathering and analysis. Applied sociologists work in various industries, including private business, government agencies and not-for-profit organisations. This can include anything from increasing the health and wellbeing of a disadvantaged community group; working with law enforcement organisations to implement a rehabilitation program for criminal offenders; assisting in planning for natural disasters; and enhancing existing government programs and policies. I will show that a degree in sociology has several career benefits, but I specifically focus on the strong communication, research and interpersonal skills that prove advantageous to sociology graduates looking for work. I argue that applied sociology can help to improve any professional sector that might benefit from a critical evaluation of how a particular social issue, group or organisation works. That is, sociology is the study of what it means to be a member of a particular society, and it involves the critical analysis of the different types of social connections and social structures that constitute a society. This includes questions about how and why different groups are formed and the various meanings attached to different modes of social interaction, such as between individuals or social networks; face to face versus online communications; local and global discourses, and so on. Sociology also encompasses the study of the social institutions that shape social action. A social institution is a complex, but distinctive, sub-system of society that regulates human conduct Berger Sociology can therefore be used to study all the social experiences that human beings are capable of imagining – from practices of childbirth, to the use technologies, to our attitudes and rituals regarding death – and everything else in between. Sociology is the study of society. Sociology allows us to study individual behaviour in a broader context, to take into consideration how societal forces might impact upon individuals, as well as the ways in which individuals construct the world around them, and how they manage to resist existing power relationships in order to achieve social change. Sociology is often perceived as an academic profession, but there are many places outside of universities where sociology can be used to enhance personal and professional development. More specifically, applied sociology might be seen as the translation of sociological theory into practice for specific clients. That is, this term describes the use of sociological knowledge in answering research questions or problems as defined by specific interest groups, rather than the researcher Steele and Price Applied research is sometimes conducted within a multidisciplinary environment and in collaboration with different organisations, including community services, activist groups and sometimes in partnership with universities. Some applied sociologists may not explicitly use sociological theories or methods in their work, but they may use their sociological training more broadly to inform their work and their thinking. History and applications of sociological practice Photo: Perlstadt writes that Comte divided the discipline of sociology in two parts: Basic researchers educate and influence public debate, and social interventionists are political activists who are responsible for actively enforcing social change While these differences may appear to be artificial, ambivalence persists between academic and applied sociologies, despite the fluidity and intersections between these practices see Gouldner ; DeMartini ; Rossi First, the sociologist as decision-maker is someone who uses social science in order to shape policy decisions The sociologist as an educator is a person who teaches sociology to students, typically in a university setting The sociologist as a commentator and social critic is someone who writes for a wider public through books and articles aimed at an educated public, with a view of influencing public opinion The sociologist as researcher for clients might be someone who works with public or private organisations, such as mental health groups, banks, or some other company that commissions research on very specific topics Zetterberg positions applied sociologists as fulfilling the latter two roles:

First, applied researchers might use basic empirical methods in collecting information in order to help shape informed decisions, such as in the creation of social policy. In this meaning, sociologists might be directly working within government agencies, or they might work for private research organisations, or they might be contracted for one or the other. He lists the following activities as examples of this applied methodological approach: While these sociologists might employ scientific theories and concepts, their specialisation is actually the application of sociological research techniques in order to gather specific information, rather than the application of sociological theories per se. Activities might include assessing the determinants of observed phenomena, such as the causes of crime, explaining demographic changes, and evaluating the shifts in social movements. Alternatively, applied sociologists might propose a course of action in order to achieve targeted change, such as by increasing the economic outcomes of a disadvantaged community, reforming illegal behaviours, or developing a framework in order to prepare a local community in the advent of a natural disaster. To clarify the distinction between these two applied practices, DeMartini uses the example of social policy: DeMartini notes, however, that this differentiation is for illustration purposes, and that, in fact, applied practices run along a continuum in between these two practices. Methods and theories cannot be used in isolation, but some jobs might require more emphasis on one than the other. Nevertheless, by and large, Freeman and Rossi see that academic and applied sociologists are distinguished in six ways. Since, they are hired by external stakeholders, their rewards are judged by their sponsors, on the basis of whether these clients see the work as being useful to them. Academics rely more on peer-evaluations, and there is high prestige in publishing in academic journals. Second, Freeman and Rossi argue that applied sociologists have narrow constraints on their time and the specificity of their work outputs, while academic sociologists are more free to choose their research topic notwithstanding the politics of grant funding and the publishing potential of certain topics. This work includes collaborating with medical practitioners, nurses, psychologists, psychiatrists and nutritionists, as well as advocacy and support in mental health programs, including through counselling, interpersonal therapy, intervention programs with youth, substance abuse services, and group grief counselling. He argues that applied sociological knowledge lends itself to a systems engineering approach.

**Public Sociology** One thing that practitioners seem to agree on is that their work needs to be carried out in a way that is both accessible to their clients and devoid of academic jargon. The next section takes up this issue of graduate careers in applied sociology. Jobs in applied sociology

Photo: Mu-Am-Spring, via Flickr

Employers place a strong value in sociological training, including our methodological excellence in conducting research and analysis, our ability to evaluate a wide variety of resources, and our effective communication skills, both written and oral.

Germov and Poole Moreover, sociologists are trained to appreciate different world-views, and so our interpersonal skills also give us an advantage in the job marketplace. cf. Most job advertisements at least in Australia will indicate two requirements that are nowadays almost universal in professional sectors: Despite their marketable qualities, sociology graduates do not always understand the types of career pathways available to them outside of academia. A smaller proportion of workers were employed as public relations specialists 3, , statisticians 2, , statistical clerks 1, , and urban and regional planners.

Sabin argues that the position of systems analyst holds great potential for applied sociologists, as it involves data processing, as well as an understanding of how organisations and businesses work. As far as the professional and technical workers category is concerned, Sabin sees that the general skills of a sociologist, rather than their specialist knowledge in one niche area such as the topic of their thesis, is more likely to open up employment opportunities.

Chapter 3 : Applied Sociological Theory Essay Example | Graduateway

*Pure and Applied Sociological Theory: Problems and Issues [Calvin J. Larson] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Introduction[ edit ] One example of how people do sociology is Hull House. Located in Chicago, Hull House opened its doors to recently arrived European immigrants. The mission of Hull House was to provide social and educational opportunities for working class people in the surrounding neighborhood. The "residents" volunteers at Hull were given this title held classes in literature, history, art, domestic activities such as sewing , and many other subjects. Hull House also held concerts that were free to everyone, offered free lectures on current issues, and operated clubs for both children and adults. Its facilities included a night school for adults, kindergarten classes, clubs for older children, a public kitchen, an art gallery , a coffeehouse , a gymnasium, a girls club, a swimming pool, a bathhouse, a book bindery , a music school , a drama group, a library, and labor-related divisions. Her adult night school was a forerunner of the continuing education classes offered by many universities today. In addition to making available services and cultural opportunities for the largely immigrant population of the neighborhood, Hull House afforded an opportunity for young social workers to acquire training. These involved "[c]lose cooperation with the neighborhood people, scientific study of the causes of poverty and dependence, communication of [these] facts to the public, and persistent pressure for [legislative and social] reform These studies enabled the Hull House residents to confront the establishment, eventually partnering with them in the design and implementation of programs intended to enhance and improve the opportunities for success by the largely immigrant population. In combining research with action, Jane Addams and the other members of Hull House illustrate the practice of sociology. The goal of this chapter is to introduce different forms of sociological practice. While all sociologists utilize and draw upon methods and theories discussed in the previous chapters, they often do so in distinct ways. Sociological Practice thus refers to the ways people do sociology in the course of their lives as well as the ways they approach sociological research, theory, methods, and knowledge. In this chapter, we thus explore the three primary ways sociologists approach their work - basic sociology, applied sociology, and public sociology. Despite the fact that each of these views has been evident within sociological practices throughout the history of the discipline as well as within and between other academic disciplines , they have become the source of heated debates throughout the last three decades. Rather than taking sides in these debates, we thus provide introductory descriptions of these three major approaches to sociological practice, and encourage students to consider the pros and cons of each approach. Basic Sociology[ edit ] Basic sociology - sometimes referred to as professional sociology or pure research - refers to a form of sociological practice that is primarily concerned with addressing other professionals especially other professional social scientists through the production of academic knowledge, publications, associations, and insights. Specifically, basic or professional sociologists typically conceptualize research as the production of knowledge and empirical insights as an end in themselves. As such, basic or professional sociologists typically advocate sociological practice that builds our existing knowledge base without necessarily engaging with the rest of the world. This approach is often referred to as "basic" or "academic" sociology because it does not require public or practical engagement by or with scholars working in the field, but rather advocates the pursuit of knowledge as a goal in and of itself, which does not necessarily need to find practical use or consumption in the wider world. However, once countries reached a certain level of economic development, growth of all three religions declined substantially. They described this as "The Secular Transition. In other words, the research was motivated out of academic curiosity rather than a desire to apply the research findings to the proselytizing efforts of the religions. Applied Sociology[ edit ] Applied Sociology - sometimes referred to as pragmatic or practical sociology - refers to a form of sociological practice that is primarily concerned with using sociological theories and research to intervene in the ongoing activities contained within applied or practical settings, like offices, parks, schools, and other places where daily life takes place. Applied sociologists use sociological theory, methods and skills to collect and analyze data and to communicate their findings and to understand and resolve social problems.

To that end, applied sociologists work with a variety of organizations, such as: Examples of work applied sociologists do include: Individuals who do applied sociology differ from those who do basic sociology in that they use their research findings as well as sociological theory to resolve real-life problems. As such, applied sociologists typically advocate sociological practice that produces insights that may be used immediately to improve the social functioning of individuals and social structures. Research is the foundation of applied sociology, just as it is of basic sociology. The principles of the scientific method underlie all sociological research and both basic and applied sociologists draw upon the same pool of research methods. In addition, applied sociologists have developed a special set of techniques they use to make observations and recommendations that will be useful to their clients. Below are listed some of the most common forms of applied sociological techniques with basic descriptions. Following each description is a sample question that technique could be used to address from an applied sociology perspective.

**Program Evaluation**[ edit ] While there are wide variety of ways to engage in Applied Sociology, one very common endeavor of this form of sociological practice found within every major organizational and institutional arena throughout contemporary developed societies is program evaluation. In short, program evaluation uses systematic observations to assess whether a social program or practice is achieving its goals. Since organizations businesses as well as non-profit organizations often develop programs to handle their needs or promote their services, it is important to know whether or not those programs are appropriate for the task at hand. To this end, sociologists study whether or not established programs are: There are two primary forms of program evaluation: Importantly, these forms may be practiced in isolation and in combination with one another, and may also be used to evaluate individual pathologies, medical services, counseling and other clinical protocols, and forms of public activity. Summative evaluation seeks to discover whether or not a given program "worked. In either case, sociologists then utilize primarily quantitative or observational methods to measure changes in the outcome of interest over a given time period. If, on the other hand, there are no changes in the expected outcome or the changes are oppositional to the expected outcome, the program did not work, and sociologists will make suggestions to the organization for either improvements to the program or new program options. In either case, the heart of summative evaluation methods lies in the ability to determine whether or not organizational programs e. If a program is shown not to work or if an organization seeks to establish new programs based on available data , sociologists may be called upon to do formative program evaluations. Formative evaluations are analyses conducted to ascertain new programs that could benefit given organizations. Stated simply, these evaluation studies are used to "form" new programs. Working with clients, a sociologist may utilize focus groups or surveys to gauge the needs of the organizations, the existing programs operated by the organization, the budget available for program development and implementation, and the problems associated with previous practices. In so doing, sociologists may compare and contrast the elements at work in the organization to arrive at potential programs and practices that could best suit the needs and goals of the organization. As a result, the results of this conceptual work will allow the sociologist to suggest what programs are more likely to work within a given organization. In fact, sometimes sociologists do formative program evaluations for an organization, and are later called upon again to analyze whether the proposed programs worked at a later date. Program evaluation is the most widely used of the applied research techniques. The practices designed to implement these policies, like parenting classes to help curb the incidence of child abuse, are generally evaluated for effectiveness. Because of this, program evaluation is a prime area of career development for applied sociologists. A research question program evaluation may address would be something like: An example of needs assessment research might be to determine the number of Latinos in an area who have could use counseling and education services. A research question needs assessment may address would be something like: How many juvenile delinquents are there in the community? A research question social impact assessment may address would be something like: Does the reduction in juvenile delinquency put additional demands on the community for teen employment? The goal of social indicator development is to develop useful measures of the phenomenon of interest. For instance, if five murders occurred in a city in one year, that is useful information. However, it is even more useful if the size of the city is taken into account, as five murders in a city of 1, people is a lot higher rate of unnatural deaths than five murders in a city of one

million people. Sociologists try to take into account factors like city size, context, and location when developing appropriate social indicators. A research question social indicator development may address would be something like: How can we effectively measure the rate of juvenile delinquency in the community? A research question cost-benefit analysis may address would be something like: What are the costs of running the program and are there less expensive ways to reduce juvenile delinquency? Numerous studies have been undertaken to determine whether abstinence-only is more effective at reducing sexual activity, at decreasing teen pregnancy, at reducing the incidence of sexually transmitted infections, or leading to emotionally and psychologically healthier sex practices. In other words, comprehensive sex education that teaches young people about forms of birth control and encourages them to think carefully about sex and, if they have sex, to use safer-sex practices is a much more effective program if the desired outcome is lower rates of teenage pregnancies, lower incidences of sexually-transmitted infections, and healthier sexual practices. Another example is a project undertaken at two universities to help students better understand both applied sociology and homelessness. Laura Nichols Santa Clara University and Norma Winston The University of Tampa had students in their applied sociology courses engage in applied projects to help the homeless. At The University of Tampa, students worked with homeless individuals to document their lives then created a showcase of the resulting media that was shared with policy makers. At Santa Clara University, students rode with homeless individuals who used the all-night bus line as a form of shelter to get a better understanding of their needs then coordinated with various local agencies to provide shelter options for these individuals. This entails examining the beliefs, policies, or practices of both individuals and the groups or organizations to which they belong with the goal of improving the situation. Intervention involves the creation of new beliefs, policies or practices as well as the change of those that currently exist in the situation. Clinical sociologists have different areas of specialization, such as: Clinical sociologists can work in a variety of different areas. For instance, they can be employed as community organizers, [11] sociotherapists, mediators, social policy implementers, and action researchers. Clinical sociologists often work with intervention teams whose members have a variety of academic backgrounds and perspectives e. The unique contribution made by sociologists to the analysis and the planning of the intervention in multi-disciplinary teams is the understanding of socio-cultural influences on behavior. Clinical sociologists use a variety of theoretical approaches in their work e. In that respect, they are like applied sociologists. Examples of Clinical Sociology[ edit ] Michael S. Fleischer has worked as a clinical sociologist helping to guide corporations undergoing cultural and organizational change. He has worked with executives at Aetna and numerous other large corporations. He helps executives recognizes problems and impediments to change and develop solutions to those problems. Public Sociology[ edit ] Public Sociology refers to a form of sociological practice that is primarily concerned with using sociological theories and research to engage and inform public, political, and policy debates occurring within the larger social world. Echoing and expanding applied sociological practices, public sociologists seek to use sociological tools and insights to promote more equitable political and policy goals for the larger society, and educate the public on the complexities of contemporary social experiences and problems. As such, public sociologists typically advocate engaging in political and cultural debates in order to educate students, mass media audiences, social movement groups, political officials, and other academics about the perils, pitfalls, and potential of various political and policy proposals as well as the needs of varied communities embedded within complex socio-historical structures and patterns. This approach - building on activist traditions within and between varied social scientific, activist, and public intellectual traditions spanning the past few centuries - is often referred to in political terms because it requires theorists and researchers to utilize sociological theory and research in pursuit of a more just social world. He distinguished between two types of public sociology: Traditional public sociologists share the results of their work when they deem it relevant to do so through such mechanisms as testifying at government hearings, serving as expert witnesses, speaking at community meetings, writing op-ed columns in local newspapers or reporting through blogs and web pages. Organic public sociology is characterized by collaboration between public sociologists and others, including practitioners, scholars, activists, or community members. There is mutual respect for what all parties can bring to the table – the theoretical and methodological skills of the public sociologist and the practical knowledge

and understanding of the workings of a community, organization, or group offered by those who are a part of the social milieu being studied. Through collaboration they can build better research projects and a broader base of support for resolving social problems. Examples of Public Sociology[ edit ] There are a variety of approaches that can be included under the broad label of public sociology e. For instance, Sociologists for Women in Society is a nonprofit feminist organization dedicated to developing scholarship about women and feminist theory, but also wants to use that scholarship to transform academia and advocate for social justice for women.

**Chapter 4 : Pure sociology - Wikipedia**

*Pure and applied sociology: an historical overview --Pure sociological theory --Applied sociological theory --Philosophical problems and issues in contemporary social science --Ethics, morals, and values in sociological theory --Social theory and social policy --Summary, discussion, and conclusion.*

Now life has killed the dream I dreamed. However, after oppressed by foreman and other workers, she is fired and starts being a prostitute. Fating struggles for her dream in her whole life, but still she cannot legalize her dream due to the reality. She is a reflection of many underprivileged in Hong Kong. They work hard but earn little, fight for dream but fail etc. From 19th century to recent, from France to Hong Kong, why there are still so many people cannot change their life? In my opinion, the view of Marxist about social stratification and social mobility can answer this question. Marxist theory on social stratification and social mobility We will write a custom essay sample on Applied Sociological Theory Order now More Essay Examples on Social stratification is a ranking system which category people in a particular rank of the hierarchy in society by predictable rules, so that some people have more power, prestige and so on than others Kerri, , p. Bourgeoisie and proletariat Grungy, , p. Usually, bourgeoisie owns the means of production and oppresses the relation to maximize their profit Macaroni, , p. Therefore, in social conflict approach, stratification is an unfair resources division system that only benefits few people, especially the bob regressive, but disadvantages proletariat Macaroni, 1, p. Social mobility is the movement can be upward or downward of the position in social hierarchy of individuals Grungy, , p. If the social mobility is high, people are easier to change their rank in the social hierarchy due to their personal achievements or failures. Social stratification in Hong Kong If the income level is used as an indicator to measure the social stratification, the degree of inequality in Hong Kong is quite high because the Gin coefficient in 1 Hong Kong is 0. As a result, there is a conflict between bourgeoisie and proletariat. Using 3 Hong Kong dock strike as an example, in this incident, due to the poor working condition and salary, many port workers went on strike in the Kiwi Tossing Container Terminal to fight for better working condition and salary McCarty, Pang This theory states that because of the modernity, the class society is formed. However, Karl Marx thinks that the core of the modernization is about inequality which is only benefiting to capitalist economy Macaroni, 1, p. In this case, as a working class, port workers are always exploited by the capitalist class because the capitalist class wants to maximize their profit. Besides the low salary, port workers also face some inhuman treats, such as no toilet on site, no time for meal, no break time, and no overtime pay Radio Australia, For me, in this case, the boss of those port workers wants to maximize the profit by lowering the cost e. Low salary of the workers and maximizing workers productivity e. As a result, port workers take action to fight for their rights. Ironically, after the three-weeks strike, Lie Aka;shining Hong Kong terminals informs the workers they would lose their job Wang As the richest man in Hong Kong, Lie uses is power to force the workers give up. It shows that the interests between the working class the capitalist are always opposite and both of them are try their best to get what they want. The difference between them is bourgeoisie have more power than proletariat, so they can exploit proletariat in different ways. One illustration of it is the Hong Kong government tries to give two-tier licensing system to repertory management practitioners PR Newswire, In the two-tier licensing regime, it separates two types of workers. One is professional property managers more senior post and another one is property practitioners. The professional property manager requires people must finish bachelor degree while property management practitioner does not PR Newswire, This case shows that the some property professionals who are more powerful try to limit the entrance of being professional property managers by educational level, so some people who do not finish bachelor degree cannot be professional property manager. Social mobility in Hong Kong Social mobility is the change in social position of individual and the change can be upward or downward Macaroni, , p. The change in social position can because of the ascription e. Sex, family background , or achievement e. Personal effort , or both Macaroni, 1, p. It depends whether society is caste system focus on ascription , meritocracy focus on achievement , or class system focus on both ascription and achievement. In my opinion, although the status of Hong Kong seems to tend to class system, the boundaries

between classes are actually quite rigid. Taking the public exam then studying in the university sounds fair to every student because the score they get seems only reflects their own effort. In fact, the score they get is not only reflects their own effort, but also reflects their family background. Moreover, the content of the tuition is changed a lot. In past, tuition is mainly for some students who need the extra help, but now, tuition is mainly for some students who aim high grade, seek for exam skills, and seek for tips Hong Kong Federation of Youth Group, As a result, students from upper and middle class family have more choices to choose some better tuition in order to upgrade their academic competitive then have higher chance to enter the university. Therefore, in Hong Kong, it is hard for proletarian to move upward via education. Lie Aka-shining, the richest man in Hong Kong. However, nowadays, Hong Kong is not as easy to move upward as before because of the exploitation from bourgeoisie and the resistant for people moving upward. Therefore, although Hong Kong sounds easy to move upward today, this statement is mainly suitable for those bourgeoisie.

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*Issues in the application of sociological theory to practice in the control, prevention, and treatment of criminal and delinquent behavior are reviewed. The validity of the distinction between applied and pure sociology in the case of criminology is questioned.*

History of sociology The field of sociology itself and sociological theory by extension is relatively new. Both date back to the 18th and 19th centuries. The drastic social changes of that period, such as industrialization , urbanization , and the rise of democratic states caused particularly Western thinkers to become aware of society. The oldest sociological theories deal with broad historical processes relating to these changes. Since then, sociological theories have come to encompass most aspects of society , including communities , organizations and relationships. Sociological theory attempts to answer the following three questions: In the myriad attempts to answer these questions, three predominately theoretical i. These problems are largely inherited from the classical theoretical traditions. The consensus on the central theoretical problems is: The first deals with knowledge, the second with agency, and the last with time. Lastly, sociological theory often grapples with the problem of integrating or transcending the divide between micro, meso and macro-scale social phenomena, which is a subset of all three central problems. These problems are not altogether empirical problems, rather they are epistemological: Objectivity and subjectivity[ edit ] Main articles: Objectivity science , Objectivity philosophy , and Subjectivity The problem of subjectivity and objectivity can be divided into a concern over the general possibilities of social actions, and, on the other hand the specific problem of social scientific knowledge. The objective is often considered any public or external action or outcome, on up to society writ large. A primary question for social theorists, is how knowledge reproduces along the chain of subjective-objective-subjective, that is to say: While, historically, qualitative methods have attempted to tease out subjective interpretations, quantitative survey methods also attempt to capture individual subjectivities. Also, some qualitative methods take a radical approach to objective description in situ. The latter concern with scientific knowledge results from the fact that a sociologist is part of the very object they seek to explain. Bourdieu puts this problem rather succinctly: How can the sociologist effect in practice this radical doubting which is indispensable for bracketing all the presuppositions inherent in the fact that she is a social being, that she is therefore socialized and led to feel "like a fish in water" within that social world whose structures she has internalized? How can she prevent the social world itself from carrying out the construction of the object, in a sense, through her, through these unself-conscious operations or operations unaware of themselves of which she is the apparent subject Pierre Bourdieu, "The Problem of Reflexive Sociology" in An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology [8] Structure and agency[ edit ] Main article: Structure and agency Structure and agency, sometimes referred to as determinism versus voluntarism, [9] form an enduring ontological debate in social theory: Discussions over the primacy of either structure and agency relate to the core of sociological epistemology "What is the social world made of? Synchrony and diachrony[ edit ] Synchrony and diachrony, or statics and dynamics, within social theory are terms that refer to a distinction emerging out of the work of Levi-Strauss who inherited it from the linguistics of Ferdinand de Saussure. Diachrony, on the other hand, attempts to analyze dynamic sequences. Following Saussure, synchrony would refer to social phenomena as a static concept like a language, while diachrony would refer to unfolding processes like actual speech. In terms of sociology, historical sociology is often better positioned to analyze social life as diachronic, while survey research takes a snapshot of social life and is thus better equipped to understand social life as synchronic. Some argue that the synchrony of social structure is a methodological perspective rather than an ontological claim. Classical theoretical traditions[ edit ] The contemporary discipline of sociology is theoretically multi-paradigmatic. Utilitarianism , also known as "rational choice" or "social exchange", although often associated with economics , is an established tradition within sociological theory. Ward and William Graham Sumner. Contemporary sociological theory retains traces of each these traditions and they are by no means mutually exclusive. Structural functionalism A broad historical paradigm in both sociology and anthropology , functionalism addresses the social structure as a

whole and in terms of the necessary function of its constituent elements. Biology has been taken to provide a guide to conceptualizing the structure and the function of social systems and to analyzing processes of evolution via mechanisms of adaptation.

**Conflict theories** Social conflict is the struggle between segments of society over valued resources. Capitalists are people who own and operate factories and other businesses in pursuit of profits. In other words, they own virtually all large-scale means of production. However, capitalism turned most other people into industrial workers, whom Marx called proletarians. Proletarians are people who, because of the structure of capitalist economy, must sell their labor for wages. Conflict theories draw attention to power differentials, such as class, gender and race conflict, and contrast historically dominant ideologies. It is therefore a macro level analysis of society that sees society as an arena of inequality that generates conflict and social change.

**Symbolic interactionism** , **Dramaturgy sociology** , **Interpretive sociology** , and **Phenomenological sociology** Symbolic interaction , often associated with interactionism , phenomenological sociology , dramaturgy , and interpretivism , is a sociological tradition that places emphasis on subjective meanings and the empirical unfolding of social processes, generally accessed through analysis. Society is nothing more than the shared reality that people construct as they interact with one another. This approach sees people interacting in countless settings using symbolic communications to accomplish the tasks at hand. Therefore, society is a complex, ever-changing mosaic of subjective meanings. It is also in this tradition that the radical-empirical approach of **Ethnomethodology** emerges from the work of Harold Garfinkel.

**Utilitarianism** , **Rational choice theory** , and **Exchange theory** Utilitarianism is often referred to as exchange theory or rational choice theory in the context of sociology. This tradition tends to privilege the agency of individual rational actors and assumes that within interactions individuals always seek to maximize their own self-interest. As argued by Josh Whitford , rational actors are assumed to have four basic elements, the individual has 1 "a knowledge of alternatives," 2 "a knowledge of, or beliefs about the consequences of the various alternatives," 3 "an ordering of preferences over outcomes," 4 "A decision rule, to select amongst the possible alternatives".

**Homans** , **Peter Blau** and **Richard Emerson**. **March** and **Herbert A.** The utilitarian perspective in sociology was, most notably, revitalized in the late 20th century by the work of former ASA president **James Coleman**.

**List of contemporary theories**[ edit ] **Anomie theory** , seeks to understand normlessness , where society provides little moral guidance to individuals. In *The Division of Labor in Society* , **Durkheim** described anomie as one result of an inequitable division of labour within the society. **Mawson**, University of Keele, UK, notes. As "actors," we have a status, which is the part that we play, where we are given various roles.

**Feminism** is a collection of movements aimed at defining, establishing, and defending equal political, economic, and social rights for women. Feminism, from a social conflict perspective, focuses on gender inequality and links sexuality to the domination of women by men. It is concerned with how individuals construct such fields, with how the fields are structured, and with the effects the field has on people occupying different positions in it.

**Grounded theory** is a systematic methodology in the social sciences involving the generation of theory from data. It is currently the de facto dominant approach to sociological theory construction, especially in the United States. **Middle range theory** starts with an empirical phenomenon as opposed to a broad abstract entity like the social system and abstracts from it to create general statements that can be verified by data. **Mathematical sociology** aims to take sociological theory, which is strong in intuitive content but weak from a formal point of view, and to express it in formal terms. The benefits of this approach include increased clarity and the ability to use mathematics to derive implications of a theory that cannot be arrived at intuitively. The models typically used in mathematical sociology allow sociologists to understand how predictable local interactions are often able to elicit global patterns of social structure. **Introspective** and **intuitional** attempts to gain knowledge are rejected. The **positivist** approach has been a recurrent theme in the history of western thought , from ancient times to the present day.

**Network theory** is a structural approach to sociology that is most closely associated with the work of **Harrison White** , who views norms and behaviors as embedded in chains of social relations. In essence, **phenomenology** is the belief that society is a human construction. It was originally developed by **Edmund Husserl**. **Post-colonial theory** is a post-modern approach that consists of the reactions to and the analysis of colonialism. **Postmodernism** is a theoretical perspective approach that criticises modernism and believes anti-theory and anti-method and has a

great mistrust of grand theories and ideologies. Due to human subjectivity, theorists believe that discovering the objective truth is impossible or unachievable. This approach uses both micro and macro level analysis. Pure sociology is a theoretical paradigm developed by Donald Black that explains variation in social life with social geometry, that is, locations in social space. A recent extension of this idea is that fluctuations in social space are called social time are the cause of social conflict. Costs are extrinsic, meaning intrinsic values such as feelings of guilt will not be accounted for in the cost to commit a crime. Social constructionism is a sociological theory of knowledge that considers how social phenomena develop in particular social contexts. Unlike other living species, humans need socialization within their cultures for survival. For example, a teacher who believes a certain student to be intellectually gifted may well encourage exceptional academic performance.

**Chapter 6 : Sociological theory - Wikipedia**

*This course examines the nature and aims of applied sociological theory. Of special interest is the bearing of pure or basic sociological theory on applied research and problem solving, the differences between pure and applied sociological theory, and the relevance of applied theory for basic sociological theory.*

Cerulo , [20] David Sciulli , [21] and Jonathan H. Turner [22] have praised aspects of pure sociology, the approach has also been criticized. Greenberg [24] its use of covering-law explanations, and Thomas J. Scheff [25] its attempt at disciplinary purity. In a symposium, Douglas A. Marshall [26] offers an extended critique of the system. Noting the ideological nature of many of the attacks, Black says that his theory is in fact "politically and morally neutral. It violates conventional conceptions of social reality in general and legal and moral reality in particular. It therefore shocks â€” epistemologically shocks â€” many on whom it is inflicted. If I disturb your universe I may be worthy of contempt. I may appear to be your favorite political enemy, a conservative if you are radical , a radical if you are conservative. While it is unconventional sociology , it is conventional science , striving to provide simple , general, testable , valid, and original explanations of reality. And it is by these criteria alone, Black maintains, that it should be judged: Tell me my work is not as testable as something else, tell me it is not as general as something else, tell me it is less elegant than something else, tell me that it has already been published, or just tell me it is wrong. Tell me something relevant to what I am trying to accomplish â€” something scientific. The Behavior of Law. Lynching in the South, edited by W. University of North Carolina Press. The Social Structure of Right and Wrong. A Study in Pure Sociology. University of Virginia Press. When Do Victims Report? How Third Parties Shape Violence. New York University Press. Toward a Pure Sociology of Welfare. Courtesy of Donald Black. A Word in Praise of Senechal de la Roche. The Sociological Quarterly 49 2: A Response to Greenberg. Further reading[ edit ] Baumgartner, M. An Annual Compilation of Research, Vol. Fundamentals, edited by Donald Black. Selected Problems, edited by Donald Black. Evidence from a Suburban Town. The Moral Order of a Suburb. Law and Conflict Management, edited by James Tucker. The origins and management of domestic conflict. Felson and James T. Reshaping the American Suburb. The Social Organization of Law. San Diego, Academic Press second edition; first edition, The Sociology of Law, edited by A. The Manners and Customs of the Police. Working Papers, Number 3. Center for Advanced Studies University of Virginia. The Mobilization of Law: International Journal of the Sociology of Law The Geometry of Destruction. The Geometry of Retaliation. Contemporary Sociology 31 6: From Theory to Research, edited by Margaret A. Brownstein, and Shelly L. Criminological Perspectives, edited by Mathieu Deflem. International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice The Behavior of Law Special Edition. Black, Donald and M. Boyum and Lynn Mather. Equality and Efficiency in the Common Law. A Study of Law, Disputes, and Deviance. Lethal Conflict and the State. The enforcement of traffic law. Moralistic Homicide and Strong Social Ties. Smelser and Paul B. Cooney, Mark and Scott Phillips Smith and Andrew F. Hawdon, James and John Ryan Community Organization, Naive Trust and Terrorism. The Social Control of Mental Illness. The Logic of Social Control. University of Chicago Press. Jacques, Scott, and Richard Wright Hugh Barlow and Scott Decker. An Application of the Theory of Law. The Sociological Limitations of Victimization Studies. Conflict Management in Corporations. The University of Chicago Press. Women and Intimate Partner Violence. Blind Justice Requires a Blindfold. Phillips, Scott and Mark Cooney Third Parties and the Management of Conflict. Senechal de la Roche, Roberta The Civil Justice Process: A Sequential Model of the Mobilization of Law. Virginia Review of Sociology: Law and Conflict Management. Tucker, James and Susan Ross Donnelly and Murray A. Wong, Siu Kwong

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Chapter 8 : Frontiers | Pure Relationality as a Sociological Theory of Communication | Sociology

*Applied sociology is a term that describes practitioners who use sociological theories and methods outside of academic settings with the aim to 'produce positive social change through active intervention' (Bruhn 1).*

Chapter 9 : Pure and applied sociological theory : problems and issues (Book, ) [calendrierdelascience.com

*BASIC AND APPLIED SOCIOLOGICAL WORK types blend, combine, or fade away.<sup>2</sup> The significant factor about the continuum is the pull exerted at each pole. As in Figure 1, these extremes are best viewed as Weberian ideal types.*