



Instructions to the candidate:

- There are 10 Questions.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- You should download the question-and-answer booklet, take its print-out, attempt the questions and then scan the same using various mobile apps like Cam Scanner etc. on your mobile, Convert the file using these apps to PDF and upload.
- You will be able to upload the file from where you had downloaded the question-and-answer booklet.
- In case you face any difficulties, you can write to us at sleepy.classes@gmail.com.
- Those candidates who are not writing on the printed booklet are to leave margins on their answer sheet for comments.
- The above-said candidates are to then make their own evaluation sheet in the format stated below to be uploaded with the answer.
- Compulsory to name your PDF file in the following format (Student Complete Name_Test Number) e.g.: (Kriti Rathor_Mains Test-5)

Comments for the purpose of evaluation of Answer Writing:

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------|------|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Relevance to the question | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 |
| Structure of Answer | 11 | 11.5 | 6 | 6.5 | 5.5 | 4.5 |
| Content | Q7 | Q8 | Q9 | 10 | | |
| | 5 | 5 | 4 | 8 | | |
| Presentation (Neatness, charts, diagrams as required) | 74/150 | | | | | |

Sociology Mains Test Series

HLT 1 (Chapter 1 to 4)

Question 1. How did Intellectual currents of the Enlightenment era facilitated the genesis of sociology as a discipline? Discuss. (20 Marks)

Question 2. In light of the burgeoning significance of interdisciplinary paradigms, elucidate the interconnections between sociology and other social sciences. (20 Marks)

Question 3. Sociology focuses on the analysis of social interactions. How may one demarcate it from commonsensical knowledge? (10 Marks)

Question 4. Explain how qualitative and quantitative methods complement each other in sociological research. (20 Marks)

Question 5. How much is it right for sociologists to use the positivist approach to understand society? Explain with suitable examples. (10 Marks)

Question 6. How social hierarchy and exclusionary practices act as barrier to the societal transformation? Discuss (10 Marks)

Question 7. Explain the stages in the formation of gender identity using Mead's theory of symbolic interactionism. (10 Marks)

Question 8. For Marx, class divisions are outcomes of 'exploitation'. Discuss. (10 Marks)

Question 9. Discuss the importance of interpretive understanding in studying social phenomena and point out its limitations. (20 marks)

Question 10. How does reference group theory illuminate the process by which individuals adopt behaviors and styles promoted by social media personalities in modern society? (20 Marks)

(10 Marker Questions shall be answered in not more than 150 words

20 Marker Questions shall be answers in not more than 250 words)

Exceeding word limit is a problem with all your answers. You have knowledge about the topic but avoid over-spilling all you know in just one answer. You have word limit to follow

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Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
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Word Limit

11.5/20

Q1) How did intellectual currents of enlightenment (20) facilitate the genesis of sociology as a discipline?

Content: Relevant but Add critical analysis to all your answers.

Enlightenment or age of 'reason' was an intellectual wave in post dark era 17th century Europe

Erwin Ziteling states that sociology emerged out of the changes brought by enlightenment era

Intellectual currents

① Rationalism & Empiricism -

The works of Rousseau & Montesque on social contract and end of estate dominance.

② Humanism -

Lock's theory of natural rights and life, liberty, property.

e.g → solution for poverty, inequality

③ Secularism -

End of dominance of church

and writings of Voltaire on

equality of religion

Religious changes

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

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Rise of Socialism
Conditions of Labor

④ Scientific Temper -

From Plato and Galileo to scientific discoveries - empiricism became new target. e.g. Durkheim's positivism.

⑤ Utilitarianism -

with industrial revolution, ideas of Marx and Welfare resonated and added to the field of study.

T.B. Bottomore propounds the schema for intellectual factors leading to the formulation of a body of knowledge in search for answers.

Political writings of Montesquieu, Rousseau

Scientific Social Darwinism - Spencer

French revolution Liberty, Equality

Social Survey & empiricism

e.g. - Sinclair & F.H. Eden's survey on poverty.

Unanswered Questions?
Field of Study for Solutions

SOCIOLOGY

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These changes led to emergence of early days of the subject matter —

① Herbert Spencer's Social Darwinism and Saint Simon's ideas

② Comte's idea of social Physics and his work 'Positivist Philosophy'

Dynamics
Statics

③ Durkheim's addition of methods and structure of socio at the University of Bordeaux.

Hence sociology as

a body of knowledge involved to search for meanings of social ~~to~~ happenings and early focus on creating a 'science' out of it.

Given counter enlighten-
ment theories of De Bould & De Maistre helped create a dialectic for growth of the subject.

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Q.2. In light of burgeoning significance of inter-disciplinary paradigms, elucidate the interconnections between sociology and other social sciences.

(20)

Word limit

This topic has scope of alot of more sociological examples.

Interdisciplinary approach involves drawing insights from multiple fields to understand and represent complex phenomena.

Interconnections of sociology with other disciplines: —

① History —

GE Howard states that sociology is current history and history is part sociology.

e.g. → historians don't just want when Pyramids were made or when Stonehedges came — also its significance on life & people of that era.

② Economy —

Despite economy being a more nomothetic and exact field based on theories and empiricism —



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as Pierre Bourdieu states, true economist always considers externalities in his analysis.

e.g. → GDP is no longer growth indicator alone, economists focus on Gender & environment impacts

PESC → Nobel work 'Why nations fail?' is sociologic.

Industrial Sociology → Alfred Hirsch's world system theory is socio-economic.

3 Anthropology

The closest of all social sciences → socio borrowed ethnography, field studies and Participant observation from it.

e.g. → Margaret Mead's Samoa study
→ MN Srinivas' village studies

Social Darwinism → Radcliff Brown and Malinowski were socio-
ethnographers
of Arunta Tribe

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4) Psychology

Being study of the 'mind', it has given inputs to various sociological fields.

e.g. → Cooley's looking glass self theory

→ Delinquency and criminology studies

→ Analysis of suicide and Juvenile crimes

e.g. → Cicourel's study

5) Political Science

The study of nation, citizens and power relations enrich both fields.

e.g. → W. Mills's power elite theory

→ Plato's 'republic'

Kautilya's 'Arthshashtra'

& Cicero's 'De officiis' were

both political treatise and sociological commentaries.



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⑥ Philosophy

Being mother of social sciences,
it adds to wholistic explanation
in socio.

e.g. → Naxal Sociology is Marxist
philosophy.

Hence all these fields
with their divergence of method
and direction converge to
enrich social understanding.

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Q5. Sociology focuses on analysis of social interactions. How may one demarcate it from common sense? (10)

Durkheim defines sociology as the science of organized skepticism.

Alfred Schultzy defines common sense as naturalistic, routine, taken for granted knowledge.

Phenomenologists like Schultzy & Berger see no difference between the two.

The 2 can be demarcated as

| SOCIOLOGY | COMMON SENSE |
|---|--|
| <p>→ Build theory via <u>systematic</u> <u>skeptical</u> <u>methodology</u></p> <p>→ Change oriented and <u>dialectical</u> logic e.g. → <u>Robertson's</u> <u>labelling</u> theory</p> <p>→ Use <u>empirical</u> methods to build <u>cause-effect</u> relation e.g. → <u>suicide</u> as <u>social fact</u></p> <p>→ Via <u>trained</u> <u>investigator</u></p> | <p>→ Uses <u>conjecture</u> & <u>stereotype</u></p> <p>→ <u>Status Quoist</u> & <u>bias</u> re-enforcing e.g. → <u>Gendered</u> <u>DOL</u></p> <p>→ Based on <u>common</u> and <u>folk</u> knowledge e.g. → <u>'opposites attract'</u></p> <p>→ Based on <u>bias</u> & <u>judgment</u></p> |

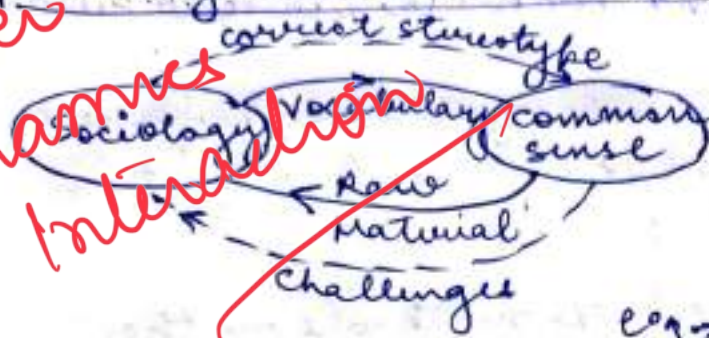
*Systematic
or
dialectical
methodology*

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Convergence and relation



① Common sense provides raw ideas for hypothesis testing.

e.g. → Giddens on marriage being risky

② Sociology corrects stereotypes of common sense.

e.g. → Gender roles reversed in Marquet Mead's Samoa study

③ Helps build cause-effect relation between daily happenings & theory

e.g. → Durkheim's / DOL theory

As Negel states 'daily happenings' also become sociological theory - interplay of socio and common sense helps us see in new light 'the way would we live in.'

Content: Relevant
And fulfills
demand of
question

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Q. 10

Explain how qualitative and quantitative methods complement each other in socio research? (10)

Quantitative methods of research focus on numeric, formal, empirical, objective and testable methods.

Qualitative methods on the other hand are textual, intuitive, intentional meaning, depending on investigator's skill.

Complementarity for socio research

① Theory building -

Durkheim's study on suicide used data but also secondary factors.

Circumel delinquency study used ethnography but also statistics.

② Hypothesis testing -

Quantitative results on marriage and gendered DOL where qualitatively rejected by feminists.

e.g. → Marquet Head's samsa study on gender roles.

③ Validity and Reliability -

Rechecking closeness to desired output and relevant theory needs both.

e.g. → Hammerly suggests Triangulation.

Facilitation & complementarity for reliable output.

Contextualization

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या को अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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④ Balancing value & objectivity -

As Weber suggests through Verstehen and Ideal types, socio must refrain from value commitment - aiming for value neutrality.

e.g. → Injustice, terror can't be only numbers but qualitative.

Ray Pawson suggests the methodological brawl is a 60s hangover. And Pluralistic, mixed methods such as content analysis, semi structured interview, Quasi-Participant observation being dynamism to the subject.

author context is significant -

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Q.5. How much is it right for sociologists to use the positivist approach to understand society? Explain with suitable examples. (10)

August Comte in his 'Positivist Philosophy' describes positivism as a method of searching for knowledge & basic laws of society via causal relationship.

Advantages to positivist approach

- ① Empiricism and Direct observation
e.g → Durkheim's 'Social Fact' were tools to understand man as a function of society.
- ② Building cause-effect relationship
e.g → Understanding religion, Division of labour, suicide in terms of reason and deduction.
- ③ Using scientific methods such as multi-variate analysis, correlation between facts improve reliability and validity free from values of the investigator.
- ④ Provide tools for theory building and reduced investigator bias.
e.g → Survey, Data analysis

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Criticism of the approach

(i) Social issues can not be a lab-controlled environment
e.g → Durkheim's suicide police data had flaws

(ii) Phenomenologists call the method to study universalism - human reactions equally important

(iii) Karl Popper says it kills creativity

(iv) Hausman states positivism treats man as mere 'cultural dopes' as facts don't fall from sky

(v) Wendell calls for subjective understanding

Despite the drawbacks, positivism had roots of critical thinking in sociology, free from ideological/church control

Neglect of power dynamics
limited scope for contextual understanding

Over emphasis on casualty

Segregation of content can be improved

Word Limit

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Q6
4.5/10

How social hierarchy and exclusionary practices act as barrier to societal transformation?

(10)

Hierarchy and exclusion in society are based on differential ranking and reward systems based on status or ascriptive factors.

Segregation of content

Barriers to social transformation

① Economic stratification

As Mark states, differential capital control leads to class polarization.
e.g. → 1% population own 10% wealth in India.

Hierarchy Exclusion

② Cultural hegemony -

Exclusion prevents cultural diffusion or what Pierre Bourdieu calls cultural capital.

e.g. → Caste based DOL in India

various dimension of Exclusion

③ Elite capture -

Hierarchy projects ascriptive over achievement, reducing inter and intra-generational mobility.

Political

Social

Economic

e.g. → Despite affirmative action of reservation there is elite capture in education Sachidanand



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④ Anomie and delinquency -

Differential rewards prevent upward mobility and change leading to negative impacts & vicious cycle.

e.g. → Oscar Lewis culture of poverty visible in slums.

⑤ Feminist perspective -

Patriarchal barriers prevent full participation of women in society and workforce.

e.g. → Karuna Ahmed depicts low paid and specific pink - collar jobs.

⑥ Low Equity -

If opportunity barrier is high, social mobility is restricted.

e.g. → Tribals struggle for basic health and education services.
→ Booth capturing in minority state

Societal transformation requires pre-emptive solution for caste, class, power based discrimination.

Critical analysis
missing

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Word Limit

Q7
S/10

Explain the stages in formation of gender identity using Mead's theory of symbolic interactionism. (10)

Mead in his work 'Mind, Self & Society' projects how our idea of self is developed based on significant symbols and through developmental process of socialization.

Stages in formation of gender identity

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|-----|--|
| Prepare play game | | | |
| I | II | | |
| 0-2 | 2-10 | 10+ | |

① At birth human babies have no self

② Stage - I (0-2 years) - Children learn to imitate reflexively.
e.g → Repeat movements/voice

② Stage - II (Play stage) :
Here the child learns by 'role-taking' the idea of 'discrete-others'.
e.g → Mother cooks - play cooking
Father goes to - play his office part.



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At this stage child develops only 'limited' self

③ Stage-III (Game stage) :

Here child interacts with multiple beings and roles forming 'Generalized others'

e.g. → Behaviour of female at home, female teacher at school

→ Now girls and boys interact differently in society

This leads to formation of coherent self - impacted & shaped by external agents

Hence the idea of gender norms, gendered Division of labour, differential treatment is learned by process of socialization

As Michele Rosaldo suggests that gender-norms are a social construct of a patriarchal society

It is hence the society which shapes our understanding of

Male
Female
Other-LGBTQ

Critical Analysis

• over emphasis on socialization

• standing of

Don't miss on conclusion. It's an integral part of UPSC answers.

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Q8. For Marx, class divisions are outcomes of 'exploitation'. Discuss. (10)

Word limit

Marx through his theory of Dialectic Materialism suggests that class division is a result of antagonism between the bourgeoisie & proletariat.

Class division outcome of exploitation



① Historically, Primitive and feudal societies had lower dialectics and less conflict.

labor theory of value

② In capitalist mode of production the relations and factors of production are dijoint due to unbalanced capital usurpation.

Subheading

③ The capitalist class gains benefit of surplus production becoming Bourgeoisie.

Class polarization

The workers lose control over their own labour - and through antagonistic cooperation never come out of proletarian situation.



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में प्रश्न संख्या को
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न लिखें।



This class polarization
is based on exploitation
of the worker - whose
labour becomes cheaper
than dead labour i.e. money.

⑤ The products that worker creates
become of exchange value beyond
their value with their own
existence - 'commodity fetters'

⑥ Only class consciousness and
struggle against exploitation via
Proletariat Dictatorship and then
Communism can end the dialectic.

Contemporary examples → cost and grievance of
blue collar workers
→ reduced bargaining
power [with unionism]
→ low wages

criticism → economic deterministic
theory
labour can be sold in
the market for self.
[Ken Roberts] no class
consciousness is occurring
[Beaureman] Managerial revolution
& HR system has reduced conflict

gig worker

Conclusion



20 marks = 250 words

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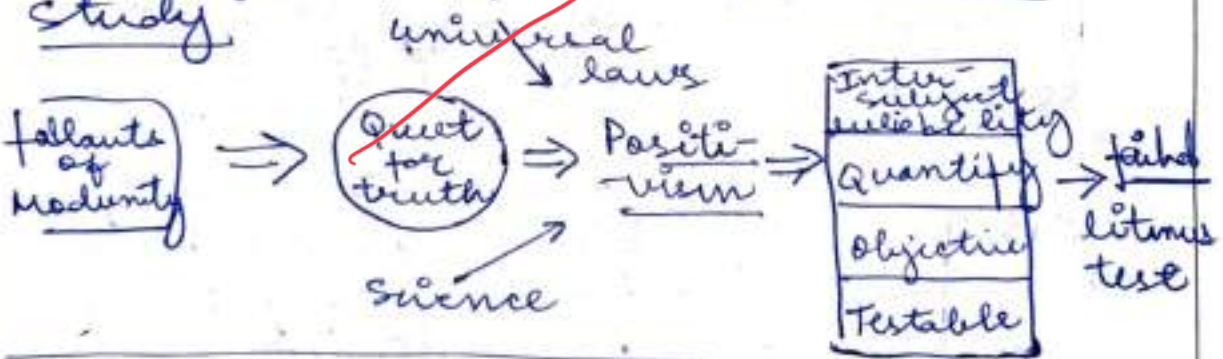
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Word Limit

Q9. Discuss the importance of interpretive understanding in studying social phenomenon & point out its limitations. (20)

Limitations can add more significant content. The interpretive understanding of social realities is based on internal process, focussing on subjectivity and qualitative intupetatione.

It began as a reaction to the failures of strict empirical and objective focused positivist study.



Significance in studying social phenomenon

1) Alber was the first to bring in interpretivism method as a hermeneutic device to measure human actions and interactions.

e.g. → Verstehen and ideal-types focus on value relevance



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② Phenomenologists such as Peter Berger and Schulz stressed on observing phenomenon — via lived experience, and no reality exists beyond subjectivity.
e.g. → Aron Cicourel's delinquency study
Holmes study of nurses

③ Symbolic interactionism added dynamism to social study via 'significant symbols' and role of drawing meaning from human interaction.
e.g. → Mead's theory of self.
Erwin Goffman's Dramaturgy
Arlie Hochschild's study on emotional commodification

Keywords
Holistic perspective

④ Garfinkel's ethnomethodology moved beyond treating humans as mere cultural clones.
e.g. → significance of conversational analysis, semiotics, and reality created in talk.

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These methods made study of Socio-
Qualitative and enriched it with
'life-world' perspectives beyond
mechanistic theories. e.g. → Interviews,
Observation,
Content analysis

Criticism

① Methods such as Verstehen and
use of ethnography have weak
results and include biases.

② Alvesson calls interpretivism too
detached to create a body of
knowledge.

③ Challenge of narrow, messy and
un-reliable results.

④ Lack of consideration of external
factors. e.g. → why do people
behave a certain way in society?

Ray Pawson and

Alan Bryman call for methodological
pluralism of both positivist and
interpretive methods.



Word limit exceeded

Conclusion

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Money

Attempt usage

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Q.100 How does reference group theory illuminate the process by which individuals adopt behaviours & styles promoted by mass persons in modern society?

of keywords from such lengthy sentences

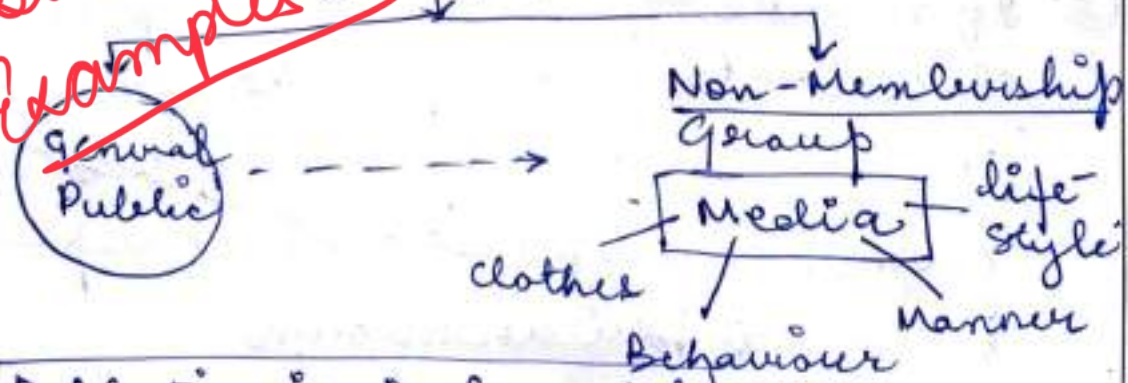
18 (19)

Robert Merton in his 'Contributions to the theory of reference group behaviour' described how individuals make comparison evaluating their own self on the basis of status, role, aspiration with other groups.

Types of Reference group

In the modern world built on marketing and consumerism, media personalities act as the desired reference group for individuals.

Tabulate examples



Reflection in Real world

① Since general public is not part of the media circle - he/she



feels a sense of 'relative deprivation'
and carries out 'Anticipatory
socialization' to ~~try to become part~~
of the group.

e.g. → Getting same haircut

→ Going to similar vacations as
a media-star

→ Posting pictures of the 'socialization'
on internet

② This depicts Thorstein Veblen's
idea of conspicuous consumption

e.g. → Buying 'brand' bags is not
of 'use' value but 'status'
value.

③ If nature of reference group is
closed — the man ~~feels~~ he becomes
'marginal' and ~~feels~~ accepted
neither in aspirational group —
becoming pariah in own
membership group.

e.g. → Being teased by peers for
trying to copy someone.

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को
कृपया हस्तिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए।
Candidates
must not
write on this
margin

④ As a result, the person fails to accomplish establishing 'new-identity' or mobility.

⑤ This leads to anomie and negative self assessment.

e.g. → Coolidge's looking glass self theory of how our self image is determined by others.

⑥ Contemporary examples of such 'marginal man' is increasing cases of social media aided depression, 'brand' valuation and 'image-creation'.

e.g. → Suicide over loss of followers on Instagram.

→ Extremely costly 'bags' created of jute - demand due to 'brand'.

Criticism → Not just reference group but capitalist power structures also play role - Ch W Mills

Spiritual, non-conformists like Yogis, etc. have no such material attachment.

Dysfunctional consequences
Alienation
Anomie

Social Anxiety

Conclusion