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Chapter Two: The Duality of Social Life: Order and Conflict

Multiple Choice Questions

TB Q2.1.1

One of the characteristics of societies is that they are composed of parts. This is known as

- a. segmentation.
- b. partition.
- c. social organization.
- d. cultural relativism.

Answer: a. segmentation

Source ID: 1.0.1.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.1.2

The _____ model refers to the model of society in which the different parts cooperate because of similar or complementary interests.

- a. conflict
- b. cooperation
- c. order
- d. commonality

Answer: c. order

Source ID: 1.0.2

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.1.3

According to the _____ model, the basic relationships that formed in Sherif's summer camp experiment were based on competition, domination, and subordination.

- a. divergence
- b. conflict
- c. oppositional
- d. order

Answer: b. conflict

Source ID: 1.0.3

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.1.4

According to Durkheim, sending a criminal to prison with the intention of punishing the crime and deterring future crimes is an example of

- a. manifest consequences.
- b. latent consequences.
- c. manifest destiny.
- d. latent destiny.

Answer: a. manifest consequences

Source ID: 1.0.4

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.1.5

What is defined as the "unintended consequences of rules, norms, activities, and social structures"?

- a. False consciousness
- b. Consequence polarization
- c. Functional integration
- d. Latent consequences

Answer: d. Latent consequences

Source ID: 1.0.5

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.1.6

Sociologists who use the order model, also called _____, ask fundamental questions about what holds societies together.

- a. integrative culture model
- b. structural functionalism
- c. ethical function model
- d. social imperatives

Answer: b. structural functionalism

Source ID: 1.0.6

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.1.7

Which term describes the theories of Karl Marx, who said that in every society there is a dynamic tension between those who own the means of production and those who work for them?

- a. Conflict theory
- b. Capitalism
- c. Order theory
- d. Structural functionalism

Answer: a. Conflict theory

Source ID: 1.0.7

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.1.8

Sociologists agree that sport is a mechanism for getting youth to follow orders, work hard, and fit into a social system. Which model argues that this is not necessarily a good thing?

- a. Order theorists
- b. Structural functionalists
- c. Conflict theorists
- d. Synthesis approach

Answer: c. Conflict theorists

Source ID: 1.0.8

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.1.9

A conflict theorist would say, "Sport inhibits the potential for protest and revolution by society's have-nots." Which of the following would NOT support that statement?

- a. If a person fails, it is his or her fault and not that of the system.
- b. Sport as entertainment diverts attention away from the harsh realities of poverty, unemployment, and dismal life chances.
- c. Only an extremely small percentage of aspiring athletes ever achieve professional status.
- d. Sport promotes individual achievement, quick thinking, and physical strength.

Answer: d. Sport promotes individual achievement, quick thinking, and physical strength.

Source ID: 1.0.9

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Difficult Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.1.10

The first assumption of a synthesis approach to understanding order and conflict in society notes an essential paradox, which is that

- a. societies are always ordered, yet are always changing.
- b. the means of production depends on those who own them.
- c. institutions try to change even though it is their nature to remain the same.
- d. stability and change cannot both exist within a given society.

Answer: a. societies are always ordered, yet are always changing.

Source ID: 1.0.10

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.1.11

The second assumption of a synthesis approach is that societies are organized, but the process of organization generates conflict. This is because

- a. scarce resources can be equally distributed but those in power control allocation decisions in their own favor.
- b. scarce resources can never be equally distributed, and those who have power end up making the allocation decisions.
- c. those without power always envy those with power, and thus create conflict to level the playing field.
- d. those without power control the means of production and allocation of resources, but lack the intelligence to distribute resources equitably.

Answer: b. scarce resources can never be equally distributed, and those who have power end up making the allocation decisions.

Source ID: 1.0.11

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Difficult Skill Level: Analyze It

TB_Q2.1.12

The third assumption of the synthesis model explains that society is made up of different but interdependent parts that affect each other, creating a structure called a

- a. social order/disorder paradox.
- b. societal paradigm.
- c. social system.
- d. social boundary structure.

Answer: c. social system.

Source ID: 1.0.12

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.1.13

The fourth assumption in the synthesis model is that societies are held together by complementary interests, by consensus on cultural values, and by

- a. democracy.
- b. folkways.
- c. consensus.
- d. coercion.

Answer: d. coercion.

Source ID: 1.0.13

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.1.14

According to the fifth assumption of the synthesis model, ____ is a ubiquitous phenomenon in all societies, whether it is gradual or abrupt.

- a. revolution
- b. order
- c. social change
- d. consensus

Answer: c. social change

Source ID: 1.0.14

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.2.15

Written and unwritten rules develop in a society so that different segments can cooperate with each other. This demonstrates a phenomenon noted by Durkheim known as

- a. functional integration.
- b. structural functionalism.
- c. the order/conflict paradox.
- d. integral functionalism.

Answer: a. functional integration.

Source ID: 1.0.15

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.2.16

According to ______, the social cooperation required to bring together all the elements that make up a pencil is a complex system of order that "emerges without anyone imposing it."

- a. Durkheim
- b. Will
- c. Marx
- d. Rogers

Answer: b. Will

Source ID: 1.0.16

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.2.17

According to Wright and Rogers, most people in U.S. society affirm which set of five values?

- a. Freedom, volunteerism, fairness, democracy, efficacy
- b. Prosperity, property, democracy, freedom, health
- c. Freedom, prosperity, efficiency, fairness, democracy
- d. Property, freedom, strength, efficiency, patriotism

Answer: c. Freedom, prosperity, efficiency, fairness, democracy

Source ID: 1.0.17

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.2.18

Which of the five values that sociologists Wright and Rogers note among most members of U.S. society is expressed by the Supreme Court's decision that stated defiling the U.S. flag is not a crime?

- a. Fairness
- b. Freedom
- c. Democracy
- d. Efficiency

Answer: b. Freedom

Source ID: 1.0.18

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.2.19

What is demonstrated by people in the United States taking for granted such practices as obeying traffic lights, using credit, and accepting checks instead of currency?

- a. Social order
- b. Democracy
- c. Freedom
- d. Fairness

Answer: a. Social order

Source ID: 1.0.19

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.2.20

_____ organizations that bring together people from differing backgrounds to interact allow members to join in a common cause.

- a. Heterogeneous
- b. Homogeneous
- c. Restricted
- d. Exclusive

Answer: a. Heterogeneous

Source ID: 1.0.20

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.2.21

A country club that restricts its membership to include only WASPs and excludes African-Americans and Jewish people is founded on

- a. heterogeneous principles.
- b. democratic freedom of association.
- c. exclusiveness and feelings of superiority.
- d. inclusiveness and superiority.

Answer: c. exclusiveness and feelings of superiority.

Source ID: 1.0.21

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB Q2.2.22

A society is unified by a national event such as a war only if the threat

- a. affects only the most powerful members of society.
- b. happened recently.
- c. is perceived as real.
- d. is perceived as having a foreseeable end.

Answer: c. is perceived as real.

Source ID: 1.0.22

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.2.23

Which of the following represents the attitude of order theorists toward television and the mass media?

- a. Violent video games cause general moral deterioration.
- b. Television suppresses creativity.
- c. The media break down social interaction among young people.
- d. The media reinforce the values and norms of society.

Answer: d. The media reinforce the values and norms of society.

Source ID: 1.0.23

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.2.24

The repeal of the military rule known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" by Congress in 2011 illustrates the concept of

- a. planned integration.
- b. separate but equal.
- c. societal segmentation.
- d. forced interaction.

Answer: a. planned integration

Source ID: 1.0.24

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB Q2.2.25

When a high official, such as the U.S. president, appoints a member of a dissident group to a policy-making body in order to appearse that group, the official is using a technique called

- a. cooperation.
- b. co-optation.
- c. reverse psychology.
- d. moral authority.

Answer: b. co-optation.

Source ID: 1.0.25

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB_Q2.2.26

Which of the following is NOT one of the ways that public officials use their power to integrate the parts of society?

- a. Passing laws to eliminate barriers among groups
- b. Working to solve the problems that segment the society
- c. Providing mediators to help negotiate settlements between such feuding groups as management and labor
- d. Using the media to foster distrust between the middle class and the poor

Answer: d. Using the media to foster distrust between the middle class and the poor

Source ID: 1.0.26

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.2.27

Many people in the United States who have few material blessings still see themselves as "could-be haves" rather than "have nots," which Marx would have identified as

- a. false consciousness.
- b. class consciousness.
- c. bootstrapping.
- d. wishful thinking.

Answer: a. false consciousness.

Source ID: 1.0.27

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.2.28

Who developed the theory of false consciousness, the idea that oppressed people hold beliefs damaging to their interests?

- a. George Will
- b. Karl Marx
- c. Carl Jung
- d. Joel Rogers

Answer: b. Karl Marx

Source ID: 1.0.28

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.2.29

Items such as the national flag and the Constitution are held in high esteem because they are

- a. products of dissidence.
- b. symbols of privilege.
- c. unifying symbols.
- d. civic pride objects.

Answer: c. unifying symbols.

Source ID: 1.0.29

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.3.30

Which of the following is NOT identified in the chapter as an indicator of reduced societal cohesion?

- a. Increasing polarization
- b. Declining trust in societal institutions
- c. Diminishing inequality gap
- d. Deepening divides over diversity

Answer: c. Diminishing inequality gap

Source ID: 1.0.30

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.3.31

In the past, discourse between Republicans and Democrats was _____, although they held opposing beliefs. Today this has become increasingly rare.

a. hostile

- b. secretive
- c. demonizing
- d. civil

Answer: d. civil

Source ID: 1.0.31

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.3.32

The tendency for people to take extreme positions in the direction they were already inclined due to group membership is known as

- a. social identification.
- b. false consciousness.
- c. group polarization.
- d. social unity.

Answer: c. group polarization.

Source ID: 1.0.32

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.3.33

What is threatened when events such as fraudulent business practices or scandals in religious groups come to light?

- a. Personal freedom
- b. Trust in social institutions
- c. Second Amendment
- d. First Amendment

Answer: b. Trust in social institutions

Source ID: 1.0.33

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.3.34

According to critics such as Michael Parenti, the child molestation scandal in the Catholic Church threatens trust of societal institutions because

- a. it reveals not only the acts of flawed individuals but the self-serving corruption of a religious organization.
- b. religious freedom protects churches from being investigated by the government.
- c. it exposes financial fraud that left homeowners in bankruptcy.
- d. it exposes the limits of individual freedom to support social institutions.

Answer: a. it reveals not only the acts of flawed individuals but the self-serving corruption of a religious organization.

Source ID: 1.0.34

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB Q2.3.35

In 2013, the top 20% of U.S. households owned of the national income.

a. 3.4%

b. 20%

c. 50%

d. 99%

Answer: c. 50%

Source ID: 1.0.35

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB_Q2.2.36

As of 2013, the richest 1% of U.S. households owned the combined wealth of the bottom 90%.

- a. less than half as much as
- b. almost as much as
- c. an amount equal to
- d. more than

Answer: d. more than

Source ID: 1.0.36

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.3.37

The earnings gap between the top 5% of earners and the bottom 20%, as measured by the U.S. Census Bureau, is now

- a. the greatest since 1947.
- b. equal to the gap during the Great Depression.
- c. the smallest in the history of the nation.
- d. greater than in the 1950s but smaller than the 1990s.

Answer: a. the greatest since 1947.

Source ID: 1.0.37

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.3.38

What did former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich say posed "the largest single threat to our strength as a society"?

- a. Global terrorism
- b. Widening split between the have-mores and have-lessers
- c. Loss of faith in religious institutions
- d. Loss of faith in government to solve problems

Answer: b. Widening split between the have-mores and have-lessers

Source ID: 1.0.38

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.3.39

Contrary to the idea of the United States as a "melting pot," the different groups in the United States continue to remain separate, which may make inevitable.

- a. conflict
- b. assimilation
- c. social cohesion
- d. co-optation

Answer: a. conflict

Source ID: 1.0.39

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.3.40

The violence and terrorism that have affected three states in India (Punjab, Kashmire, and Gujarat) over the years are all examples of ______ violence, one of the many types of violence that affect this region.

- a. political
- b. linguistic
- c. religious
- d. caste

Answer: c. religious

Source ID: 1.0.40

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.3.41

Which of the following is an example of societal fragmentation along racial lines taking place in the United States?

- a. Dominance of the National Congress party
- b. State borders redrawn along linguistic lines
- c. High costs of in-state college tuition
- d. "White flight" from high-immigration areas

Answer: d. "White flight" from high-immigration areas

Source ID: 1.0.41

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB_Q2.3.42

In 2010, 47.3% of hate crimes reported to the FBI involved

- a. religion.
- b. race.
- c. sexual orientation.
- d. linguistic bias.

Answer: b. race

Source ID: 1.0.42

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Moderate Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.4.43

While the order perspective assumes that the social structure is basically right and proper because it serves the fundamental function of maintaining society, the conflict perspective raises the question of

- a. whether social class outweighs social integrity.
- b. personal responsibility.
- c. who benefits under these arrangements and who does not.
- d. how to maintain the current rules and customs.

Answer: bc. who benefits under these arrangements and who does not.

Source ID: 1.0.43

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB Q2.4.44

are societally induced conditions that harm any segment of the population, or acts or conditions that violate the norms and values of society.

- a. Manifest consequences
- b. Latent consequences
- c. Structural functionalisms
- d. Social problems

Answer: d. Social problems

Source ID: 1.0.44

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB Q2.4.45

The _____ model for understanding society contains an implicit acceptance of the status quo.

- a. order
- b. conflict
- c. synthesis
- d. synthetic

Answer: a. order

Source ID: 1.0.45

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.4.46

Conflicts that arise between people based on race and gender inequality, poverty and homelessness, and discrimination can all be considered problems.

- a. deviance
- b. partisan
- c. social
- d. caste

Answer: c. social

Source ID: 1.0.46

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.4.47

When considering social problems, the order perspective focuses on _____, those who somehow do not conform to the standards of the dominant group.

- a. conformists
- b. groups
- c. systems
- d. deviants

Answer: d. deviants

Source ID: 1.0.47

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Easy

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

TB_Q2.4.48

Conflict theorists disagree with order theorists' focus on deviants, saying it

- a. is blaming the victim.
- b. prevents criminals from making restitution.
- c. unfairly targets society's institutions.
- d. does not address the problems caused by noncomforists.

Answer: a. is blaming the victim.

Source ID: 1.0.48

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

TB Q2.4.49

To conflict theorists, _____ is the primary source of social problems, not _____, and therefore should be reformed.

- a. the individual; the system
- b. the system; the individual
- c. the political system; religion
- d. religion; the political system

Answer: b. the system; the individual

Source ID: 1.0.49

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB_Q2.4.50

Sociologists study societies rather than individuals, therefore they tend to believe that

- a. social problems come from social systems.
- b. individuals have a negative effect on social systems.
- c. societies would be improved by individuals taking more personal responsibility for what happens to them.
- d. social problems are too deeply entrenched to ever be solved.

Answer: a. social problems come from social systems.

Source ID: 1.0.50

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Essay Questions

TB Q2.1.51

The effort to unionize football players at Northwestern University is an example of the conflict model in action. Discuss the ways that sport inhibits the potential for protest and revolution by society's have-nots.

Feedback:Sport inhibits the potential for protest and revolution by society's have-nots in three ways: (1) Sport validates the prevailing myths of capitalism, such as anyone can succeed if he or she works hard enough. If a person fails, it is his or her fault and not that of the system. (2) Sport as entertainment diverts attention away from the harsh realities of poverty, unemployment, and dismal life chances. (3) Sport gives false hope to oppressed members of society, because they see sport as a realistic avenue of upward social mobility. The high visibility of wealthy athletes provides proof that athletic ability translates into monetary success. The reality, of course, is that only an extremely small percentage of aspiring athletes ever achieve professional status.

Source ID: 3.0.1.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1: Compare and contrast the order and conflict models of social systems.

Topic/Concept: Social Systems: Order and Conflict

Difficulty Level: Difficult Skill Level: Analyze It

TB_Q2.2.52

Discuss the phenomenon of functional integration, its purpose, and how it emerges.

Feedback:Functional integration is the unity among different elements of society resulting from a specialized division of labor. In a highly differentiated society such as the United States, with its specialized division of labor, interaction among different segments occurs with some regularity. Interdependence often results because no group is entirely self-sufficient. Written and unwritten rules emerge to govern these relationships, usually leading to cooperation rather than either isolation or conflict and to linkages between different (and potentially conflicting) groups.

Source ID: 3.0.2.

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Difficult Skill Level: Analyze It

TB Q2.2.53

Discuss the ways in which consensus toward values functions to unify a society.

Feedback:Order theorists assume that commonly held values are like social glue binding otherwise diverse people in a cohesive societal unit. Unlike functional integration, unity is achieved here through similarity rather than through difference. Wright and Rogers identified common values among most people in the United States such as freedom, prosperity, efficiency, fairness, and democracy. People in the United States also demonstrate consensus in attitudes toward unifying symbols such as the flag and the Constitution.

Source ID: 3.0.3.

Learning Objective: LO 2.2: Provide examples to demonstrate the integrative forces in society that maintain order.

Topic/Concept: The Integrative Forces in Society

Difficulty Level: Difficult Skill Level: Analyze It

TB_Q2.3.54

Describe some of the ways that society is fragmented in the United States. Discuss types of fragmentation, as well as causes and effects that are discussed in the chapter.

Feedback: The chapter addresses four indicators of reduced societal cohesion: increasing polarization, declining trust in societal institutions, the widening inequality gap, and the deepening divides over diversity. Group polarization is caused in part by the increased number of media outlets available, which allow people to limit their exposure to only their own point of view. Events such as fraud and deceptive advertising on the part of businesses, inadequate government oversight and protection, and scandals in religious institutions have left people cynical and mistrustful of institutions. There is a widening gap between the rich and poor, which now encompasses the middle class. The nation is growing, and growing more diverse, but assimilation is unlikely, which makes conflict more likely.

Source ID: 3.0.4.

Learning Objective: LO 2.3: Provide examples to demonstrate the divides in society that lead to conflict.

Topic/Concept: The Fragmentation of Social Life: Deepening Divides in U.S. Society

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

TB_Q2.4.55

Discuss the fundamental differences between social theories of order and conflict. Is there a middle ground to be found between the two?

Feedback: The order model (functionalism or structural functionalism) describes society as ordered, stable, and harmonious, with a high degree of cooperation and consensus. Change is gradual and reforming. All parts of society are interdependent, which creates order and stability. The order model focuses on the functions and consequences of social structures and activities. Conflict model theorists view society as competitive, fragmented, and unstable. Social integration is minimal and tenuous. Social change, which can be revolutionary, results from clashes among conflicting groups. From this perspective, people are in competition for power and resources, and those with power take advantage of the powerless. The order and conflict models present extreme views of society. Taken alone, each fosters a faulty perception and interpretation of society. A realistic model of society combines the strengths of both models.

Source ID: 1.0.55

Learning Objective: LO 2.4: Analyze a social problem from the order and conflict perspectives.

Topic/Concept: Order, Conflict, and Social Problems

Difficulty Level: Difficult Skill Level: Analyze It