**OBAS 113 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**

**1. Discuss the emergence of sociology as a distinct discipline. Highlight the factors that led to its development and how Auguste Comte contributed to the foundation of sociology.**

Sociology emerged as a distinct academic discipline in the 19th century, shaped by profound social, economic, and intellectual transformations in Europe. These changes challenged traditional ways of thinking about society and necessitated a systematic study of human behavior, social structures, and relationships. Auguste Comte, often regarded as the "Father of Sociology," played a pivotal role in formalizing sociology as a scientific discipline.

**Factors Leading to the Development of Sociology**

1. **The Industrial Revolution:** The Industrial Revolution brought about significant economic and social changes, including urbanization, factory-based economies, and shifts in labor systems. Traditional rural lifestyles were replaced by complex urban s

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**2. Critically evaluate the differences between Conflict Theory and Functionalism as sociological perspectives. How do these theories explain the structure and dynamics of society?**

Conflict Theory and Functionalism are two fundamental sociological perspectives that offer contrasting views on the structure and dynamics of society. While Functionalism emphasizes harmony, stability, and the interdependence of societal components, Conflict Theory focuses on power struggles, inequality, and social change driven by conflict.

**Functionalism: Harmony and Stability**

Functionalism views society as a system of interconnected parts, each contributing to its overall stability and functioning. This perspective, influenced by Emile Durkheim and Talcott Parsons, assumes that societal institutions and practices serve specific functions that promote social

**3. Explain the role of social groups in society. Compare the characteristics of primary and secondary groups, providing examples of how each type of group influences individual behavior and social relationships.**

Social groups are fundamental to the organization and functioning of society. They consist of individuals who interact regularly and share a sense of identity and purpose. Social groups influence individual behavior, social relationships, and societal structures by shaping norms, values, roles, and interactions. Sociologists classify these groups into two main types: primary and secondary groups, each playing a distinct role in an individual’s socialization and experience.

**Role of Social Groups in Society**

1. **Socialization:** Social groups are primary agents of socialization, teaching individuals norms, values, and behaviors necessary for participating in society. Families, peer

**4. Discuss the significance of social institutions in maintaining social order. Choose any two institutions (e.g., family and religion) and explain their role in shaping societal norms and behaviors.**

Social institutions are structured systems of norms, values, and practices that govern the behavior of individuals within a society. They play a crucial role in maintaining social order by organizing human activity, establishing norms, and ensuring the continuity of societal functions. Among the most influential social institutions are the family and religion, which significantly shape societal norms and behaviors.

**Role of Social Institutions in Social Order**

Social institutions provide a framework for individuals to interact harmoniously and fulfill their roles within society. They regulate behavior through established norms and laws, ensuring

**5. Explain the four basic forms of social stratification—slavery, estate, class, and caste. Provide examples of how these forms of stratification have shaped societal hierarchies in both historical and contemporary contexts.**

Social stratification refers to the hierarchical arrangement of individuals in society based on factors such as wealth, power, and social status. It determines access to resources, opportunities, and privileges, influencing life chances and social mobility. The four basic forms of stratification—slavery, estate, class, and caste—have historically structured societies and continue to shape social hierarchies in various ways.

**1. Slavery: The Most Extreme Form of Stratification**

**Definition:**  
Slavery is a system in which individuals are legally owned as property by others and are

**6. Analyze the causes and consequences of youth unrest as a social problem. How do different types of youth agitation manifest, and what are their long-term impacts on society?**

Youth unrest is a significant social problem characterized by dissatisfaction, frustration, and rebellion among young people against societal structures, policies, or conditions. It often stems from economic, political, social, and psychological factors and manifests in various forms, including protests, strikes, and even violent movements. While youth agitation can drive progressive change, it also poses challenges to societal stability.

**Causes of Youth Unrest**

1. **Economic Factors:**
   * **Unemployment:** High unemployment rates among youth lead to frustration and feelings of marginalization.
   * **Economic Inequality:** Disparities in wealth and access to resources exacerbate discontent, especially in developing nations.
2. **Political Factors:**
   * **Corruption and Governance Issues:** Lack of transparency, nepotism, and