**IQRA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES**

**Mid-Term Assignment**

**Course Title: SOCIOLOGY (DPT & HND 2nd) Instructor: Mr. Shahzad Anwar**

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**Max Marks: 30 Time: 48 hours**

**Name: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….**

**Note:**

* **Attempt all questions from this section, all questions carry equal marks.**
* **Answer Briefly and to the point, avoid un-necessary details**
1. What is the importance of historical context in understanding a society? (10 marks)

 ANSWER: **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

 Historical context deals with details that surround an occurrence. In an explainable way, historical context refers to the social, religious, economic, global and political conditions that existed during a certain period in past. Basically, it’s all the details of the period in which situation occurred, and those details are what enables us to study and learn from, so that future can be improved upon.

It helps the society to think critically about their present situation and to take decision for everyone’s future. Understanding history helps us avoid repeating the same mistakes every now and then.

 If we want to know how and why our world is how it is today, we have to look upon our

 History for the answers we need.

* By learning more about it we can study the success and failures of past and may be able to take measures about our future.
* Keeping in mind historical perspectives allows us to know the differences between us in present and those in past.
* If we dig deep into history it will make more sense of current world and situations to us.
* One can also understand why some rules exist in modern world.
* For example, we can understand why the social welfare programs are given importance in day to day life.
* In the history health awareness was not given much importance. On the contrary healthcare services are given much priority in today life.

**HISTORY CONTEXT IN UNDERSTANDING A SOCIETY:**

* History helps us understand people and societies.
* History offers us vast amount of information about people and societies behavior. Relying on current data can cause hindrance in our efforts, so the historical context is important to understand the current situation.
* Example, as our nation is at peace we can evaluate war and can take measures to prevent war by keeping in mind the historical materials.
* There were many disadvantages of technology in history, keeping in view those drawbacks the societies can innovate beneficial technologies to ease everyday life.
* If a person is in depression, the psychologist scrutinizes his history to have the knowledge if the person had gone through any trauma or incident, being aware with his history the psychologist can assist him and prescribe medications.
* To understand the conditions of the societies historical contexts should be given a thought.

 These are the reasons why we cannot neglect historical context as it provides the only evidence for inspecting and observing about how the societies function. People should keep in mind how societies function to make their everyday life better and at ease.

Only by studying history we can get a hold of how things vary. Only by studying history we can get to know the factors that cause change. History helps us to understand what elements of society continue to exist despite of the changes.

Historical context is also used by scholars and educators to analyze works of art, music etc.

To design new buildings, architects use historical contexts. We cannot understand the impact of time and place in the current situation without historical context.

1. According to conflict approach of sociological perspective, which problems are people facing during this “Lockdown” situation? (10 marks)

ANSWER:

 **CONFLICT APPROACH:**

Karl Marx was a sociologist who proposed conflict theory.

* According to him some groups have power, some have resources and some groups do not have both in society.
* These groups are competing for these resources and power.
* A conflict arises between them because of unequal distribution of resources.
* Some people are rich some are poor, so due to this situation conflict arises.
* Karl Marx suggested that due to this conflict society cannot function well because most of the people don’t get opportunities.
* The rich people in society misuse their power and resources and try to change the rules which affect the other group of society and that society cannot function properly.
* The concept is developed in society that the rich earn power and resources through hard work and education while poor are not successful because they lack education and capabilities. Different groups experience different access to health care services, people of different class, gender and race access to health care services.

**LOCKDOWN SITUATION:**

Lockdown has had a profound effect on social life, because of this economic life and way of living has been affected. Lockdown has caused emotional and mental stress in people. Those who are economically poor and those who do not have access to wealth and livelihood are suffering from anxiety and mental illness. People’s social status has a great influence on their physical health and their ability to get sufficient medical care and nutrition. Most countries are also affected without confirmed cases. Unaffected people and cities are confined to home due to lockdown. Lockdown has created social anxiety around the world. Panic has spread among a person which is spreading false rumors in society. It is true that care must be taken in disease. But because of lockdown people who are confined to home only believe in false rumors from outside and become mentally paralyzed. Lockdown has caused a sense of dismay among younger generation.

PROBLEMS IN LOCKDOWN:

Some problems that people are facing during lockdown are:

* Sudden shutdown of businesses has affected millions of people’s lives. Low income families are severely affected by the economic fallout. People who earn money in wages are facing a lot of difficulty. Due to this fallout, people are facing issues in their daily activities. Prices of various items have fallen which is affecting economy and people are in high risk of getting unemployed.
* The outbreak of corona virus has caused lockdown due to which domestic violence in women and children has increased. Lockdown has increases threat to women and children.
* Due to this current lockdown, access to resources has become a challenge for parents. Parents with time will reach a breaking point due to stress to fulfill their family necessities.
* Psychological effects due to lockdown include stress symptoms, anger, frustration, fears, boredom, inadequate supplies and financial loss. People who had a history of mental illness are experiencing more anxiety and anger due to the situation of lockdown. The increased reduction of social and physical contacts with others and loss of daily routine has caused high rate of stress amongst the people.
* People are afraid to catch the disease due to which they are avoiding work this is where doctors and nurses come in action who are in the first line to battle against the pandemic, who risks their lives to ensure the health and safety of patients around the world. Treating the infected patients bring a great threat to doctors and nurses of getting infected. They also have to keep distance from their families to avoid them getting infected by the disease.
* Schools have been shutdown to protect students from the danger of getting infected. This has highly impacted the education of students. The severe short term disruption is affecting students and families worldwide. Home schooling is not only a shock to parents productivity, but also to students social life and learning abilities. Many assessments have been cancelled due to lockdown, these interruptions will not just be a short term issue, but can also have long term effects on students education. While home schooling will surely provide help in education to students, it seems very unlikely that it will replace the learning loss from school.
* Students can’t take online classes due to many issues including poor net connection.

* Rich people can stay in home in lockdown because they have enough money to fulfill their needs but the poor does not have access to wealth or livelihood so they are suffering due to anxiety and mental illness.
* Country’s trade has also been affected due to this lockdown. Importing and exporting of goods is decreased because of which needs of people are not fulfilled.
* Lockdown affects country’s economy. Factories and industries are shut down. Importing and exporting has stopped which is affecting the economy badly.
* Other than all these problems, one of the main problem nowadays is inflation. The prices of many things have become higher. Thus the rich people can afford buying these things but the poor remains helpless.
* Airports are also closed and flights are also cancelled.
1. Nowadays, social media is the most influential agent of socialization. Explain why? (10 marks)

ANSWER:

**SOCIAL MEDIA AS INFLUENTIAL AGENT OF SOCIALIZATION**

Socialization is a process by which culture is passed on from generation to generation and people learn the norms and traditions of the society from where they belong. Social media has proved to be one of the most influential agent of socialization.

In this century social media has become an important aspect in the growth of society as a result social media have become one of the most effective factor of socialization. Social media provides communication to the larger audience. Due to the vast network of social media individuals learn more from the mass media as compared to their families and peer groups. The social media has variety of forms for example radio, television, books and magazines as well as internet. Since social media has greater effects on our behavior, it has become an important factor of socialization.

Social media interacts with the generations in two different ways. In childhood, socialization occurs through television and computers, whereas in youth it occurs through various media such as internet for searching and working purposes, mobile phones for communication etc. Nowadays is evolving gradually and provides access to larger media content.

Social media reflects the behavior of individuals within a society. People can form their own beliefs and can choose realities by the help of social media. People associate to whatever they see or hear through social media. Social media provides information about what is relevant and deserves more attention. People are easily shaped by whatever they are exposed to by spending more time with social media.

Television is an important means of communication in social media. Social media provides information and messages that influence an individual to a greater extent. Television is a main source that is socializing children over a past few decades. Nowadays children spend most of their time watching television then in school. Television influences the children and affects their mental and social development. Children learn about many issues from newscast and dramas like kidnapping, homeless and health awareness.

Moreover communication media encourages individuals to support the existing norms and values or to change them. Communication media is a social power that influences us with their messages.

Nowadays television shows and movies influence culture by portraying life that dictates reality. Watching television, hearing radio and reading from internet is increasing day by day due to modern advancements. Nowadays people use social media more often and most of the time is given to entertainment.

Television also has a positive side. It provides entertainment, education and information for children. Parents should control and suggest content that children watch. If this matter is not given attention it can be harmful for their children. Television cannot make people smarter, but even more rude. But it can affect their behavior, positively or negatively.

Social media has a positive function also. We get to know what is going on around the world. It provides us a lot of information. On other hand media can also have a negative side.

Internet is the main source of information. We can get education and we can socialize with people around the world easily through internet.

Functioning of social media is very important to live in today’s society, other than traditional factors such as family, school etc.

Television, internet and other media have great impact on the development of human socialization.