



**OCR SOCIOLOGY  
INTRODUCTION**

# DO NOW- THE SURGEON

- A father and his son are involved in a car accident, as a result of which the father is very badly injured and his son is rushed to hospital for emergency surgery. However, the surgeon takes one look at the boy and says "I cannot operate on him". When asked why, the surgeon replies "Because he's my son...".

- How could this be the case?

Then using the worksheet in front of you, In 2's or 3's read through and attempt to solve each of the following puzzles, the trick is to think laterally:

# WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY? THE STUDY OF HUMANS IN SOCIETY.

Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life.

This is the ability to see our own lives and the lives of those we study, as linked to wider social processes and structures.



# BIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY E.G. PERSPECTIVES ON RACISM



Biologists  
might look  
at genetic  
differences

Psychologists  
would examine  
whether racism is  
caused by a  
childhood trauma  
or by a chemical  
imbalance in the  
brain



Sociologists would  
examine whether  
a person was  
socialised with  
racist values and  
look at how ethnic  
minorities have  
been  
'scapegoated'.

# A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY COURSE CONTENT (COVER 2 YEARS)

- **Component 01: Socialisation, culture and identity**
  - Section A: Introduces students to key themes of socialisation, identity and culture
  - Section B: Families and Relationships
- **Component 02: Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities**
  - Section A- Research Methods and Theory.
  - Section B- Understanding Social Inequalities
- **Component 03: Debates in contemporary society**
  - Section A- Globalisation and the Digital World
  - Section B- Crime and Deviance

# REASONS TO STUDY SOCIOLOGY

(FROM STUDENTS AND ELSEWHERE...)

1. Gives insight into social issues.
2. Part of day to day life so it is easy to relate to the topics you study.
3. Better understanding of how society functions and how you fit into that society.
4. Makes you less ignorant of our world.
5. Covers current social, political, economic, psychological, historical and global issues to give you a broader understanding of your world.
6. It opens your eyes and makes you question everything that you previously took for granted.
7. Interesting course content and relevant skills development.
8. Rather than viewing the world through one lens, it helps you view the world from many different lenses or viewpoints.

# Sociology as a career

Journalist

International Relations



Criminal Justice system!

Lawyer



changing lives  
reducing crime



Probation officers!

Teacher

Equality Officer

Social Worker



Police force!

# WHO IS LIKELY TO ENJOY SOCIOLOGY?

You are most likely to enjoy sociology if you have ever thought any of the following things:-

- It's not fair that some people are rich and some are poor.
- It's not fair that some jobs seem easy but pay well while other really hard jobs are poorly paid.
- Why do some people do better at school and some do not?

Regardless of the answers you've come up with, in regard to these issues you will probably enjoy sociology if you have ever even considered them.

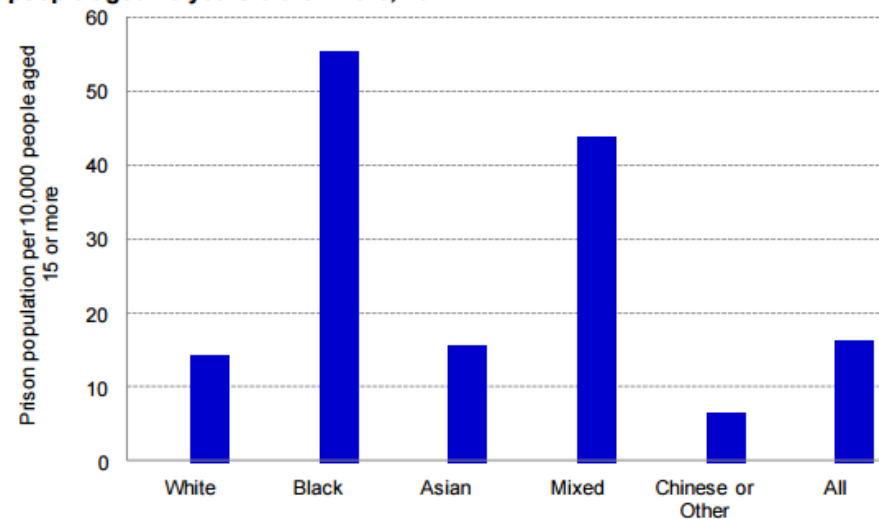




How is this...

Is linked to this...

Figure 7.01: British nationals in the prison population by ethnicity per 10,000 people aged 15 years old or more, 2014



# OTHER SOCIOLOGICAL QUESTIONS...

Does the culture a child belongs to influence their achievement at school?

Who is more likely to commit a crime?

How are a persons' life chances affected by their social status?

Does violence in the media encourage violence in real life?

Why do some people work really hard and are still poor while others don't work much and are rich?



# SOCIOLOGISTS ARE INTERESTED IN THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE

CRIME IS.....

Breaking the law

e.g. injuring someone

DEVIANCE IS.....

Going against society's norms and values  
(behaviour that may not be criminal but is unacceptable in society)

e.g. singing loudly on a bus

# EATING WITH YOUR HANDS....

Seen as a crime/deviant....

- If you are eating in a posh restaurant, it would be quite unusual to eat with your hands so therefore this would be seen as **DEVIANT**

Not seen as a crime/deviant....

- If you buy a bag of chips, then it is quite normal to eat these with your hands so therefore **NOT DEVIANT.**

# IDENTIFY THE CRIME

Description	Crime
Entering somebody's home and stealing his or her things.	
Intentionally killing somebody.	
	Arson
	Kidnapping
Using threats or violence against innocent people for political/religious reasons.	
Copying something to make it seem like the original	
	Manslaughter
	Blackmail
Lying when testifying in court.	



**Alan Jones:** Guilty of murdering his wife by slowly poisoning her. Described by neighbours as a kind and gentle person. His children love him. His wife had lots of affairs and pushed him to the limit.

**Janet Green:** Found guilty of shoplifting for the tenth time. She is homeless and likes to spend the winter in prison. It is early December and the weather is very cold.



**Miranda Morgan:** A drug addict guilty of selling heroin to teenagers. Has already tried two unsuccessful drug treatment programmes. Has a two year old child who will have to go into care if she goes to jail.

**Mick Brown:** Guilty of vandalism and football hooliganism. 19 years old and below average intelligence. Aggressive and gets violent when drunk. One previous offence for drunken driving.



**Cynthia Carter:** English teacher guilty of stealing money from her school by claiming money for 'resources' but actually buying herself designer clothes on the high street.



What it would be like to climb?

The challenges and problems you would face on your climb?

Who might struggle in their quest to climb the mountain?

What equipment and resources are needed to successfully climb the mountain?

What skills might you need to reach the summit?

# WHAT ARE THE FOLLOWING CONCEPTS AND HOW CAN THEY APPLY TO THE SCENARIO?

- Social Capital:
- Cultural Capital:
- Economic Capital:



What do you  
see?

**SOCIOLOGY IS ABOUT  
EXAMINING AND SEEING THE  
WORLD FROM DIFFERENT  
PERSPECTIVES E.G. FEMINIST,  
MARXIST, FUNCTIONALIST OR  
POSTMODERNISTS VIEW.**



# DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIETY



Functionalism



Marxism



Feminism

# FUNCTIONALISTS

- They compare society to a human body.
- All the different parts are like organs, essential to the overall health.
- They all have their own role and function.
- If these parts of society fail there would be a negative affect on all of us.
- Therefore people should do as they're told for the good of the whole society.

*In other words - every PART of society has the function of contributing to the WHOLE to help it 'FUNCTION'*

# THE NEW RIGHT

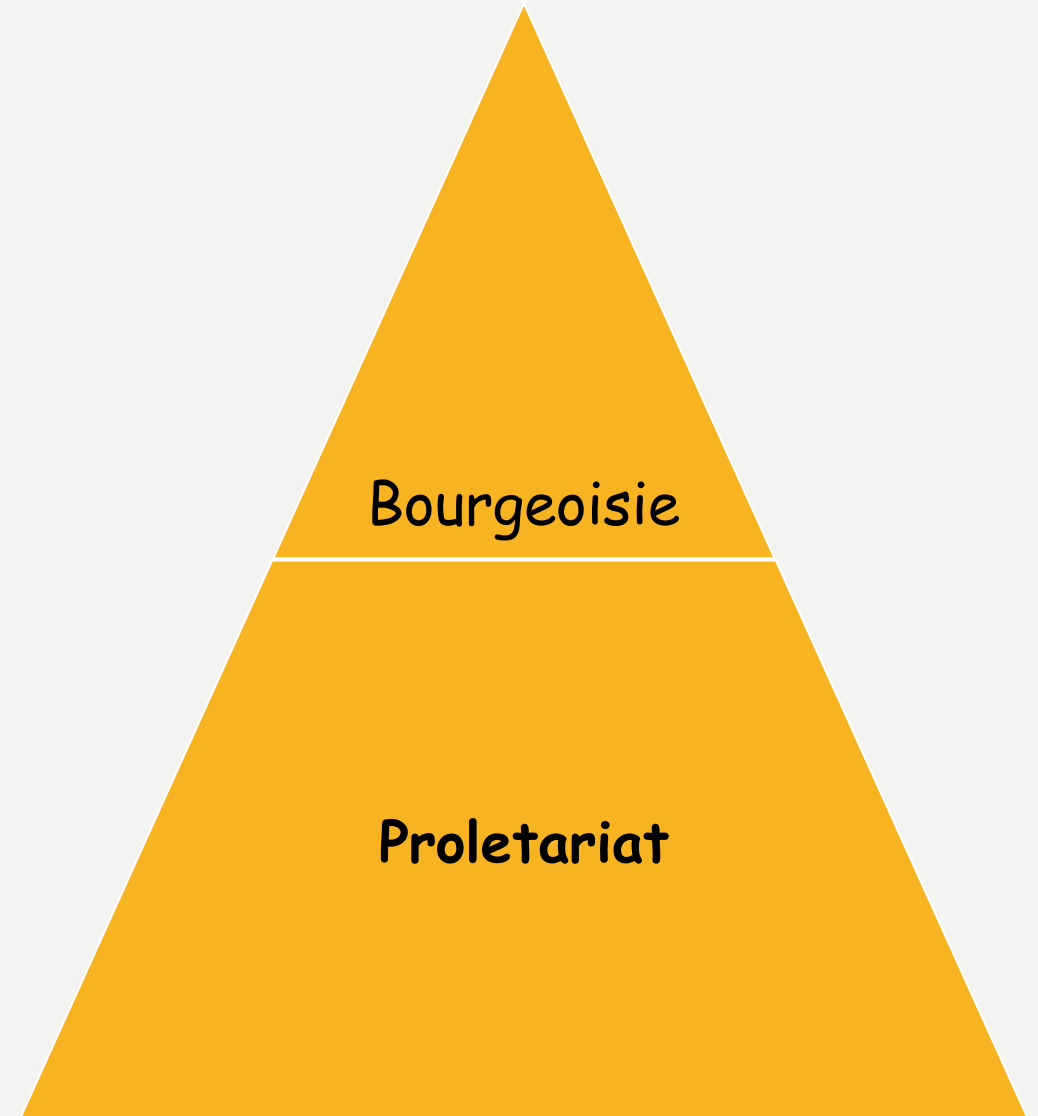
- A reaction to the changes of the 1970s and 1960s when the country became more relaxed.
- They want a return to traditional values.
- They see anything that goes against these values as deviant (different from an accepted norm).



*In other words - things should be more traditional.*

# MARXISTS

- Say society is divided into two classes:
  - **Bourgeoisie (ruling class).**
  - **The Proletariat (workers)**
- They are in conflict as the ruling class only stay in power by exploiting the workers.
- The ruling class use the different institutions of society to strengthen their position at the top of society.



*In other words - The rich and powerful stay in power by taking advantage of the workers.*

# FEMINISTS

- Believe society is divided by sex.
- Men have all the power (called Patriarchy).
- They want men and women to have equal rights.

*In other words - your sex affects your status - men have the power!*



Famous feminist -  
Germaine Greer

# TRANSITION WORK

To be handed in first  
Sociology lesson in Year 12.



RUSHCLIFFE  
SPENCER ACADEMY

Year 11- 12 |

Sociology

Transition Work

Rushcliffe School

