



Study of Sociology, its scope and Relationship with other Social Science

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Abstract

Focused on our own social behaviour as human beings, the study of human groupings and cultures. The emphasis of sociological research is not on societal norms and ideals, but rather on how they really operate in real life. The research is based on unbiased observations, results, and evidence, all of which have been made in accordance with predetermined guidelines. Philosophical or common-sense observations vary from those made. In contrast to philosophical observations, common sense observations are based on the naturalistic explanation of human behaviour without challenging its genesis.

Key words: Sociological human behaviour society naturalistic etc.

Introduction

Human society and social activities are the focus of sociology, a social science study. It is a very new field of study. The French social theorist Auguste Comte, who invented the word "sociology" in 1839, has long been referred to as the "Father of Sociology".

Sociology is the study of human behaviour as it relates to the social context in which it occurs. What is sociology? It is the study of human behaviour, society, social interactions, social interaction, and cultural norms. It is a social science that employs a wide range of empirical and critical techniques of research. Social transformation and order may be studied in three to five steps.:32–40 The broadest definition of sociology is that it is the study of human society as a whole. Researchers in the field of sociology are divided: some work to improve social policy and welfare; others work to better understand social dynamics in theory. Micro-level assessments of society (i.e., individual interaction and agency) and macro-level analyses are examples of possible topics (i.e., of systems and the social structure).

In sociology, we study how individuals interact with one other in groups, organisations, and society. It's no surprise that sociology covers a wide spectrum, from family dynamics to organised crime and religious traditions to the shared views of a common culture since all human activity is social.



Social stratification, social class, social mobility and religion/ secularism/ law/ sexuality/ gender/ deviance are some of the traditional sociology topics of study. Social structure and individual agency influence all aspects of human life, so sociology has gradually expanded its scope to include other subjects and institutions, such as health, the economy, military, punishment, the Internet, education, social capital and the role of social activity in scientific knowledge.

A broader range of qualitative and quantitative approaches are now being used by social scientists in their research, thereby expanding the scope of social science methodology. Interpretative, hermeneutic, and philosophic approaches to the study of society emerged in the mid-20th century as a result of the linguistic and cultural shifts. Agent-based modelling and social network analysis have both grown in popularity since the beginning of the 21st century, demonstrating the increasing analytical, mathematical, and computational sophistication of today's research methods.

Politicians, policymakers, lawmakers, educators, planners, administrators, developers, corporate tycoons and managers, social workers, non-governmental organisations, and non-profit organisations, as well as the general public, are all influenced by the findings of social researchers. This means that social research, market research, and other statistical sciences have a lot in common.

Scope of Sociology

It refers to the breadth and depth of a topic's study, as well as the limits of that subject. A subject's scope is the amount of material we must cover in order to understand it. Each branch of knowledge has a specific area of study. In order to research a subject in depth, it is necessary to define its boundaries. Sociology, being a social science, has its own set of parameters or limitations. However, there is no one-size-fits-all definition of sociology's breadth. Aside from the Synthetic school and the Specialistic or Formalistic school, there are two basic approaches to the scope of sociology: Between the two schools, there is a lot of disagreement on the proper definition of Sociology.

Specialistic school

They include George Simmel, Max Weber, Von Wiese, Small, and F. Tonnies proponents of this school of thought. Because sociology is a particular, pure and autonomous discipline that should be restricted in scope, these people argue.



Synthetic school

Proponents of the synthetic school include sociologists like Emile Durkheim and Ludwig Wittgenstein Hobhouse among others. As a result of this, school sociology is linked to other social sciences. Synthesis of social science disciplines. Thus, it has a wide range.

Nature and Characteristics of Sociology

To begin with, sociology is a value-free field of study. It doesn't care about what should be, but rather about what is. Sociologists accept and analyse as facts the ideals that a society maintains and influences the social behaviour of men.

They do not conduct their own analyses of values. A normative discipline like Ethics or Religion is not what it seems to be about. Sociologists, on the other hand, do not offer opinions on the direction society should go in, but rather identify where society is headed. It is distinct from social and political philosophy in this regard.

Second, Sociology is a science based on empirical evidence. In analysing social phenomena, it does it rationally rather than ideologically.

It's also important to note that sociology is not an applied science like engineering or computer science. Rather, it's a theoretical study that deals with how people interact with the world. A sociologist is someone who studies society and the ways in which people interact with one another from a variety of perspectives.

To round things up, sociology is a broad field of study rather than a narrowly focused one. It focuses on human connections and social interactions in general, and not on any specific parts of the same. Economic interactions are the focus of an economist's study.

Importance of Sociology

Sociology, because of its relevance to many of the current world's issues, has been deemed the finest approach to the social science disciplines. 'Sociology teaches us how to become what we want to be,' says Giddings.

The following are some of the ways in which its studies are important:

- Scientific understanding of human societies is essential for growth in a wide range of sectors, including medicine, law, and business.



- As a discipline, sociology focuses on the human individual as a member of society: why he exists in groups, communities, and societies; as well as their interconnections.
- Individuals' growth is enabled by sociology, which investigates the function of social institutions in their lives (such as the family; school; educations; etc.) and their impact on their development.
- Knowledge of society, social groupings, social institutions, organisations, and their roles helps us lead a better social life.
- When it comes to solving social issues, sociology is critical: It is the job of sociology researchers to conduct scientific research and come up with creative solutions. It aids the government in implementing its programmes more efficiently.
- Sociology aids in the understanding of human behaviour anomalies: Human aberrations like as crime, unemployment, and so forth are seen as societal issues and dealt with accordingly. The offenders are now seen as human beings with mental health issues, and attempts are made to help them reintegrate into society as productive members.
- Human culture benefits from the study of sociology because it teaches us how to address difficult topics rationally about our own identities, religious beliefs, traditions, morality, and institutions.

Sociology and its Relationship with other Social Science

The term "mother of all social sciences" refers to sociology, which is closely linked to the other social sciences. A wide variety of topics, ideas, and methodologies are shared by the many social sciences.

Sociology and Economics:

In contrast to economics, sociology analyses all types of interactions. The traditional definition of economics is the process through which commodities and services are produced and distributed. An emphasis on the allocation of limited resources is the topic of this study. Sociological approaches to economics have influenced the modern approach to economics, which focuses on the larger context of social norms, beliefs, practises, and interests.

Sociology and Political Science:



There is a difference between sociology, which studies society, and political science, which studies government. Traditionally, political science has concentrated on the notion of government and the structure of government, rather than the actual functioning of government (governance).

It is the study of political behaviour that is the emphasis of Political Sociology. It emphasises the interdependence of many institutions, such as the government.

Sociology and History:

For the most part, conventional history merely deals with the past in terms of facts and figures. Sociologists tend to focus on the current or recent past, and as a result, they tend to abstract from the specifics of a situation and instead classify and generalise.

In the conventional view of history, history has been dominated by monarchs and conflict; the history of gender relations, society, and changes in land relations have been largely ignored.

Psychiatry is the study of the human mind, focusing mostly on the human emotions, whereas sociology examines how people interact with their environment and the many factors that impact their behaviour.

Sociology and Social Anthropology:

When it comes to people and how they live, anthropology is the field to which you should turn. Sociology is the study of social interactions and the ways in which social structures, categories (such as race, gender, and sexuality), and institutions impact people's behaviour. Both are referred to as 'sister disciplines', yet there are notable differences:

In contrast to sociology, anthropology investigates human behaviour at the individual level, while sociology focuses on social structures and organisations and how people interact with them.

Social scientists do research using both qualitative and quantitative approaches whereas anthropologists conduct their study using ethnography (a qualitative research method of participant observation that entails in-depth, recurrent encounters with individuals).

Sociology, on the other hand, seeks to address social issues by enacting legislation, while anthropology seeks to better comprehend human variety and cultural differences.

Conclusion

Many mistake sociology with social work since it is a relatively new study compared to the likes of philosophy, economics, and political science. To comprehend and analyse social



issues, sociology is employed in the field of social work. Social work is involved with helping persons who are disadvantaged in some way, such as being unable to work because of a disability. Sociology isn't interested in social change or reform as a whole, nor does it participate in social planning or policymaking. Understanding and doing sociological research may aid in better planning and the creation of policies and programmes. Sociologists are often regarded as not interfering with social processes. This means that they are expected to be value-neutral, meaning they should not be biased or prejudiced in their interpretation. There are, however, those who challenge this and believe that sociologists should play a more active part in the process of growth.

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