

UPSCprep Free Daily Answer Writing Initiative

Subject: Sociology

Questions

Q1. Examine the statement, "Bureaucracy is a rational action in an institutional form".

(10 Marks)

Q2. Explain Durkheim's basic arguments on suicide. Analyse the high suicide rates of contemporary Indian society with Durkheim's theory. (20 Marks)

Model Structures

Q1. Examine the statement, "Bureaucracy is a rational action in an institutional form".

(10 Marks)

Introduction

- Define bureaucracy and legal rational action

Main Body

- Bureaucracy is the medium through which rational-legal authority is carried out
- Weber studied it and made an IDEAL TYPE for Bureaucracy based on legal-rational authority.
- Inevitable in modern society -- as it's the only mechanism to cope up with large-scale admin requirements
- Explain rational action
- Critical Analysis
 - Specialist without spirits
 - Iron cage of rationality

- Rule ritualism and loss of individual creativity. It leads to red-tapism (Merton)
- Official dictatorship kind (Master and Mistress of their own will)
- Nexus and influence of others over bureaucracy
- Roberto Michels - Calls bureaucratic sys in democracy as iron law of oligarchy - as they usurp all power
- Merton - over emphasis on rules led to goal displacement

Conclusion

- Yet, Bureaucracy is transforming itself according to change in the social system. It could adapt to social and admin changes. Examples-
 - Digitalization - less hierarchical
 - In India, lateral entry adoption in top-level bureaucracy

Q2. Explain Durkheim's basic arguments on suicide. Analyse the high suicide rates of contemporary Indian society with Durkheim's theory. (20 Marks)

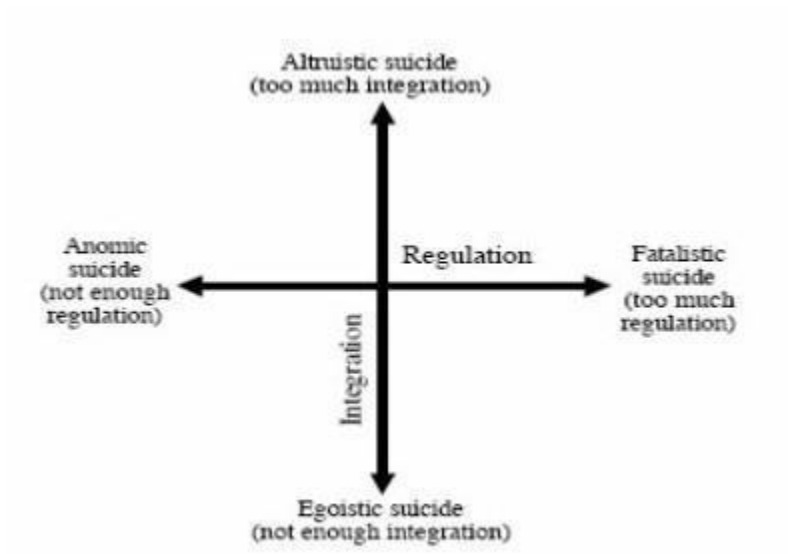
Introduction

- Definition of Suicide as given by Durkheim-
- All cases of death resulting directly or indirectly from a positive or negative act of the victim himself he knows will produce the result. OR
- Suicide: A Study in Sociology is an 1897 book written by French sociologist Émile Durkheim. It was the first methodological study of SUICIDE, a social fact in the context of society.

Main Body

- Refutation of earlier existing Psychological and Biological aspects of suicide.
 - Earlier studies - value loaded, lacks objectivity
 - Durkheim applied Comparative analysis method and dwelled on Objective analysis of the social fact - SUICIDE

- Durkheim concluded that suicide rates are higher:
 - in men than women
 - for those who are single
 - for people without children than people with children.
 - among Protestants than Catholics and Jews.
 - among soldiers than civilians.
 - in times of peace than in times of war.
 - the higher the education level, the more likely it was that an individual would choose suicide.
- Four types of suicide - which are based on the degrees of imbalance of two social forces: social integration and moral regulation.



- **High suicide rates as per Durkheim's conception in contemporary Indian society** (can write in COHERENCE WITH ABOVE DIAGRAM) -
 - Egoistic suicide - Upsc students, Kota Coaching students
 - Altruistic suicide - Armed forces, Chipko Movement, Protestors
 - Anomic suicide - Farm waiver loans, Rape Victims
 - Fatalistic suicide - Constables in CRPFs, IPS officers suicide
- What can be done to reduce suicide rates in India

- Student counselling, HR dept to increase integration → thus reducing Optimal regulation and integration-suicides.

Conclusion

- Durkheim's theory caused a revolution in the field of understanding the basic causes of Suicide in contemporary Indian society.



The advertisement features a purple and blue background with a network of white lines and nodes. Several stylized human figures are scattered across the network, some holding question marks or exclamation marks. In the top left, the word 'Sociology' is written in a white, cursive font inside a black speech bubble. The main title 'SOCIOLOGY COMPREHENSIVE COURSE' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, the text 'With Mentorship' is written in a smaller, white, italicized font. A white rounded rectangle contains the text 'Including Test Series' in purple. In the bottom left corner, the text 'Access for 3 years' is written in white.

Sociology

**SOCIOLOGY
COMPREHENSIVE
COURSE**

With Mentorship

Including Test Series

Access for 3 years

Course Link: [JOIN NOW](#)