

Outline and explain two sociological perspectives on the purpose of social policy in society (10).

Sociologists have different views on the purpose of social policy in society. Two perspectives that can be used to understand this issue are functionalism and Marxism.

Functionalism is social policy as a means of maintaining social order and stability. According to this perspective, social policy seeks to address social problems by providing solutions that promote social integration and cooperation. In this way, social policy works to ensure that the different parts of society work together harmoniously. For example, social policies that provide access to education or healthcare may help to reduce inequality in society by providing equal opportunities for all. Functionalists argue that social policy should focus on meeting the needs of the most vulnerable members of society, such as the elderly, disabled or children, because this helps to create a more cohesive society.

On the other hand, Marxist sociologists view social policy as a tool of the ruling class to control and maintain their power over the working class. According to Marxists, social policy is not designed to benefit everyone equally but to serve the interests of the capitalist class. Marxists argue that social policies are implemented to help maintain the status quo and to reinforce the existing power structures and society. For example, welfare policies may be used to provide a safety net for the working class, but at the same time, they can be used as a means of controlling the working class by making them dependent on the state. Therefore, Marxists believe that social policy should be designed to challenge these power structures and promote greater equality and social justice in society.

Overall, functionalist social policy as a means of promoting social order and cohesion, while Marxists view social policy as a means of maintaining the dominance of the ruling class.

Sociological Perspectives On Social Policy

Michael Lavalette, Alan Pratt



Sociological Perspectives On Social Policy:

Reconceptualizing Social Policy: Sociological Perspectives On Contemporary Social Policy Coffey, Amanda, 2004-09-01 How can sociological perspectives help us make sense of contemporary social policy How has the discipline of social policy engaged in recent sociological debates and developments This book provides a variety of sociological frameworks for understanding contemporary social policy It explores how sociological perspectives may be used to theorize conceptualize and research social policy Amanda Coffey captures the different ways in which social policy can be understood as academic discipline policy process service provision and lived experience The book engages with a range of policy areas and client groups and pays attention to sociodemographic categories such as gender race class and age Themes include The body and processes of embodiment Citizenship and identity Equality and differences Space and time Research and representation *Reconceptualizing Social Policy* is a key text for students and lecturers in sociology and social policy

Social Policy Michael Lavalette, Alan Pratt, 2005-11-15 The Third Edition of this widely adopted textbook has been thoroughly revised and offers an authoritative and up to date coverage of the key theories concepts and issues in social policy The lively and readable text has been designed to provide students with the essential tools to gain a clear understanding of the theoretical debates surrounding the discipline The book is organized into three parts Part One offers a detailed but accessible critique of major theoretical approaches such as neo liberalism Marxism feminism and racism Part Two explores conceptual debates such as distributive justice and postmodernism Part Three engages with contemporary social policy issues such as children pensions and the role of New Labour It also features newly commissioned chapters to reflect recent developments and current debates within social policy New areas of consideration include Citizenship Post structuralism The politics of food Globalization Student exercises and reading lists feature throughout the text and practical examples are skilfully used to illustrate conceptual and theoretical material making it the ideal core textbook for undergraduate social policy students as well as those studying related welfare modules across the social sciences

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mechanisms that may be used to make choices operational This monograph is intended for policymakers and others interested in the policy making process as well as for students and teachers in the areas of political science sociology social work public policy and social planning *Policy Research* Amitai Etzioni,1978 **Social Theory and Social Policy** Robert Pinker,2022-12-15 Originally published in 1971 and now reissued with a new Preface by John Offer this book examines the historical origins both institutional and academic of social policy and administration and the theoretical contribution of such key figures in the development of the social sciences as Marx Spencer Weber and Durkheim It then analyses the application of normative theory in this field examines the concepts of exchange and stigma in social welfare and looks at the idea of citizenship and the use of the social services In a final section the author presents a number of models of social welfare

Social Theory, Social Policy And Ageing: A Critical Introduction Biggs, Simon,Estes, Carroll,Phillipson, Chris,2003-11-01 This work covers theoretical developments and issues influencing the study of adult ageing It explores contemporary trends in social policy drawing on the experience of ageing in the USA Europe and an increasingly global environment Feminist perspectives on ageing are also covered *Understanding Theories and Concepts in Social Policy* Ruth Lister,Ruth Patrick,Kate Brown,2024-02-27 Demonstrating the relevance of theory to political and policy debates and practice this lively and accessible second edition helps students to grasp the real life implications of social policy theory The updated text includes consideration of contemporary shifts in welfare ideologies in the context of global austerity and the UK Coalition and Conservative governments since 2010 With a new chapter focusing on critical debates about disability sexuality and the environment this textbook also includes fresh reflections on migration conditionality resilience social justice and human rights Key features include real life examples from UK and international politics and policy to explain and illuminate the significance of social policy theory key questions for student reflection and engagement and bulleted chapter summaries and annotated further readings at the end of every chapter This new edition is a dynamic engaging and valuable introduction to the key theoretical perspectives and concepts deployed in social policy *Social Policy and Sociology* N. J. Demerath,Otto Larsen,Karl F. Schuessler,2013-09-17 *Social Policy and Sociology* explores the relationship between social policy and sociology and covers topics such as social inequities and individual stress in the family cycle America s youth and their problems are also given attention along with the relationship between graduate training and federal funding Comprised of 24 chapters this book begins with an assessment of the proper relationship between sociology and public policy and whether sociologists should become actively engaged in social engineering Methods of training graduate students for doing policy research are also discussed Subsequent chapters explore community planning and poverty policy implications of race relations formal models as a guide to social policy and the interrelationships between governmental policy social structure and public values Social problems such as alcoholism and drug addiction are also considered together with the changing relationship between government support and graduate training Finally the what and why of policy research in sociology are

examined and possible changes in graduate training and professional practice in sociology are evaluated This monograph will be of interest to sociologists as well as social and public policymakers **New Strategic Perspectives on Social Policy**
John E. Tropman, Milan J. Dluhy, Roger M. Lind, 1981 *Key Themes in Social Policy* Patricia Kennedy, 2013 Key Themes in Social Policy provides an accessible and authoritative introduction to the key concepts used in social policy from autonomy to wellbeing With over 100 ideas discussed this is a comprehensive student guide and is designed to help readers to gain a deeper understanding of major debates and issues Each entry explains the origin of the word discusses its relationship to the social sciences describes its relevance to social policy and how widespread its use is outlines some of the key thinkers and research on the topic and gives suggestions for further reading Making it easy to understand and use the most important ideas in the area this is an essential companion for all students taking social policy courses

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