

Social change subject

Second lecture

Instructor : Dalal Mohammed Ali

" The characteristics of social change"

Social change is the transformation of culture and social structure over time.

In the modern world we are aware that society is never static, and that social, political, economic and cultural changes occur constantly. There are a whole range of classic theories and research methods available within sociology for the study of social change.

There are four main characteristics of social change:-

1- It happens everywhere, but the rate of change varies from place to place.

For example, the United States would experience faster change, than a third world country that has limited access to technology and information.

2- Social change is sometimes intentional but often unplanned.

For example, when the airplane was invented people knew that this would increase and speed travel. However, it was probably not realised how this invention would affect society in the future. Families are spread throughout the country, because it is easier to return for visits. The numerous crashes and deaths related to airplanes was not predicted either.

3- Social change often generates controversy.

For example, the move over the recent years to accept homosexual rights has caused controversy involving the military, religion, and society overall.

4- Some changes matter more than others do.

For example, the invention of personal computers was more important than clothing fads.

The questions

1- There are four main characteristics of social change, (mention 3 characteristics with examples).

2- "social change is sometimes intentional and often unplanned. discuss this phrase with example.

3- connect words in column A with the right meaning in column B

| A | B |
|----------------|---|
| a. static | 1. Always, again and again. |
| b. occur | 2. To happen |
| c. constantly | 3. Not expected or intended. |
| d. intentional | 4. Public discussion and disagreement about something |
| e. unplanned | 5. To produce power, heat, electricity .etc. |
| f. controversy | 6. Not moving or changing. |
| g. generates | 7. Done on purpose, not by chance. |