

Sociology

Influences of Sociology

Symbols

- * **Symbol:** anything that carries a particular meaning and is recognized by a group of people



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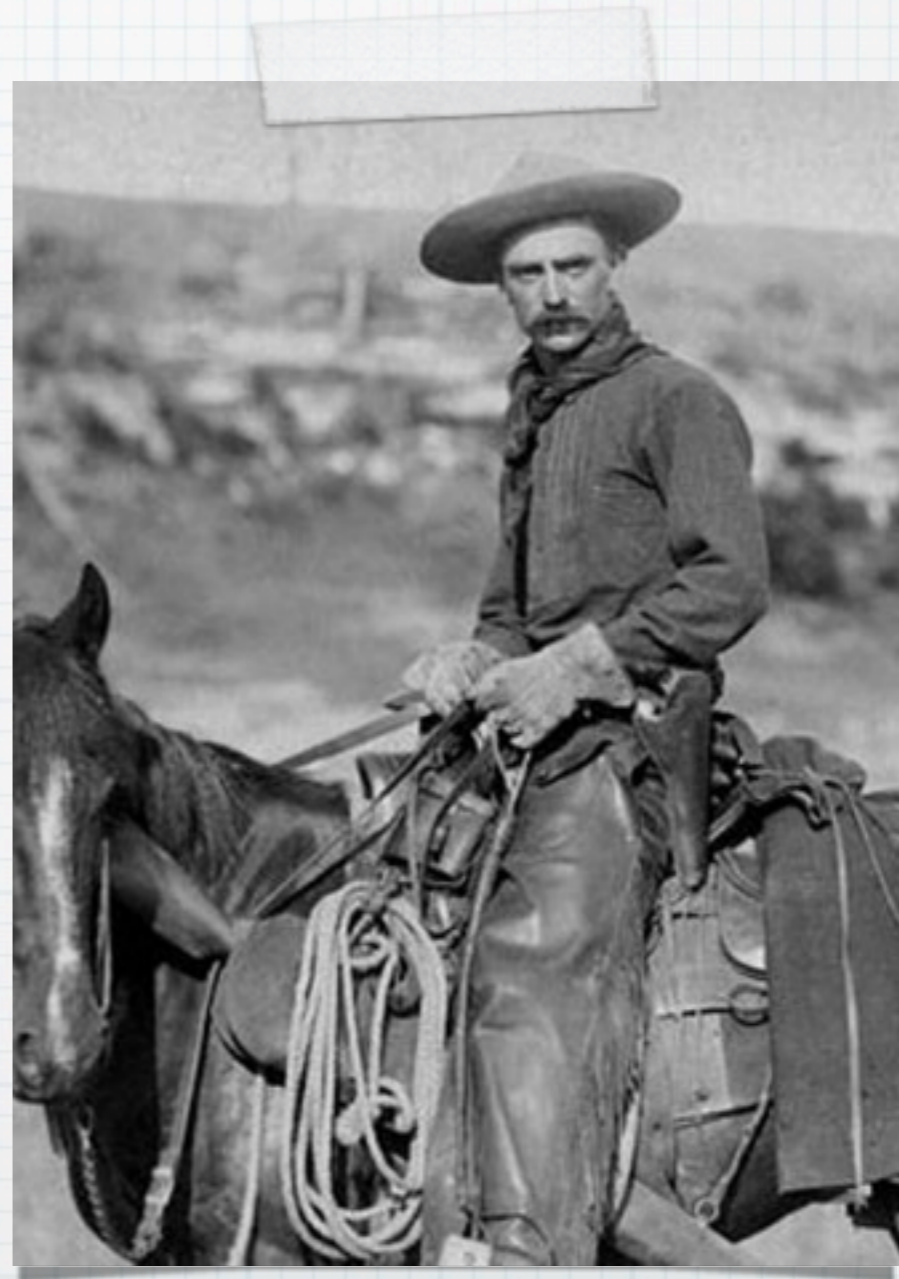
Symbols

- * Example: Jeans
- * 1930s: Jeans present in pop-culture, made popular by Westerns



Symbols

- * Example: Jeans
- * 18th-19th century jeans represented a worker, strong material



Symbols

- * Example: Jeans
- * 1950s: Jeans became the sign of a teenage rebel, banned in some schools



Symbols

- * Example: Jeans
- * 1980s: Designer jeans became a sign of status



Brainstrom

- * What symbols are present in our school?
- * How may these symbols have changed over the years?

Values and Beliefs

- * **Values:** The standards people have about what is good and bad
- * **Prescriptive:** Broad statements about what ought to be ethical
- * **Beliefs:** specific statements people hold to be true



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How Accurately can you Predict Values?

- * Between Canadians and Americans, who is more likely to:
 - * Believe in Hell
 - * Premarital Sex Alright
 - * Marriages Ending in Divorce
 - * Religion is Important
 - * Believe same sex marriage wrong
 - * Support Death Penalty
 - * Decriminalizing Marijuana Good

Canadian Values vs American Values

	Canadian	American
Believe in Hell	34%	60%
Premarital Sex Alright	70%	54%
Marriages Ending in Divorce	28%	43%
Religion is Important	64%	84%
Believe same sex marriage wrong	27%	47%
Support Death Penalty	42%	71%
Decriminalizing Marijuana Good	51%	35%

Norms

* Norms: Rules and expectations guided by society

* Proscriptive: State what we should not do

* Prescriptive: State what we should do



Norms

- * **Mores:** norms that are widely observed and have great moral significance
- * **Example:** adults don't engage in sexual relationships with children
- * **Folkways:** norms or routines in casual interactions
- * **Break on of these and you'll be seen as rude**




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Changing Norms

- * Read 'Workplace tattoos taboo fading'
- * Discuss with a partner:
 - * Are tattoos acceptable in your workplace?
 - * Do you think having tattoos limit your future job opportunities?
 - * Can you think of any other changing norms?

 **Michaela Bryan**
@MJ_Bryan

 Follow

When the bus is empty and some weirdo sits on the seat right next to you!



Homework:

- * Your assignment:
 - * Break a popular cultural norm (folkway not more please)
 - * Take a picture and send it to me along with a brief paragraph explaining societies reactions
 - * Photo & Creativity /5
 - * Reaction Write-up /5

Theories of Sociology

Macrosociology

- * **Macrosociology** studies large-scale social structures in order to determine how they affect the lives of groups and individuals.



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Macrosociology Example

- * Sociologist Christine Williams from U of Texas took a macro-level approach to studying women in male-dominated occupations and men in female-dominated occupations.

Macrosociology Example

- * Women in male-dominated positions faced limits on their advancement (the glass ceiling), while men in female-dominated positions experienced rapid rates of advancement (the glass escalator).

Microsociology

- * **Microsociology** studies face-to-face and small-group interactions in order to understand how they affect the larger patterns and institutions of society.



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Example of Microsociology

- * Pam Fishman of UCSB took a micro-level approach to studying issues of power in male-female relationships.

Example of Microsociology

- * She found that in conversation, women ask nearly three times as many questions as men do

The Origins of Sociology

- * Started in the late 1800's during the industrial revolution
- * During urbanization, population intensification = societal problems



Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * a) **Structural-Functionalism:**
Societies need certain things to function (education, reproduction, socializing, certain goods).
- * Societies set up structures to perform these needed functions.



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Key Terms in Structural-Functional

- * **Social Structure:** Any stable pattern of social behavior
- * **Studies social functions:** consequence of any social pattern for the operation of society (range from a hand shake to a complex ritual).



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Key Terms in Structural-Functional

- * Breaks social functions into two categories: latent and manifest functions
- * **Manifest:** intended consequence (school passes along knowledge)
- * **Latent:** unintended consequence (school allows you to meet mates)



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Key Terms in Structural-Functional

- * **Social Dysfunction:** social pattern that may disrupt the pattern of society



Bio-lography: Emile Durkheim

- * Was one of the fathers of functionalism.
- * Stated that those with low social integration are at a higher risk of suicide.



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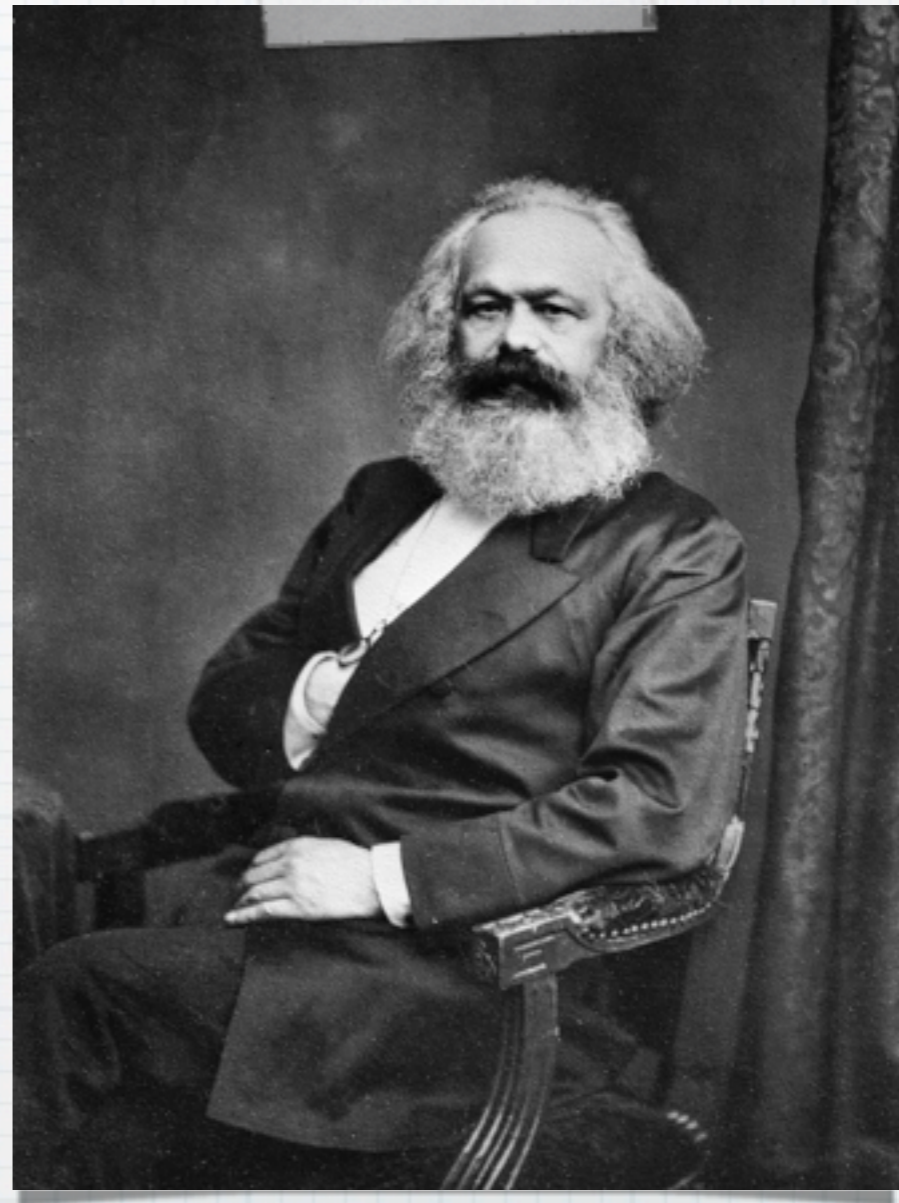
Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * **b) Social-Conflict Theory: Society is a system of inequality.**
- * **Society operates to benefit some categories of people and harm others.**



Bio-ography: Karl Marx

- * Saw human history in a continual state of conflict between two major classes:
- * Bourgeoisie: owners of the means of production (capitalists)
- * Proletariat: the workers



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Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * c) Symbolic Interactionism:
Structures in society don't need to be studied, it is all individual.



Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * **c) Symbolic Interactionism:**
Structures in society don't need to be studied, it is all individual.
- * **We need to look at the individual mind and motivations to understand society.**



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Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * **d) Feminist Theory:** The key to understanding society is studying gender inequality.
- * Most structures in society are sexist and need to be reformed. Historically women's work has been undervalued.



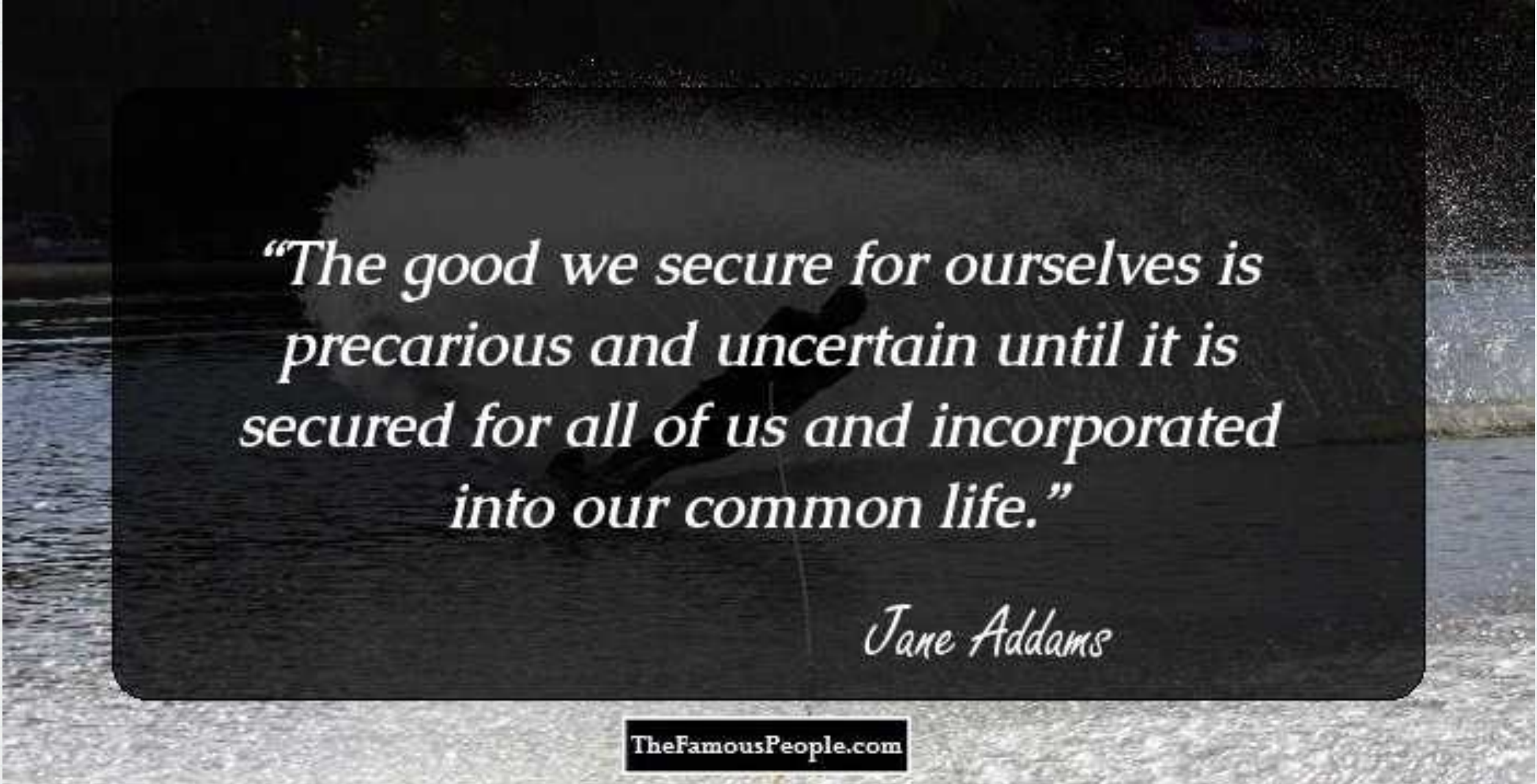
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Bio-lography: Jane Adams

- * Known as the 'mother of social work
- * Leader in woman suffrage (right to vote)

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“The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.”

Jane Addams

TheFamousPeople.com

Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * e) Postmodern Paradigm: Shifting patterns of social order
- * Institutions and relationships are likely to change.



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Five Schools of thought in Sociology

- * e) Postmodern Paradigm: Often seek to observe other societies with the goal of achieving vision rather than for data collection

Applying the Five Perspectives

- * In Canada, 45 percent of individuals over the age of 15 indicate they participate in some kind of sport.
- * What sociological insights can the five perspectives provided?

Applying the Five Perspectives

- * Key questions and other hints you can ask:
 - * How do sports help our society operate?
 - * Dysfunction involved in sports?
 - * Impact on social standing?
 - * Gender, race, or status divide in sports?
 - * What can sports teach us?

Structural-Functional	Social- Conflict	Symbolic-Interaction	Feminist Paradigm	Postmodernist Paradigm
<p>What are the major parts?</p> <p>How are these parts linked?</p> <p>What does each part do to help?</p>	<p>What factors give rise to inequality?</p> <p>How do advantaged people protect their privilege?</p>	<p>How do people shape the experience?</p> <p>How do behaviour and meaning change from person to person?</p>	<p>What factors give rise to gender inequality?</p> <p>What are the impacts of male domination?</p>	<p>How may power change circumstance?</p>