

Candidate 1 evidence

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| <p>1. One feature of Feminism is patriarchy. This means that feminists believe society is male controlled and male dominated, meaning institutions are controlled by men to disadvantage woman. For example, feminists would say the media is a patriarchal institution as it is used to promote sexist content of woman as sex objects solely for male pleasure.</p> | |
| <p>A second feature of feminism is it is not just a theory, it is a political movement for change. This means that the feminist movement is so strong and powerful it campaigns to improve the rights of woman in many institutions with the aim of making society fair for men and woman. For example, feminists have campaigned about equal pay for woman by going on strike and staging protests in order to encourage work places to pay females the same salaries as men.</p> | |
| <p>A third feature of Feminism is that challenged male stream sociology. This means that before the 1970s sociological studies only included men, but through protesting woman were able to change this so that sociological studies included men and woman meaning issues both genders face were equally represented and studied. For example, studies such as the Just the Woman study were conducted solely based on females to establish if the institution of the media promotes sexism.</p> | |
| <p>2. One differences between structural and action theories is that action is bottom up whereas structural is top down. This means that action believes individuals have the power to influence how institutions work and operate. For example, action theory would say institutions such as education are controlled by pupils, as if people do not attend school, schools will close meaning individuals have the power to control institutions. Whereas structural would say institutions control and shape individuals behaviour. For example, structural would suggest schools force pupils to be punctual, wear certain clothes and abide by certain rules meaning institutions have control over individuals.</p> | |
| <p>A second difference between structural and action is that action takes a micro approach whereas structural takes a macro approach. This means that structural looks at society as a whole, and conducts research studies in detail of large amounts of people, which it can then base finding from. Whereas action bases it's findings of small group samples which may provide findings that are true for that group of people but are not representative to society as a whole. For example, action would conduct a small study and use the findings of this to generate conclusions about society as a whole, whereas structural would use existing research findings and large scale studies to create findings.</p> | |
| <p>3. One strength of Weberism is that it explains how capitalist economy developed due to protestintism. This means that Weber explains how the protestant work ethic of working hard to achieve goals lead to the development of capitalist economies across the world. For example, Scotland is a capitalist and protestant country.</p> | |
| <p>One weakness of Weberism is a Marxist criticism. This means that Marxism says weber fails to realise social class is ascribed and fixed not achieved, therefore that you remain the social class you are born into due to institutions reinforcing class inequality benefiting the rich bourgeoisie and disadvantaging the poor proletariat. For example, Marxism would say if you are born into a poor proletaiat family you will grow up working a low paid job benefiting the bourgeoisie owners of the means of production.</p> | |
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| <p>4. A. One strength of a focus group is people can add comments or follow up questions, which you couldn't do in a structured interview. This means that it is an open group setting where participants are free to ask additional non scheduled questions which can go deeper into the issue of how media headlines portray migrants and help to get each individuals views on immigration. For example, members could ask other participants if they believe migration is a positive or negative thing.</p> | |
| <p>One weakness of a focus group linked to immigration is group think. This means that if the majority of the group have a similar standpoint on agreeing that headlines about migration are reasonable and not inappropriate, members of the group who don't agree may just stay quiet as they think their view won't matter due to the overwhelming disagreement, and in order to fit in with the rest of the group</p> | |
| <p>B. A suitable hypothesis for this research could be "Media headlines about immigrants are grossely inflamatory and false". This headline would be suitable because many believe the media demonises migrants and tars all foreign immigrants with the same brush of taking our jobs.</p> | |
| <p>5. One strength of using offical statistics is they are low in cost and not time consuming. This means due to the research having already been gathered the researcher does not need to spend money conducting research or time to analyse findings and create conclusions, as the reacher is already available. For example, a sociologist researching the link between poverty and crime could use official statistics to help back up their findings, or to see if the link between crime and poverty is decreasing or increasing over time.</p> | |
| <p>Another strength of using offical statistics if they can be used by governments to analyse trends and patterns over time. This means government bodies can use these statistics to see how varies aspects of the population are changing, such as crime rates or child birth rates. For example, the SQA can use official statistics to see if grades are improving for certain groups of pupils such as boys and girls and analyse the trends to find out statistics such as that girls achieved higher average grades than boys in Higher English in 2024.</p> | |
| <p>Another strength of using offical statistics is they are a reliable source of data. This means that statistics are collected by trusted organisations and can be used by governments to highlight trends and patterns in social behaviour. For example, the Scottish government may increase the sentence for being caught with possession of canabis due to a sharp increase in recent years associated with canabis use.</p> | |
| <p>6. Just the woman study linked to feminism, structural theory. One feature of feminism linked to gender and culture is that institutions are patriarchal. This means that institutions such as the media are patriarchal as woman are portrayed as less valuable in the newspapers analysed, most newspapers analysed were written from a male point of view and ignored females views and opinions. For example, many of the sampled newspapers refered to the idea that woman are sexual objects for male pleasure, promoting a sexist culture against woman.</p> | |
| <p>A second feature of Feminism linked to gender and culture is is that it is not just a theory, it is also a political movement for change. This means that the findings of the JTW study paved the way for legislation changes, which aimed to reduce the sexist culture in the media and in newspapers. For example, the feminists who carried out this study protested to governments with their findings in order to achieve these changes.</p> | |

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| <p>A third feature of Feminism linked to gender and culture is that it challenged male (main) stream sociology. This means that before the 1970s sociological studies only included men, through campaigning this was changed and studies like the JTW helped to break down this sexist culture, excluding woman from studies, portraying their issues to be less important than mens.</p> | |
| <p>One strength of Feminism linked to gender and culture is that the media is proven to be patriarchal through the findings of the JTW study, as there was 1300 reports of sexism in the newspapers analysed. This shows that the newspapers analysed did promote a sexist culture as sexism was produced in large in multiple different newspapers.</p> | |
| <p>A second strength of Feminism linked to gender and culture is that the media is still sexist. We carried out our own mini JTW study in class and found that from the newspapers analysed the media was still a sexist institution promoting a sexist culture against woman as sexual objects for male pleasure.</p> | |
| <p>One weakness of Feminism linked to gender and culture is that the researchers fail to recognise the reduction in sexist content in newspapers since the JTW study was released. This means that the woman who carried out the JTW study failed to recognise the success of their own study which lead to the reduction in sexist culture and content in the media. For example, new laws have been implimented around what content can be published in newspapers to guarantee there is less undermining sexual content around woman in newspapers</p> | |
| <p>Another weakness of Feminism linked to gender and culture is a functionalist criticism as functionalism says feminism failes to recognise role allocation is needed in society. This means that functionalists would say woman need to be portryed as mothers and housewives by newspapers as that is what their role in society is, while men's is to work and provide an income for the household.</p> | |
| <p>An action theory which links to JTW is Symbolic Interactionism Labelling.</p> | |
| <p>One feature of Labelling linked to gender and culture is that females internalise the label. This means that some woman internalise and act up to the label of them being a sex object, and act in ways that they think are attractive to men as they are taught their sole goal in life is to be attractive to men, due to the sexist culture in mass throughout the media which encourages that woman should act like this.</p> | |
| <p>A second feature of Labelling linked to gender and culture is that people interact with the label not the person. This means that in general people will interact with the label of girls being sex objects for male pleasure and will treat them based on the label, even if their individual actions do not fit this label exposing the sexist culture within the media which has been normalised and expected for all woman.</p> | |
| <p>A third feature of Labelling linked to gender and culture is the interaction of significant others. This means through the interaction with friends and family, girls are taught that they should act a certain way and conform to the norms of society which have been paved through a sexist culture encouraging woman to be traditional housewives, and enjoy doing certain acitivities such as shopping and cooking.</p> | |
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| 8. Blandin and Machin Study | |
| One finding of this study is that rates of social mobility were much lower in the UK than in other comparable countries, such as the USA or Germany. This shows that social mobility is more difficult to achieve in some countries than others. | |
| A second finding of this study is that intergenerational social mobility has fallen over time in Britain. This means that there has been a decrease in social mobility for those born in the 1970s, whereas in previous decades people were more likely to receive upwards social mobility and a higher level of income than their parents. | |
| A third finding of this study is that the link between association to parental background was much stronger during the 2nd cohort in the 1980s than the first cohort in the 1970s. This shows there has been an increase in social inequality and child poverty coinciding with a decrease in social mobility, so now people are more likely to achieve a similar income level to their parents income. | |
| One strength of this study is that it used a sizable sample size. This means that a large amount of people were studied, meaning results are easier to be generalised and more reliable. | |
| One weakness of this study is a Feminist criticism, as it only studied the social mobility of boys. This means that the study failed to recognise or explain the position of woman in the economy, so therefore did not provide a clear overall representation of social mobility in our society. | |
| Another weakness of this study is that different sample sizes were used in the 1st and 2nd cohorts. This means that results cannot be directly compared, meaning social mobility may be easier than what was established during the 2nd cohort, meaning data may be inaccurate. | |
| Another weakness of this study is that comparisons between different countries may be invalid. This means that the international comparisons may not be appropriate for comparison as the research was conducted at a different time in a different way, meaning comparisons are not valid. | |
| Social mobility linked to Marxism: | |
| One feature of Marxism linked to social mobility is that institutions reinforce class inequality. This means that institutions such as education reinforce class inequality as proletariat pupils are taught the skills they need for being a worker in a capitalist economy, such as being punctual, wearing uniform and having to abide by rules, whereas bourgeoisie students can afford tutors and additional resources boosting their educational success over proletariat pupils, making social mobility very hard for proletariat students. | |
| A second feature of Marxism linked to social mobility is that social class is ascribed and fixed. This means that you are born proletariat or bourgeoisie and you cannot adjust your social class, this means that people who are born into a wealthy family will be bourgeoisie not from choice but birth, as all the top positions in companies are occupied by bourgeoisie people, people will be picked for jobs solely due to being bourgeoisie and wealthy not due to education standards or previous work experience making social mobility near impossible, likewise proletariat children are unable to adjust their social class and will grow up controlled in a capitalist economy restricted to a similar job as their proletariat parents. | |

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| <p>A third feature of Marxism linked to social mobility is that Marxism predicted a class revolution. This means that Karl Marx believed that proletariat workers would get sick of being exploited by the bourgeoisie in a capitalist economy and would try to overthrow capitalism in aim of creating a classless economy where social mobility is highly possible.</p> | |
| <p>One strength of Marxism linked to social mobility is that social class does seem to be ascribed and fixed. This means that it is evident in our society that it is extremely difficult to go from a low social class to extremely wealthy, and that the majority of wealthy people are born into wealth and did not have to earn it, highlight social mobility is near impossible.</p> | |
| <p>One weakness of Marxism linked to social mobility is a weber criticism. This means that weber would state social mobility is possible as social class is achieved not ascribed, therefore people can achieve social mobility by doing additional courses or working hard to improve their social class, as different jobs have different party, status and class, and it is possible to improve your status and party by doing additional training depending on the job you have.</p> | |
| <p>Another weakness of Marxism linked to social mobility is a feminist criticism. This means that Feminism would say Marxists fail to highlight that social mobility is harder for woman than men due to the glass ceiling, meaning the highest paid jobs in even female dominated institutions are still controlled by men.</p> | |
| <p>Another weakness of Marxism linked to social mobility is that a class revolution did not happen. This means that Marx was wrong and people did not try to overthrow the government in order to promote a classless society where social mobility was easily achievable, this highlights that people maybe like having social classes and many people are happy being in a lower social class and a similar class that their parents were in. For example, many countries such as Poland have reverted from communist governments back to capitalism based governments, meaning Marxists values clearly do not work and social class inequality may be not be a bad thing.</p> | |
| <p>Social mobility linked to Functionalism:</p> | |
| <p>One feature of Functionalism linked to social mobility is you can achieve social mobility through meritocracy. This means functionalists would say social mobility can be achieved through working hard and building your way up a business, thereby improving your pay and achieving social mobility to a higher social class as a result.</p> | |
| <p>A second feature of Functionalism linked to social mobility is that there is a voice consensus in society. This means that functionalists believe there is a general agreement among people in society about what is worth achieving, meaning people can influence their social class by conforming to this consensus, and achieving higher therefore leading to upwards social mobility.</p> | |
| <p>A third feature of Functionalism linked to social mobility is structured inequality. This means functionalism believes in order for society to function we need people to do the low paid jobs in our world as well as the highly paid and highly skilled jobs, this means that upwards social mobility is not always needed or a good thing as vitally required jobs such as cleaners or bin men need people with a low social class to operate them for the smooth... running of our society.</p> | |

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| One strength of Functionalism linked to social mobility is | |
| One weakness of Functionalism linked to social mobility is a feminist criticism. As feminists would say social mobility is harder for women than men and despite meritocracy and working harder women will always be disadvantaged to men no matter how much they work. | |
| Another weakness of Functionalism linked to social mobility is | |
| Another weakness of Functionalism linked to social mobility is that there isn't a full voice consensus. This means that not everybody agrees on what is worth achieving in society, as people will want different levels of income not everyone agrees what is an ideal income, as is dependant on each individual person. | |
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