Building models (5 points)

Deviant aggressive behavior
1. What social policy would be appropriate to reduce deviant aggressive behavior if Theory I were correct? Theory II? Theory III? Theory IV?

If Theory I is correct, deviant aggressive behavior can be learned from the past. When individuals are doing things that meet the needs of society, they will be rewarded by the social system, which will also motivate people to repeat the motivation of doing such things. Similarly, if people are doing things that violate social development needs or destroy the social order, they will also be punished. According to this theory, this reward and punishment mechanism is fundamental to maintaining the rational operation of a society. Therefore, if we want to reduce deviant aggressive behavior in this circumstance, we need to increase the punishment for this kind of behavior in order to achieve the purpose of shocking others with the same thoughts.

If Theory II is correct, deviant aggressive behavior is a dissatisfaction with the expression of personal authoritarianism. In this case, the dissatisfaction and anger that nowhere to express will become the trigger for these deviant aggressive behaviors. The government should take the social responsibility and help people find reasonable ways to release their stress. Firstly, many studies have shown that people who have received a good education, especially higher education, are less inclined to make extreme behaviors that endanger society. Especially, the government should pay more attention to the education environment of some children living in poor conditions such as slums. If they have not received a good education, they are not only more prone to radical behavior, but also used by others. Secondly, the government should establish more psychological counseling centers in order to cover at least the majority of people. If people can't adjust themselves, at least they know where to go to get some help. Last but not least, the government should not completely close the channel of people's political demands. If people encounter unfair treatment in their lives, such as being deducted by their employers, they should have reasonable channels to pursue their legal rights.

If Theory III is correct, deviant aggressive behavior is the reasonable action of oppressed people. Different social customs and habits do invisibly make people different, such as diverse income classes or different skin colors. People don't learn to judge others based on other people's background conditions at birth. This is because people are all in different social customs, they gradually learn to judge other people. In this case, the deviant aggressive behavior is a reasonable pursuit of their legal rights. In the past, black people were considered to be the slaves of the white people. And this judgment is based on their natural skin color. This is unfair. Fortunately, the civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King continues to emerge in

an endless stream. Even if they sacrifice themselves, they will still fight for the equal status with the white people for other black compatriots. This is the inevitable result of historical evolution. The idea of inequality is gradually replaced by equal thought, and the undemocratic rule is gradually replaced by more democratic rule. In this whole process, this kind of deviant aggressive behavior is regarded as the inevitable historical evolution and the inexhaustible driving force for the development of human civilization. In a short time, because there are some fierce conflicts, this behavior will be harmful to society. Therefore, the government should prevent this movement from becoming too intense and hurt the ordinary people. But in the long run, this kind of deviant aggressive behavior is beneficial to the development of society.

If Theory IV is correct, deviant aggressive behavior is a social role and individuals subordinating to this deviant subculture will involve into this role. In this case, what the government needs to do is to prevent the formation of such subculture. I believe that everyone has their own social needs. When there is no way to satisfy this social demand, they will take risks and destroy the rational order of society to meet their own needs. As mentioned before, the government should open channels to meet people's legitimate needs. However, for social issues such as firearms and drugs, there will be transactions where there is demand. The government should not only strengthen the punishment, but also eliminate the source of the transaction.

2. During the past ten years, American society has been running a series of "experiments" with deviant aggressive behavior. Take any one of these experiments (e.g. #MeToo, mass shootings, political rhetoric) and discuss what we have learned about the four theories from this series of experiments.

   #MeToo (me too) is the campaign launched by actress Alyssa Milano and others in October 2017. This campaign is against the US gold medalist Harvey Weinstein's sexual assault on multiple actress scandals. Calling on all women who have been sexually assaulted to come forward and tell the painful experience, and tag the social media posts to arouse social attention. According to our above theory, this movement can be defined as a campaign against males with power in the workplace and pursuing women's legitimate rights within the lawful scope.

   In fact, #MeToo is manifested in a thing that everyone knows but never mentions. That is, the superiors use their power and treat his/her subordinates with ease, and they rely on power to satisfy their distorted desires. Due to the nature of the current patriarchal society, the victims are mostly women. Although the image of the perpetrator is well known in the workplace, but because of his power and status, the lower ones have to pretend not to know. They are self-sufficient in their own power and status. They do not know that their naked ugliness has long been seen clearly. The rebellion and social campaign against this distorted authority is an

inevitable event in the continuous development of society. As we discussed before, deviant aggressive behavior is the reasonable action of oppressed people. In the long run, this kind of behavior is beneficial to the development of society.

At the same time, the government should limit this social movement to a reasonable and legal scope. They can't hurt innocent people. We must admit that #MeToo has publicly accused individuals and those who have no chance to respond or protect themselves in the media or social media. These people are exactly the same as sex offenders. In this simple judicial process, men are publicly punished and lost their jobs simply because they touched women's knees, talked about private topics at work, or sent text messages with sexual cues. The government should not be forced by the movement like #MeToo, we should always make legal judgments within the law.

Reference:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Me_Too_movement
https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/05/us/the-metoo-moment-whats-next.html

Waiting until the last minute
a. Ask yourself why the observation might be true and write down your explanations.

  The observation for me is true, but not always like this. Firstly, if I have plenty of things to do at the same time, I will choose to do more urgent things first, then do more important things, and others. For example, if I have to turn in my homework the next day, and at the same time I need to go to the hospital because I cut my finger, I will definitely go to the hospital firstly to treat the wound before I start writing my homework. Similarly, if there are many important things to do at the same time, I will choose the more important things to do first, then do other things. Secondly, there might be different ideas for the topics or assignments based on different time from the deadline. For example, if I have plenty of time to do the assignment, I will not only write strictly accordance with the teacher's request, but also add all the content that I could think of. However, if I do this assignment like I said, then the time to submit this assignment is nearing the deadline. On the contrary, if I don't have a lot of time to complete a homework, then I will take the time to finish writing all the required content and submit it before the deadline. Last but not least, everyone wants to be lazy sometime, especially the holiday like weekends. There are many times when I don't even want to be lazy, I just hope that I can have a good and long sleep after a week of intense study. However, if I really take a good rest on the weekend, it means that there will be more intense study life waiting for me next week. Not just rest, as students, we sometimes want to be able to go out and do more social practice or extracurricular activities like volunteering. If we want to do a lot of things at the same time, it means that the assignments will be completed just before the deadline.

b. Generalize the explanatory model – that is, induce the most general, abstract model you can produce that still has the original observation as a consequence.

This is the explanatory model that I can think of:

Y: the time when one assignment is submitted from the deadline
x_1: the time when this assignment is assigned from the deadline
x_2: the number of assignments he/she has at the same time
x_3: the difficulty degree of this assignment
x_4: the percentage of points of this assignment in final grade
x_5: the number of office hours during this time

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot x_1 + \beta_2 \cdot x_2 + \beta_3 \cdot x_3 + \beta_4 \cdot x_4 + \beta_5 \cdot x_5$$

c. Induce an alternative model that also has the original observation as a consequence.

I add some subjective variables in the alternative model:

Y: the time when one assignment is submitted from the deadline
x_1: the time when this assignment is assigned from the deadline
x_2: the number of assignments he/she has at the same time
x_3: the difficulty degree of this assignment
x_4: the percentage of points of this assignment in final grade
x_5: the number of office hours during this time
x_6: the degree of peer pressure in this class/university
x_7: the confidence level of this person on this class
x_8: (dummy variable) if he has a study group for this assignment

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot x_1 + \beta_2 \cdot x_2 + \beta_3 \cdot x_3 + \beta_4 \cdot x_4 + \beta_5 \cdot x_5 + \beta_6 \cdot x_6 + \beta_7 \cdot x_7 + \beta_8 \cdot x_8$$

d. For each of the two general models produced in (b) and (c), derive two interesting predictions (four predictions in total). Be sure the logical connection between your model and your predictions is explicitly stated and that any assumed facts concerning the world are made explicit.

In this first model, I cannot say it for sure about the positive or negative sign of the coefficient of x_1. The professor will give us a long time, sometimes because the assignment is very difficult or hard to complete like the research proposal. Therefore, we must start writing it from a very early stage and submit it as early as possible so that we can prepare for the next assignment. I think the sign of x_2 is negative, the more homework one has, the closer he will turn in it to the deadline. Also, we can divide the assignments into different levels depending on the difficulty of the course and homework. Theoretically, if the difficulty degree of the assignment is higher, the closer the assignment will be completed to the deadline. Similarly, the proportion of homework scores to the final grade is also worth counting. Let's consider one extreme example. If there is no final exam in this course, the final grades will fully depend on the homework. Then it is possible to turn it in just before the deadline because we will take it very seriously. If there are a lot of office hours for this class, it will be relatively easy to complete the assignment because the professor or TA will deal with your problem in time.

In the second model, I consider some more subjective variables this time like peer pressure or the confidence level. What we need to pay attention is how to measure these subjective variables. For example, we can carefully design some related questions, such as whether you often feel that someone else can finish the job earlier than you or not. Then, the researcher can divide the peer pressure they feel into different grades based on their answers to these questions. My guess is that moderate peer pressure will prompt people to finish their homework faster, but too much anxiety may cause mental illness. Likewise, we can assign the students' confidence level into different categories. Lastly, forming a study group, constantly discussing issues with our peers and asking questions will help us learn this course better. From my perspective, after a group discussion, we can often save time

writing because the issues can be discussed and quickly resolved by other groupmates.