Sociology 102: Study Guide #2 (Fall ’09)

1. Changing nature of work and downward mobility.

a. Economy and jobs: pre-Civil war, post-Civil War, 1950s-mid 70s, present.

b. Deindustrialization: causes.

c. McJobs: characteristics

d. Downward mobility and its consequences: workers, families, communities.

e. Terms: downsizing, offshoring, outsourcing, mergers, second shift, moonlighting, foreclosures, bankruptcy, child care

2. Poverty

a. Poverty line, rate and trends in poverty, comparison to other countries.

b. Consequences of poverty: cycle of poverty.

c. Who benefits from povert?

d. Terms: poverty line, working poor, severely poor, near poor, welfare reform, Thrifty Food Plan, poverty surcharge.

3. Inequality in health and health care.

a. America’s health: life expectancy, infant mortality, mortality rates, “unhealthful social factors,” and inequality in health.

b. Public health approach: prevention, social changes that have and would improve the health of Americans. What powerful groups would resist the above changes?

c. How expensive is health care in America? How does it rate globally? The three tiered structure of health care in America.

d. Who controls its production and distribution? What are their “interests”? How do they pursue their interests? HMOs, pharmaceutical corporations, private hospitals.

Terms: boutique, gatekeeping, medlining, front group, trade group, lobbying, campaign financing, DTCs,

4. Marriage and Divorce.

a. Marriage in America: trend, comparison to 1950s, to other countries.

b. Happiness in marriage: self-reporting, objective correlates to happiness.

c. Marriage as a complex institution.

d. Divorce: rate, trend, comparative. Causes and consequences?

e. The family and violence? Nature, causes, consequences of abuse.

5.Criminal Justice: “street crimes”.

a. Crime as a significant social problem: media, politicians, average Americans, heavy tv viewers

b. Extent of crime: UCR, NCVS, comparison, trend, resources/cost, time.

c. Function: conflict theory, structural functionalism.

d. Capital punishment, DNA, and the criminal justice system.

e. The other side: public defenders, contract system, court appointed lawyer, plea bargaining.

f. Inequality: race in the criminal justice system.

6. Criminal Justice: corporate crime.

a. Definition, types, examples, and consequences.

b. Perception and treatment: media, politicians, civil trials and punishment, regulatory agencies.

c. Terms: tort reform, gag orders, cots-benefit analysis, “revolving door.”