Study Guide #1

1. Theory of Free Market

a. Adam Smith: assumptions about human beings, economics, and the Laws of the Marketplace?

b. Social Darwinism: influences, thesis, argument, policy implications, eugenics.

d. Free market theory of Milton Friedman: the role of government? What should the policy goals, economic and social, of a free market system be, according to Friedman? What is shock therapy and why does he think it is necessary?

Terms: laissez faire, free labor, law of supply and demand, financial infrastructure, deregulation, privatization, shock doctrine, competition, greed, self-interest, pursuit of profit, eugenics, feeble, physical infrastructure, survival of the fittest, feeble minded.

2. Marx and Durkheim

a. Marx: origin of society, conflict and historical development, class conflict and capitalism.

Terms: mode of production, forces of production, relations of production, economic base, superstructure, class conflict, proletariat, bourgeoisie, false consciousness, alienation, exploitation.

b. Durkheim: nature of society, society as organism, problem of social order and modernity.

Terms: “social facts are things”, sui generis, mechanical solidarity, organic solidarity, anomie, egoism, collective conscience, socialization, division of labor, corporatism.

3. Structural Functionalism

a. 1950s America as a utopia and “the end of history.”

Terms: utopia, social contract, “what is good for GM, is good for America,” nuclear family, Leave It to Beaver, the “end of history”, two party system, pluralism, classes society, white collar, blue collar.

b. Structural Functionalism: functional imperatives, structural systems, positive function of inequality, social system and status role complex.

c. Structural Functionalism “made easy”: family, education, economy, politics.

Terms: function, structure, meritocracy, Davis Moore theory, determined action, need disposition, status role complex, latency function, AGIL.

4. 1950s: The Way We Never Were

a. What were the realities of the 1950s that contradicted the conventional wisdom that America of the 1950s was a utopia?

b. In what ways did the culture (movies, books, music, counter-cultures) of the 1950s reflect a more complex view of the time?

c. Terms: white collar worker, permanent war economy, Beat Generation, rock and roll,

military-industrial complex, alienation.

5. C.Wright Mills

a. In “White Collar” Mills criticized large organizations and the demands they placed on people. . Which classical theorists influenced him and, according to Mills, what is the nature of white collar work and what are the consequences for white collar workers?

b. According to the “theory of the power elite” who makes up the power elite and how do they rule? And what are the consequences for the individual?

Terms: rationalization, bureaucracy, bureaucratization, division of labor, specialization, alienation, triangle of power, command positions, trunk decisions, moral insensibility, emotional labor, coercion, authority, manipulation, Cold War, military industrial complex, permanent war economy;.