

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

EXAMINATION FOR ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 1

(SEMESTER II: 2012-2013)

SC1101E – MAKING SENSE OF SOCIETY

SOCIOLOGY

APRIL 2013 - Time Allowed 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This examination consists of **TWO** sections, Section A and Section B, and comprises **TWO** pages.
2. **Question 1 in Section A is a compulsory question.**
3. Answer any **TWO** questions from Section B.
4. You must answer a total of **THREE** questions.
5. Each question carries equal marks (20%)
6. This is a **CLOSED BOOK** examination.

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY QUESTION) (Total 20%)

1. Write short notes on **FOUR** of the following:
 - a. mechanical solidarity and organic solidarity
 - b. ethnocentrism and cultural relativism
 - c. the nuclear family
 - d. three-dimensional view of power
 - e. false class consciousness
 - f. institutional racism
 - g. vertical mobility
 - h. routinization of charisma

SECTION B: CHOOSE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING: (Total 40%)

2. How does Erving Goffman's idea of "presentation of self in everyday life" (1959) help us understand the processes of socialization? Support your answer using relevant sociological theories, concepts and examples
3. Singapore sociologist Chua Beng Huat (1998:71) says that the seeming depoliticization in Singapore is the result of "an ideological consensus between the PAP government and the electorate ... merging ... their respective concerns during the 1960s and 1970s – namely, the economic survival of a new nation coincided with the need of individual citizens to make a living at a time of economic underdevelopment". In the light of this statement, explain sociologically how state and people power operate in Singapore. How has this "ideological consensus" changed in recent times (or has it)?
4. In their article entitled "State Fatherhood: The Politics of Nationalism, Race and Sexuality in Singapore" (1995), Heng and Devan argue that former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's conflation of genetic inheritance, cultural and racial superiority, class identity, education, intelligence and reproductive sexuality reflects his imagination of Singapore society as an economic and social machine. Discuss this statement to show how race, class and gender can work together in modifying or intensifying one's subjugation in society. Support your discussion with examples drawn from Singapore society or any other society you are familiar with.
5. Are people in economically rich countries less religious than people in developing countries? Cite theories and empirical research to support your answer.
6. "The family is in decline". This is commonly heard in public discourse. Give a sociological analysis of this issue.
7. The regimentation of modern life as a result of the growth of capitalism and the state has led to the intensification of crime and social control (Brym & Lie 2007:201). Analyze this statement sociologically.