

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

EXAMINATION FOR ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 2

SEMESTER I: 2009-2010

SC2205 - SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILY

SOCIOLOGY

December 2009 - Time Allowed 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This examination paper contains **TWO** sections: Section A and Section B, and comprises **TWO** pages.
2. **Question 1 in Section A is a compulsory question.**
3. Answer any **ONE** question from Section B.
4. You must answer a total of **TWO** questions.
5. This is a **CLOSED BOOK** examination.

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION (50%)

1. Critically discuss how defining your “field of eligibles” can be explained by the filter theory and the exchange theory. What are the strengths and weaknesses of each theory? Give specific examples to support your answer from the lectures and from Steven Nock’s reading.

SECTION B: CHOOSE ONE QUESTION (50%)

2. Studies show that divorce rates are rising in Singapore. Drawing on the literature and the theories covered in the reading by Paul Amato and A/P Straughan’s lecture, explain why marriages are breaking down.
3. Discuss four different ways in which cultural norms and globalization affect family life either in a positive or negative manner.
4. What are the key differences between sex and gender? How does that affect functions in terms of instrumental and expressive roles within the family?
5. Indicate clearly if you support this argument by Stephanie Coontz that, “marriage has become de-institutionalized in modern society”. Present sociological reasons for your response.

******* END OF PAPER *******