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Gender Roles A Sociological Perspective Fifth Edition

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Chapter 1: The Sociology of Gender

Multiple Choice

- 1. The sociological definition of status is
 - a. the degree of prestige associated with a position in society
 - b. a category or position a person occupies
 - c. the existing state of affairs
 - d. rules that guide people's behaviors in specific situations

Answer: A

Page Reference: 2

- 2. "Female" is an example of a(n)
 - a. ascribed status
 - b. achieved status
 - c. role
 - d. stereotype

Answer: A

Page Reference: 2

- 3. The expected behavior associated with a status is called a
 - a. stereotype
 - b. norm
 - c. status set
 - d. role
 - Answer: D

Page Reference: 2

- 4. Shared rules that guide people's behaviors in specific situations are called
 - a. stereotypes
 - b. norms
 - c. status sets

d. roles Answer: B *Page Reference:* 2

- 5. I am a mother, a daughter, a college professor, and an author simultaneously. This is an example of
 - a. role confusion
 - b. anomie
 - c. social stratification
 - d. a status set

Answer: D Page Reference: 2

- 6. Societies categorize members by statuses and then rank these statuses in some fashion. This is known as
 - a. role confusion
 - b. anomie
 - c. social stratification
 - d. status set

Answer: C Page Reference: 2

- 7. The sociological concept of *anomie* refers to _____ in times of great social change
 - a. a sense of normlessness
 - b. role reversal
 - c. turning inward
 - d. punishments

Answer: A

Page Reference: 2

- 8. The oversimplified conception that people who are a part of a group all share the same characteristics is called
 - a. racism
 - b. stereotype
 - c. discrimination
 - d. sexism

Answer: B

Page Reference: 3

- 9. When male-centered norms operate throughout all social institutions of a society, that society can be said to be
 - a. paternal
 - b. gynocentric
 - c. patriarchal
 - d. egalitarian

Answer: C Page Reference: 3

- 10. Androcentrism refers to
 - a. racism
 - b. egalitarianism
 - c. normlessness
 - d. male-centeredness

Answer: D

11. Discrimination based on sex is called

- a. stereotyping
- b. androcentrism
- c. homophobia
- d. sexism

Answer: D

Page Reference: 3

12. Sex refers to _____. Gender refers to _____

- a. a biological characteristic; a social, cultural, and psychological characteristic
- b. an ascribed status; an achieved status
- c. male or female; masculinity or femininity
- d. All of the above

Answer[.] D

Page Reference: 4

- 13. Logically interrelated propositions that explain empirical events are
 - a. research methods
 - b. formal theories
 - c. hunches
 - d. basic concepts

Answer: B

Page Reference: 4

- 14. Those theories that direct attention to data collected on large-scale phenomena are
 - a. used primarily to explain small group and interpersonal relationships
 - b. microsociological theories
 - c. macrosociological theories
 - d. incompatible with those theories that explore small group and interpersonal relationships

Answer: C

Page Reference: 5

- 15. Stability is to functionalism as ______ is to conflict theory.
 - a. change
 - b. consensus
 - c. harmony
 - d. class consciousness

Answer: A

16. According to functionalism

- a. society is made up of interdependent parts, each contributing to the functioning of the whole
- b. society is held together by coercion
- c. inequality is the result of capitalism
- d. social reality is bestowed only through human interaction

Answer: A

Page Reference: 5

- 17. According to functionalists, women were dependent on men for food and protection in ______ societies.
 - a. pre-industrial
 - b. industrial
 - c. contemporary
 - d. post-modern

Answer: A

Page Reference: 5-6

- 18. Women as wives and mothers are expected to provide emotional support and nurturing activities in the family. This is an example of a(n)
 - a. ascribed status
 - b. instrumental role
 - c. class consciousness
 - d. expressive role

Answer: D

Page Reference: 6

- 19. Men as husbands and fathers are expected to provide food and shelter for their families. This is an example of a(n)
 - a. ascribed status
 - b. instrumental role
 - c. class consciousness
 - d. expressive role

Answer: B

Page Reference: 6

20. The functionalist perspective is criticized because it

- a. has not kept pace with rapid social changes in gender roles
- b. tends to support white middle-class family models
- c. has been used as a justification for male dominance
- d. All of the above

Answer: D

- 21. According to conflict theory
 - a. value consensus is important because it enhances stability
 - b. people interact according to how they perceive the situation
 - c. society is a stage on which struggles for power and dominance are acted out

d. All of the above

Answer: C Page Reference: 7

- 22. When a group of people recognize they share certain problems and interests they form a(n)
 - a. institution
 - b. class consciousness
 - c. emancipated class
 - d. bourgeoisie

Answer: B

Page Reference: 7

- 23. Contemporary conflict theory was developed in response to critiques that
 - a. conflict is not simply based on class struggle
 - b. conflict theory is too static
 - c. conflict theory does not apply to working-class men and women
 - d. conflict theory is too microsociological

Answer: A Page Reference: 8

- 24. The idea that men as a group conspire to keep women in subordinate positions is a critique associated with
 - a. functionalism
 - b. conflict theory
 - c. symbolic interactionism
 - d. dramaturgy

Answer: B

Page Reference: 7-8

- 25. The father of conflict theory is
 - a. Blumer
 - b. Marx
 - c. Durkheim
 - d. Goffman

Answer: B Page Reference: 7

- 26. The social-psychological explanation that social interaction is a dynamic process in which people continually modify their behavior based on their perceptions is most related to
 - a. functionalism
 - b. conflict theory
 - c. symbolic interactionism
 - d. feminist theory

Answer: C

Page Reference: 9

- 27. Concepts such as *impression management*, *scripts*, and *enactment of roles* are all associated with
 - a. functionalism
 - b. conflict theory
 - c. feminist theory
 - d. dramaturgy

Answer: D

Page Reference: 10

- 28. Failure to give proper attention to macrolevel processes is the main critique of which theory?
 - a. Functionalism
 - b. Conflict theory
 - c. Symbolic interactionism
 - d. Feminist theory

Answer: C

Page Reference: 11

29. A theory can be categorized as feminist if it

- a. can be used to challenge a status quo that is disadvantageous to women
- b. is authored by a feminist
- c. places women in a superior position relative to men
- d. all of the above

Answer: A

Page Reference: 12

- 30. In what way is the feminist perspective compatible with conflict theory?
 - a. Both perspectives focus on the definition of the situation by women.
 - b. Both perspectives agree that structured social inequality is maintained by ideologies accepted by the privileged and the oppressed.
 - c. Both perspectives agree that biological constraints are the main reason for female subordination.
 - d. Both perspectives agree on the importance of traditional gender roles in maintaining societal stability.

Answer: B

- 31. In what way is the feminist perspective compatible with symbolic interactionism?
 - a. Both perspectives focus on the definition of the situation by women.
 - b. Both perspectives agree that structured social inequality is maintained by ideologies accepted by the privileged and the oppressed.
 - c. Both perspectives agree that biological constraints are the main reason for female subordination.
 - d. Both perspectives agree on the importance of traditional gender roles in maintaining societal stability.

Answer: A

Page Reference: 12

- 32. The importance of the gender-class-race linkage in analyzing social behavior originated in the 1960s with which group?
 - a. European social scientists
 - b. White, middle-class feminists
 - c. African American feminists
 - d. Behavioral psychologists

Answer: C Page Reference: 12

- 33. The power of women to adapt and sometimes to thrive in difficult situations is known as
 - a. double jeopardy
 - b. matriarchy
 - c. feminism
 - d. agency

Answer: D

Page Reference: 13

34. The feminist perspective tends to minimize the practical benefits of ______.

- a. patriarchy
- b. marriage
- c. social class
- d. empowerment

Answer: B

Page Reference: 13

- 35. Feminists agree with all of the following statements, except one. Which one?
 - a. Women are oppressed.
 - b. Sexism should end.
 - c. Women need to be empowered.
 - d. Education is the key to female empowerment.

Answer: D

- 36. Professional, middle-class women are more likely than other groups of women to ascribe to which feminist perspective?
 - a. Liberal
 - b. Cultural
 - c. Ecofeminism
 - d. Radical

Answer: A *Page Reference:* 14

- 37. Which feminist perspective focuses on the positive qualities associated with women's roles, such as nurturing and caring, to empower women?
 - a. Liberal
 - b. Cultural
 - c. Global
 - d. Radical

Answer: B

Page Reference: 15

- 38. To end the oppression of women, socialist feminists espouse
 - a. separate institutions for women
 - b. education and equal opportunity
 - c. exploitation of male labor
 - d. the need for the elimination of capitalism

Answer: D Page Reference: 15

39. Radical feminism is said to have emerged during the

- a. 1920s
- b. 21st century
- c. civil rights and anti-Vietnam War movements
- d. Victorian period

Answer: C

Page Reference: 15

- 40. The most diverse feminist branch is ______ feminism.
 - a. liberal
 - b. global
 - c. socialist
 - d. radical

Answer: D Page Reference: 16

- 41. Which feminist branch is most concerned with the colonization and exploitation of women in the developing world?
 - a. Liberal
 - b. Global
 - c. Socialist
 - d. Ecofeminism

Answer: B

Page Reference: 16

- 42. Which activity is most likely to be associated with global feminism?
 - a. Working to empower Middle Eastern women who are restricted from education, health care, and paid employment.
 - b. Working at the local level to develop institutions operated solely by women.
 - c. Working within the existing social system to end restrictive gender roles.
 - d. Encouraging young women to embrace their femininity.

Answer: A

Page Reference: 16

- 43. Which branch of feminism draws upon earth-based spiritual imagery?
 - a. Liberal
 - b. Global
 - c. Socialist
 - d. Ecofeminism

Answer: D Page Reference: 17

True/False

1. Patriarchy refers to male-dominated social structures that lead to the oppression of women. Answer: True

Page Reference: 3

2. According to functionalism, the wife-mother should take the instrumental role in the family.Answer: False*Page Reference:* 6

3. Karl Marx applied Friedrich Engels' ideas of class struggle to the family. Answer: False *Page Reference:* 7

4. A dramaturgical approach considers human interaction as an enactment on a stage. Answer: True *Page Reference:* 10 5. Radical feminism seeks to empower women by emphasizing the positive qualities that are associated with women's roles, such as nurturing and cooperation. Answer: False *Page Reference:* 15

Essay Questions – Answers will vary

- 1. First, define *sexism*, *androcentrism*, and *patriarchy*. Next, describe the relationships between these concepts. *Page Reference:* 3
- Compare and contrast the basic premises of any two sociological theories. According to each of these theories, why does gender inequality exist and why is it maintained? *Page Reference:* 5-12
- 3. Compare and contrast liberal, socialist, and radical feminist perspectives. According to each of these perspectives, why does gender inequality exist and what must be done to eliminate gender inequality? *Page Reference:* 14-16
- Many young women refuse to identify themselves as feminists. Why is this the case?
 Brace Beforement 17 ff

Page Reference: 17 – ff.

Chapter 2: Gender Development, Biology, Sexuality, and Health

Multiple Choice

- 1. The belief that the inherent biological and genetic difference between men and women make them "naturally" suited to fulfill certain roles regardless of their intellect, desires, expertise, or experience is referred to as
 - a. the double standard
 - b. essentialism
 - c. sexual dimorphism
 - d. sexual scripting

Answer: B

Page Reference: 22

- 2. In her study of three New Guinea tribes, Margaret Mead concluded
 - a. gender roles are biologically determined
 - b. masculinity and femininity are defined the same the world over
 - c. masculinity and femininity are culturally determined
 - d. none of the above

Answer: C

Page Reference: 24

- 3. Sociobiologists use ______ theory to draw conclusions about humans from studies of animals.
 - a. feminist
 - b. Freudian
 - c. psychoanalytic
 - d. evolutionary

Answer: D

Page Reference: 24

- 4. Which is <u>not</u> true concerning sex hormones?
 - a. They affect development of the brain.
 - b. They affect development of sex organs.
 - c. Both males and females possess the same hormones in differing levels.

d. A female given male hormones will assume a male role in sexual activity.

Answer: D

Page Reference: 26-27

- 5. The XX chromosomal configuration is associated with
 - a. high levels of antisocial behaviors for females
 - b. a superior immune system for females
 - c. higher levels of aggression for males
 - d. higher mortality rates for males

Answer: B

- 6. Overall, what can be concluded about the relationship between gender and aggression?
 - a. Males display significantly higher levels of aggression due to testosterone.
 - b. Boys are more likely to carry out aggression in physical ways; girls prefer verbal confrontation.
 - c. Males display significantly higher levels of aggression at all ages and under all social situations.
 - d. All of the above

Answer: B

Page Reference: 27

- 7. When new fathers take part in the birthing process, measures of infant-father bonding
 - a. are as high as mother-infant bonding
 - b. are lower than if they did not take part in the birthing process
 - c. show no significant difference than if they did not take part in the birthing process
 - d. are higher than mother-infant bonding

Answer: A Page Reference: 28

- 8. According to Freud, during which stage of life is gratification focused on the genitals?
 - a. latency
 - b. phallic
 - c. libido
 - d. Electra

Answer: B

Page Reference: 29

- 9. According to Freud, the sign of adult maturity in a woman is when
 - a. her wish for a penis is replaced by her wish for a child
 - b. she learns to identify with her mother
 - c. clitoral stimulation is abandoned for vaginal penetration
 - d. all of the above

Answer: D

Page Reference: 29

- 10. Contemporary psychoanalytic feminist theory has
 - a. abandoned Freudian theory and all that it represents
 - b. shown that Freudian-based theory cannot help women experiencing psychological difficulties
 - c. integrated useful aspects of both psychoanalytic and sociological theory
 - d. argued that Freudian theory is applicable to male clients only Answer: C

- 11. The term for males or females who psychologically believe they are really members of the other gender is
 - a. hermaphrodites
 - b. homosexuals
 - c. transgendered
 - d. transsexuals

Answer: D Page Reference: 31

12. Gender identity is learned and stabilizes

- a. at birth
- b. around 3 years of age
- c. around 6 years of age
- d. at puberty

Answer: B

Page Reference: 31

- 13. The term for people who do not conform to culturally-defined traditional gender roles is
 - a. hermaphrodites
 - b. homosexuals
 - c. transgendered
 - d. transsexuals

Answer: C Page Reference: 34

- 14. Among Native Americans, men and women who did not exhibit conventional gender roles were called *berdache*. They acted as mediators between men and women and between the physical and spiritual worlds. *Berdache* were
 - a. hermaphrodites
 - b. homosexuals
 - c. transgendered
 - d. transsexuals

Answer: C

Page Reference: 35-36

- 15. Shared beliefs concerning what society defines as acceptable sexual thoughts, feelings, and behaviors for each gender are referred to as
 - a. sexual scripts
 - b. gender identities
 - c. double standards
 - d. sexual orientation

Answer: A

16. Kinsey's sexuality research in the 1950s indicated that

- a. the majority of both men and women masturbate
- b. the majority of women experienced premarital sex
- c. the majority of both men and women engage in extramarital affairs
- d. women have less difficulty achieving orgasm than men do

Answer: A

Page Reference: 36

- 17. Since the 1990s, rates of sexual activity among teens has
 - a. dramatically increased
 - b. significantly declined
 - c. increased slightly
 - d. remained steady

Answer: B

Page Reference: 37

- 18. Which of these statements about sexual attitudes is FALSE?
 - a. More women than men express the belief that emotional closeness is a prerequisite for sexual intercourse.
 - b. Women and men both believe that a woman's orgasm is a sign of the woman's success as a lover.
 - c. The double standard in sexual attitudes still exist
 - d. Males are less likely to feel guilty about their sexual activities than females.

Answer: B

Page Reference: 38

- 19. Which of these statements regarding sexuality in later life is FALSE?
 - a. The elderly are perceived to be sexless.
 - b. If elderly males show sexual interest they are viewed suspiciously.
 - c. Widows significantly outnumber widowers.
 - d. Women experience more anxiety about sex as they age.

Answer: D

Page Reference: 39

- 20. Male mortality rates exceed female mortality rates for which cause of death?
 - a. cancer
 - b. suicide
 - c. homicide
 - d. all of the above

Answer: D *Page Reference:* 40 21. Which country has the highest overall life expectancy?

- a. Japan
- b. United States
- c. Kenya
- d. England

Answer: A Page Reference: 41

22. Men are more likely to suffer from ____; women are more likely to suffer from

a. depression; anxiety

- b. personality disorders; depression
- c. antisocial personality; narcissism

d. migraine headaches; eating disorders

Answer: B

Page Reference: 42-43

23. Compared to men, women have lower overall rates of

- a. physician visits
- b. morbidity
- c. chronic life-threatening conditions
- d. all of the above

Answer: C

Page Reference: 42

24. In preadolescence, girls report higher levels of _____ when compared to boys.

- a. physical aggression
- b. self-esteem
- c. anorexia nervosa
- d. pressure to engage in sexual intercourse

Answer: C *Page Reference:* 46

25. Which group has the highest overall mortality and morbidity rates?

- a. single women
- b. single men
- c. married women
- d. married men

Answer: B

Page Reference: 42-43

26. About what percentage of women suffer from premenstrual syndrome?

a. 82-95% b. 68-75% c. 45-50% d. 2-10% Answer: D

Page Reference: 44

- 27. Research demonstrates that for most women menopause is associated with
 - a. disabling symptoms
 - b. serious depression
 - c. alcoholism and drug addiction
 - d. none of the above

Answer: D

- 28. Until 2002, hormone replacement therapy was the accepted remedy for
 - a. PMS
 - b. perimenopause
 - c. menopause
 - d. all of the above

Answer: C

Page Reference: 44-45

- 29. The risks of hormone replacement therapy includes increased potential for
 - a. coronary heart disease
 - b. breast cancer
 - c. stroke
 - d. all of the above

Answer: D

Page Reference: 45

- 30. Which is a culture bound syndrome?
 - a. Anorexia nervosa
 - b. PMS
 - c. Lung cancer
 - d. Osteoporosis

Answer: A Page Reference: 46

- 31. Almost half of all new cases of HIV in the US are among which group of people?
 - a. African American women
 - b. African American men
 - c. White men
 - d. Hispanic men

Answer: A

32. In the U.S., _____ are at greatest risk for HIV/AIDS.

- a. middle class women
- b. heterosexual women
- c. white women
- d. all of the above

Answer: B

Page Reference: 47

33. In which world region is the rate of HIV/AIDS highest?

- a. Europe
- b. Asia/Middle East
- c. Sub-Saharan Africa
- d. North America

Answer: C

Page Reference: 48

34. Alcohol use and abuse are critical factors in

- a. fetal alcohol syndrome
- b. rape
- c. domestic violence
- d. all of the above

Answer: D

Page Reference: 48

- 35. The Women's Health Movement is based on all but which one of the following?
 - a. Historically, women have not had control over their health.
 - b. There has been too much emphasis on interdisciplinary research and not enough on the purely biological causes of disease.
 - c. Diagnosis and treatment of women is from an androcentric medical system and needs to be altered.
 - d. Women need to be included as research subjects.

Answer: B

Page Reference:49-50

- 36. Which of these is a sociocultural explanation for the high rates of mortality and chronic morbidity for men?
 - a. The XY chromosomal pattern is not as hardy as the XX pattern.
 - b. Men are more likely to suffer from genetic disorders than women.
 - c. Men are more likely than women to engage in hazardous occupations and risk-taking activities.
 - d. The male hormone, testosterone, increases aggressive responses to stressors.

Answer: C

True/False

- Approximately 1-3% of infants are intersexed. Answer: True Page Reference: 30
- Queer theory asserts that sexuality and sexual identity are socially constructed. Answer: True Page Reference: 33
- The hijra of India prove that there are two distinct sexes. Answer: False Page Reference: 35
- Approximately 80% of husbands cheat on their wives. Answer: False Page Reference: 37
- Mortality rates for all leading causes of death are higher for men than for women. Answer: True Page Reference: 40
- After menopause, all women should engage in hormone replacement therapy. Answer: False Page Reference: 45

Essay Questions – Answers will vary

- 1. Discuss Margaret Mead's field study with the Arapesh, Mundugmor and Tchambuli tribes. What differences did she find? What are conclusions and criticisms of her work? *Page Reference*: 23-24
- 2. Explain the prevalence of either male aggression **or** maternal instinct. *Page Reference:* 27-28
- Explain Freud's psychobiological model for the development of gender roles. How has it been used to reinforce gender stereotypes and how can it be used to counter them? Page Reference: 29-30
- 4. Describe the Dr. John Money's famous sex-reassignment surgery case. Explain the outcome from a biological perspective (gender identity is inborn) and from a social construction perspective (gender identity is learned). Which do you most agree with and why? *Page Reference:* 31-32

 Discuss biological and sociocultural reasons why males of all ages have higher mortality rates than females. *Page Reference:* 40-42