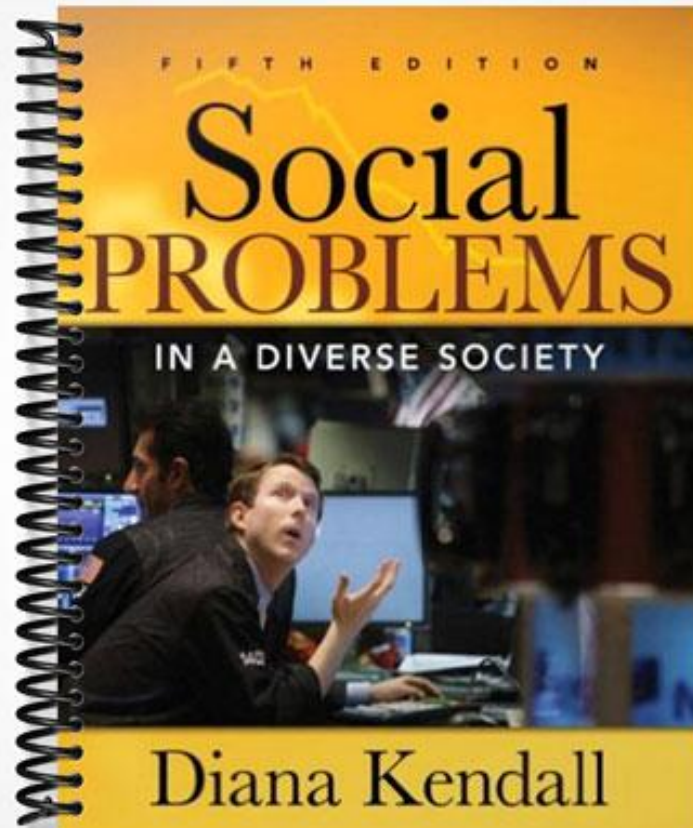


**TEST BANK**



## Chapter One: Studying Social Problems in the Twenty-First Century

### Multiple Choice Questions

- 1.0.1. According to sociologists, a social problem is a social condition or a pattern of behavior that:
- individuals typically bring upon themselves; therefore, they must take action to solve their own problem.
  - everyone agrees is harmful for all individuals and the society.
  - often is of relatively short duration but is problematic for those who are affected by it.
  - people believe warrants public concern and collective action to bring about change.

Difficulty: 1

Page-Reference: 3

Answer : d.people believe warrants public concern and collective action to bring about change.

- 1.0.2. Which of the following is TRUE, when it comes to social problems?
- The definition of social problems is constant across cultures.
  - The definition of social problems is contingent on the culture of the country in question.
  - Culture does not play a role in the definition of social problems.
  - Culture plays only a minimal role in the definition of social problems.

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 3

Answer : b.The definition of social problems is contingent on the culture of the country in question.

- 1.0.3. A large number of individuals who share the same political authority and dominant cultural expectations is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- culture.
  - society.
  - economic system.
  - none of the above.

Difficulty: 1

Page-Reference: 3

Answer : b.society.

- 1.0.4. According to the text, some personal problems:
- are viewed as conditions that affect individual members of a population.
  - are related to the larger social issues in society.
  - rarely harm all of society's members.
  - All of these are accurate.

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 4-5

Answer : b.are related to the larger social issues in society.

- 1.0.5. Of the fifty states in the United States of America, only \_\_\_\_\_ states have hate crime laws.
- seven
  - twenty-three
  - forty-three
  - forty-five

Difficulty: 5  
Page-Reference: 3  
Answer : c.forty-three

- 1.0.6. Which of the following best describes C. Wright Mills' Sociological Imagination?
- The ability to see the world from one's perspective.
  - The ability to create one's world through one's imagination.
  - The ability to connect individual experiences to the larger society.
  - The ability to disconnect the larger society from one's individual's experience.

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 4-5  
Answer : c.The ability to connect individual experiences to the larger society.

- 1.0.7. Microlevel analysis focuses on:

- small group relations and social interaction among individuals.
- individual attitudes and behavior.
- how large scale political decisions affect everyday people.
- All of these are accurate.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 5  
Answer : a.small group relations and social interaction among individuals.

- 1.0.8. The text defines discrimination as:

- a negative or unfavorable attitude towards a group or its individual members.
- stereotyped beliefs that are not tested against reality.
- actions or practices of subordinate group members that have a harmful impact on members of dominant groups.
- actions or practices of dominant group members that have a harmful impact on members of subordinate groups.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 3  
Answer : d.actions or practices of dominant group members that have a harmful impact on members of subordinate groups.

- 1.0.9. David was physically attacked by a group of students in his college dorm. The assailants attacked David because he believed he was homosexual. David was a victim of a(n) \_\_\_\_\_

- simple assault.
- crime of passion.
- battery.
- hate crime.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 3  
Answer : d.hate crime.

- 1.0.10. Which of the following is true, when it comes to children and the media?
- The more violence they watch on television, the greater the likelihood to engage in violent behavior.
  - Children tend to identify with characters they watch on television.
  - Perceived realism in television may lead to aggressive behavior in adulthood, regardless of one's socio-economic status or income level.
  - All of the above.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 8  
Answer : d.All of the above.

- 1.0.11. In order to maintain objectivity, sociologists
- rely on personal opinions to conduct research.
  - use unestablished research methods to conduct research.
  - use theory and systematic research techniques and report their findings to other social scientists for consideration.
  - none of the above.

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 8  
Answer : c.use theory and systematic research techniques and report their findings to other social scientists for consideration.

- 1.0.12. The study of social problems involving the economy or the government would take place at the:
- mesolevel.
  - macrolevel.
  - microlevel.
  - symbolic level.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 5  
Answer : b.macrolevel.

- 1.0.13. According to C. Wright Mills, widespread unemployment resulting from changes in the national economy is:
- a personal problem.
  - a public issue.
  - not a social problem since it will be corrected with the next change in the economy.
  - a problem for those who are unemployed but not for other people.

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 4-5  
Answer : b.a public issue.

- 1.0.14. The ability to see the relationship between individual experiences and the larger society is the definition of:
- collective empathy.
  - social organization.
  - the sociological imagination.
  - common sense knowledge.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 4-5  
Answer : c.the sociological imagination.

- 1.0.15. Jane is a sociologist who prefers to conduct research that focuses on small groups such as individual families and children living in group home residential facilities. The type of analysis Jane prefers is \_\_\_\_\_ analysis.
- quantitative
  - qualitative
  - microlevel
  - macrolevel

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 5  
Answer : c.microlevel

- 1.0.16. Functionalists use the term \_\_\_\_\_ to refer to unintended consequences of an activity or social process.
- dysfunction
  - latent function
  - manifest function
  - social disorganization

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 9  
Answer : b.latent function

- 1.0.17. According to functionalists, social problems are caused by all of the following, EXCEPT:
- social institutions that do not fulfill the functions they are supposed to perform.
  - social disorganization.
  - rapid social change.
  - inequalities based on race, class, gender, age, or other ascribed characteristics.

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 8-11  
Answer : d.inequalities based on race, class, gender, age, or other ascribed characteristics.

- 1.0.18. A set of logically related statements that attempt to explain or predict social events is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ and an overall approach or viewpoint toward a subject is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- theory / perspective
  - perspective / theory
  - evaluation / belief
  - belief / evaluation

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 8  
Answer : a.theory / perspective

- 1.0.19. John is a sociologist who argues that social conditions (real culture) and group values (ideal culture) are incompatible. John is using a \_\_\_\_\_ theory.
- value conflict
  - functionalist
  - subculture of violence
  - routine activity

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 11  
Answer : a.value conflict

- 1.0.20. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of the functionalist perspective?
- Society consists of interrelated and interconnected parts.
  - Parts of society work together to provide stability and social order.
  - Problems arise when society fails to perform its function.
  - Society consists of various groups competing over society's limited resources.

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 8-9

Answer : d.Society consists of various groups competing over society's limited resources.

- 1.0.21. According to critical-conflict theorists, social problems occur when:

- there are discrepancies between the ideal and real culture in society.
- there are major contradictions inherent in how a society is organized.
- there is a high level of social disorganization.
- there are too few people following the rules of society.

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 11-12

Answer : b.there are major contradictions inherent in how a society is organized.

- 1.0.22. All of the following are characteristics of the Critical Conflict Theory EXCEPT this:
- Society consists of groups competing over the limited resources in society.
  - Those, who are in power, manipulate society's institutions for their benefit.
  - Exploitation of those who are not in power, by those who are.
  - Equal distribution of resources in society's institution.

Difficulty: 3

Page-Reference: 11-14

Answer : d.Equal distribution of resources in society's institution.

- 1.0.23. Standards of conduct that are culturally established are \_\_\_\_\_.

- norms
- values
- mores
- None of these are accurate.

Difficulty: 1

Page-Reference: 10

Answer : a.norms

- 1.0.24. All of the following statements regarding the feminist approach are correct, EXCEPT:
- Many feminist theorists focus on patriarchy as the primary source of social problems.
  - Feminist theorists believe that gender inequality cannot be eliminated until patriarchy is abolished.
  - Male domination contributes to domestic violence, abuse, and rape.
  - Unlike other theoretical perspectives, feminism offers one unified approach for examining social problems.

Difficulty: 3

Page-Reference: 12

Answer : d.Unlike other theoretical perspectives, feminism offers one unified approach for examining social problems.

- 1.0.25. According to the conflict perspective, the problem of violence in societies such as the United States is linked to:
- democracy.
  - religion.
  - capitalism.
  - family values.

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 11-12  
Answer : c.capitalism.

- 1.0.26. Sociologist Howard Becker coined the term \_\_\_\_\_ to describe people who develop individual views of right and wrong then label others as deviant.
- deviants
  - moral entrepreneurs
  - moral deviants
  - moral relativists

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 14  
Answer : b.moral entrepreneurs

- 1.0.27. According to sociologist Patricia Hill Collins race, class, and gender are factors that are inter-related and contribute to \_\_\_\_\_ for women of color.
- dominance
  - oppression
  - upward mobility
  - equality

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 12  
Answer : b.oppression

- 1.0.28. Which of the following is one of the three major types of research methods discussed in the text?
- evolutionary methodology
  - field research
  - clinical
  - dramaturgy

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 15-16  
Answer : b.field research

- 1.0.29. In order to conduct a study of population growth among various religious and ethnic groups, Walter collects US.. Census Bureau data for analysis. Walter is using \_\_\_\_\_ for his research.
- primary observational data
  - secondary analysis of existing data
  - secondary analysis of observational data
  - primary field notes

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 18  
Answer : b.secondary analysis of existing data

- 1.0.30. Researchers who use data collected by the FBI and published as the UCR (Uniform Crime Report) are using \_\_\_\_\_ .
- evolutionary methodology
  - field research
  - survey research
  - secondary analysis of existing data

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 18

Answer : d.secondary analysis of existing data

- 1.0.31. Which of the following is a type of field research?
- evolutionary methodology
  - participant observation
  - case study
  - unstructured interview

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 17

Answer : b.participant observation

### True/False Questions

- 2.0.1. According to sociologists, the definition of violence includes pain or injury to other people or damage of property.
- true
  - false

Difficulty: 1

Page-Reference: 3

Answer : a.true

- 2.0.2. The definition of social problems varies across cultures.
- true
  - false

Difficulty: 1

Page-Reference: 3

Answer : a.true

- 2.0.3. It is logical to conclude that one has to be in a position of power in order to discriminate.
- true
  - false

Difficulty: 2

Page-Reference: 3

Answer : a.true



2.0.4. According to C. Wright Mills, in order to understand a phenomenon in question in its entirety, it is important to bridge the micro-macro aspects of society.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 4-5  
Answer : a.true

2.0.5. Underlying arguments against and for gun control are revisions to the U.S. Constitution.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 7-8  
Answer : b.false

2.0.6. What constitutes a social problem remains constant across time.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 4  
Answer : b.false

2.0.7. National polls have shown that people's perceptions of what constitutes a social problem have changed relatively little over the past 50 years.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 4  
Answer : a.false

2.0.8. Sociologists use a variety of theoretical frameworks and research methods to examine social problems.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 8  
Answer : a.true

2.0.9. To be defined as a social problem, a condition or pattern of behavior must affect all members of a population.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 3  
Answer : b.false

- 2.0.10. The functionalist perspective would attribute social problems to the unequal distribution of resources in society.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 8-11  
Answer : b.false

- 2.0.11. The conflict theory attributes social problems to social disorganization.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 8-11  
Answer : b.false

- 2.0.12. According to value conflict theory, there are significant discrepancies between the ideal and real cultures in a society.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 11  
Answer : a.true

- 2.0.13. Critical conflict feminist approaches to the analysis of society focus on patriarchy.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 12  
Answer : a.true

- 2.0.14. Sociologist Peter Berger believed that complete objectivity in studying social problems is irrelevant to contemporary sociologists.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 14  
Answer : b.false

- 2.0.15. C. Wright Mills linked personal problems and public issues in his examination of social problems.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 4-5  
Answer : a.true

2.0.16. Conflict theorists are unified on their approach to studying social problems and generally agree on what constitutes the most important forms of conflict in society.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 11-12  
Answer : b.false

2.0.17. Conflict theorists focus on inequalities in society.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 11-12  
Answer : a.true

2.0.18. The most prominent founder of the critical-conflict perspective was Karl Marx.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 11  
Answer : a.true

2.0.19. Labeling theory and the social construction of reality are value conflict perspectives.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 14  
Answer : b.false

2.0.20. Survey research is probably the research method most frequently used by social scientists.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 18  
Answer : a.true

2.0.21. Field research is valuable because some kinds of behavior and social problems can be studied best by being there.

- a. true
- b. false

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 15-17  
Answer : a.true

- 2.0.22. The type of research method used depends on the nature of the study in question.
- a. true
  - b. false

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 15-19  
Answer : a.true

### Essay Questions

- 3.0.1. Compare and contrast functionalist, conflict, and interactionist perspectives on social problems. Select a specific problem such as unemployment and discuss how each approach might explain its causes, effects, and possible solutions.

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 8-22

- 3.0.2. Of the three main theoretical perspectives mentioned, which do you think most effectively explains social problems? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the theory you have chosen?

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 8-21

- 3.0.3. State the definition for a social problem and explain why it is difficult for sociologists to agree on how social problems should be defined.

Difficulty: 2  
Page-Reference: 3-4

- 3.0.4. Create a proposal to have violence removed from TV, movies, and videos. Use concepts presented in the text as support for your proposal.

Difficulty: 3  
Page-Reference: 3-22

- 3.0.5. Distinguish between the value conflict and the critical conflict approaches for studying social problems. How does the value conflict approach differ from functionalist perspectives on such social problems as violence?

Difficulty: 2  
Question ID: 1.3-5  
Page-Reference: 11-14

- 3.0.6. Explain in detail labeling theory and the self-fulfilling prophecy. Create and describe a violent event or social situation. Use the labeling theory to explain event you described. How can the self-fulfilling prophecy help explain the violent event or social situation you described?

Difficulty: 1  
Page-Reference: 14-15

3.0.7. Explain field research and survey research. Describe how you would develop a study on media violence using field research and survey research.

Difficulty: 3

Page-Reference: 15-19