Cambridge Assessment International Education

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SOCIOLOGY **0495/12**

Paper 1 **May/June 2021**

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

8871552198

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
  - Section A: answer Question 1.
  - Answer **either** Question 2 in Section B **or** Question 3 in Section C.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Section A: Theory and methods

Answer Question 1

1 In the Islington Crime Survey (1986) Jones, Lea and Young researched crime in an area of London called Islington. The survey's aims were to find out the types and the frequency of crime in the area. The researchers hoped that this would provide more accurate data about crime in Islington than the official police records.

The survey involved a random sample of over 2000 households from all parts of Islington. The response rate was approximately 75%. The researchers conducted structured interviews asking people about crimes they or their family had been a victim of during the last year. Respondents were asked about those who committed offences against them and whether they thought police were effective in tackling crime.

Key findings from the study included:

- the burglary rate in Islington was five times higher than the national average
- a third of all households had experienced serious crime in the last twelve months (e.g. robbery, racist attacks and domestic violence)
- over half of women avoided going out after dark due to fear of crime
- more than 60% of respondents thought police were ineffective in dealing with serious crimes
- only half of the crimes experienced by respondents were reported to the police, and only 3.8% of the crimes were detected by the police.

Adapted from: https://islingtoncrimesurvey

Source A

(a) From Source A identify **two** aims of the Islington Crime Survey. [2]

(b) Identify **two** sampling methods, apart from random sampling. [2]

(c) Using information from Source A, describe **two** problems with the validity of the data in the Islington Crime Survey. [4]

(d) Describe **two** strengths of historical documents. [4]

(e) Describe **two** strengths and **two** limitations of random sampling. [8]

(f) Explain why sociologists might use covert participant observation in sociological research. [10]

(g) To what extent are statistics useful in sociological research? [15]

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Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3

Section B: Culture, identity and socialisation

2 Most sociologists agree values are a social construction. They also believe that people acquire their gender, class, ethnic and age identity through the agencies of socialisation and social control. But sociologists disagree on which agency is most effective. Some sociologists claim that the media successfully socialises individuals. Other sociologists claim that the peer group socially controls people effectively, particularly during adolescence**.**

(a) What is meant by the term 'adolescence'? [2]

(b) Describe **two** ways the media socialises individuals. [4]

(c) Explain how values are a social construction. [6]

(d) Explain why ethnicity is an important influence on social identity. [8]

(e) To what extent is the peer group the most effective agent of social control? [15]

Section C: Social inequality

3 Functionalists argue that in most societies there is a meritocracy and that social mobility is possible. Other sociologists argue that barriers such as the dependency culture and racism can negatively affect the life chances of people in poverty and minority ethnic groups. However many sociologists agree that the roles of women have changed in modern industrial societies.

(a) What is meant by the term 'meritocracy'? [2]

(b) Describe **two** aspects of the dependency culture. [4]

(c) Explain how the roles of women have changed in modern industrial societies. [6]

(d) Explain why racism can affect the life chances of some minority ethnic groups. [8]

(e) To what extent is there social mobility between social classes? [15]

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