

# Questions

Sociology



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Sociology Questions Following Max Weber, explain how religion evolved from polytheism to ethical monotheism. Second, explain how this change is related to the development of the religious culture of capitalism. Finally, describe the spiritual values of modern society.

As a religion significantly developed from magic, the existence of superior beings related to specific activities and functions surrounding people were identified. These higher control beings were regarded as gods. With time, professionalism and symbolism took charge of the communities. As this happened, it became necessary, with abstract reasoning from professionalism, to categorise the gods in clusters, pantheons. These clusters represented similar characteristics. When communities developed, those categories that represented important functions such as life were regarded as higher and separate from the earth. Social interaction and symbolism and the need to control human behaviour led to the integration of several higher beings categories to one common being who was recognised by all.

The religious culture of capitalism resulted from this interaction between communities. As monotheism developed, some cultures, especially the western cultures were considered as special and set apart. These cultures promoted dependency and capitalism, values that were embraced in the religion. This too was the origin of the modern spiritual values that promote abject capitalism and individualism. The modern spirituality guides people on an individualised journey of faith and practice.

2. Explain Max Weber's theory of stratification and social change. How do class, status and power legitimate authority in modern society? Finally explain the relationship between authority and social change in bureaucratic

society.

According to Weber, stratification and social change are based on status and power. The factors, class, status and power do not co-vary, and it is, therefore, possible for someone to possess one of the factors and lack the others. The stratification systems are, therefore, constructions of the society. Class, status and power are also responsible for the legitimation of the society. As the society constructs the stratifications, legitimation ensures that the systems remain together. A particular class of people with a specific status gain and retain power and domination over others.

In a bureaucratic society, there is increased size of the population being controlled, and hence the tasks are massive. The markets and the mass democracy needs also increase, and hence class, power and status have to come into play. This interaction of the factors increases the power of the top class to have authority and control over the mass.

Works cited

Allan, Kenneth. Explorations in Classical Sociological Theory: Seeing the Social World. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Pine Forge Press, 2013. Print.