

# Example of social theory essay

People



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Social theories are defined as analytical paradigms that are used in examining all kinds of social phenomena (Rossides 1998). This encompasses ideas that explain how societies change or develop at any given time. These theories, therefore, explain behavior, power and social structures that define society and happenings therein. Themes such as gender and race, as well as social life and institutions, become major areas of concern. A social theory can then be said to concern all aspects that touch on human life and the environment.

There are several social theories and a good example is the Pitrim Sorokin's theory that concerns itself with social differentiation. Sorokin sought to find out the meaning of social differentiation and the types of societal relationships that exist in our society. He gives weight to the 'familialistic' relationship which many people in society value and which everyone in society desires because the relationships bring about a great deal of interaction between members. Such is a theory that seeks to explain a given phenomena in society.

Sorokin's theory is just but an example that shows the basics that are addressed by social theories. A social theory concerns itself with explaining things as they are and giving the reasons they happen the way they do. A social theory will always give an explanation of what we see by giving concepts and assertions that prove these concepts. Sorokin's theory in this case presents an explanation of why there are societal relationships at the family level and the reason why such relationships occur. The questions that are presented by this theory are about why these relationships are there and the roles they play in the lives of people.

## **Reference**

Rossides, D. W. (1998). *Social Theory: Its Origins, History, and Contemporary Relevance*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield.