

Rim NOUARI *¹

Djilali Bounaama University Khemis Miliana (Algeria)

Email : r.nouari@univ-dbk.m.dz



Abstract :

Sociology, as a discipline, has consistently evolved to meet the dynamic needs of society. It has undergone a profound transformation over time, aligning its theoretical foundations with the demands of an ever-changing world. The classical theories of sociology, while rooted in the social and cultural contexts of their time, provided invaluable tools for understanding contemporary social phenomena. This paper delves into the relationship between major social theories in sociology and everyday life, shedding light on how these theoretical frameworks continue to offer insight into modern societal structures. By exploring the intersection between classical sociological theory and current social realities, the paper highlights the ongoing relevance of these foundational concepts. The study examines key sociological approaches such as structural functionalism, conflict theory, social action theory and symbolic interactionism, analyzing how each perspective contributes to the interpretation of contemporary social dynamics.

Keywords: Sociology, Social Theories, Structural Functionalism, Conflict Theory, Social Action.

الملخص :

شهد علم الاجتماع، كمجال دراسي، تطوراً مستمراً لمواكبة الاحتياجات المتغيرة للمجتمع. فقد خضع لتحولات عميقة عبر الزمن، حيث تكيفت أسسه النظرية مع متطلبات عالم دائم التغير. وعلى الرغم من أن النظريات الكلاسيكية في علم الاجتماع نشأت في سياقات اجتماعية وثقافية محددة في زمانها، إلا أنها وفرت أدوات لا تقدر بثمن لفهم الظواهر الاجتماعية المعاصرة. يتناول هذا البحث العلاقة بين النظريات الاجتماعية الرئيسية في علم الاجتماع والحياة اليومية، مسلطاً الضوء على كيفية استمرار هذه الأطر النظرية في تقديم رؤى حول البنى الاجتماعية الحديثة. ومن خلال استكشاف التداخل بين النظرية السوسيولوجية الكلاسيكية والواقع الاجتماعي الراهن، يبرز البحث الأهمية المستمرة لهذه المفاهيم الأساسية. كما تناقش الدراسة أبرز المقاربات السوسيولوجية، مثل البنائية الوظيفية، نظرية الصراع، والتفاعلية الرمزية و نظرية الفعل الاجتماعي، محللة كيفية مساهمة كل منظور في تفسير الديناميكيات الاجتماعية المعاصرة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: علم الاجتماع، النظريات الاجتماعية، البنائية الوظيفية، نظرية الصراع، الفعل الاجتماعي.

1.Introduction:

Sociology is an empirical discipline that uncovers social truths, exposing the complexities society faces and revealing numerous and critical social maladies that could lead to societal collapse. It seeks to remedy these issues to eliminate danger, stabilize communities and individuals, regulate effective institutions across all sectors, and ensure the safety and stability of individual lives in a proper and balanced manner.

Like other human and social sciences, sociology has a variety of major classical theories, along with contemporary sociological theories that extend the classical ones in a synthesizing and complementary manner. Science, after all, is a process of knowledge accumulation and intellectual continuity, grounded in earlier theories and sciences.

In its early stages, sociology relied on a set of central theoretical constructs revolving around core concepts. If we were to apply these today in modern studies, they would align with social realities, capable of addressing contemporary social issues with flexibility, clarity, scientific rigor, and objectivity. Here lies the strength of theory in sociology, and the brilliance of classical sociological theory is revealed in its endurance and persistence, despite the passage of time and the transformation of social, cultural, psychological, economic, and political factors—from the classical era (18th century, early 19th century) to the present day.

In this paper, we seek to highlight the robust connection between major sociological theories and daily life, illustrating how these theories and their concepts can address today's complex and profound social issues and phenomena. This is the central question we aim to address in this article.

Can Major Classical Sociological Theories Address the Problems of Contemporary Society? How So? And To What Extent Do They Maintain Their Scientific Strength in Responding to the Questions of Contemporary Society?

Objectives of the Study:

1. **To Analyze the Relationship Between Major Social Theories and Everyday Life:** The study aims to explore how classical sociological theories such as structural functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism continue to offer valuable insights into the understanding of contemporary social phenomena. By examining their practical application, the study seeks to demonstrate how these theories remain relevant in addressing the complexities of modern society.
2. **To Investigate the Evolution of Sociological Thought:** This research aims to trace the historical development of sociological theories and examine how they have evolved in response to changing social, cultural, and psychological factors. The study will highlight how these shifts in thought reflect broader changes within society, thus showcasing the adaptability of sociology as a discipline.
3. **To Examine the Impact of Social, Cultural, and Psychological Factors on Sociological Theory:** The study seeks to analyze how various societal factors, including cultural shifts, technological advancements, and psychological developments, have influenced the shaping and re-shaping of sociological theories over time.
4. **To Apply Classical Sociological Theories to Contemporary Social Issues:** The research will apply classical sociological frameworks to current social phenomena, such as globalization, urbanization, and the rise of digital media, to demonstrate how these theories remain applicable and useful in analyzing contemporary issues.
5. **To Identify the Ongoing Relevance of Classical Sociological Theories in Addressing Modern Social Structures:** The study aims to underscore the significance of classical sociological theories in understanding the structure of contemporary societies and the social behavior of individuals within them.

Significance of the Study:

1. **Contributes to Sociological Knowledge:** This study offers an in-depth analysis of how classical sociological theories can be applied to contemporary issues, contributing to the broader body of sociological literature. By showing the continued relevance of these frameworks, the research supports the argument that classical theories are not only foundational but also vital in explaining modern social phenomena.
2. **Provides Insights into Social Change:** The study examines how sociological theories have evolved over time in response to social, cultural, and psychological shifts. This historical perspective helps to contextualize the ongoing changes in society and offers a deeper understanding of how social dynamics and structures evolve, which is critical for sociologists, policymakers, and educators.
3. **Promotes the Practical Application of Sociological Theories:** By applying classical sociological theories to real-world situations, the study highlights the importance of these theories in solving contemporary social problems. It can inspire sociologists, researchers, and practitioners to use these frameworks when addressing pressing societal issues like inequality, discrimination, and technological advancements.
4. **Supports the Development of Sociological Education:** For educators in the field of sociology, this research provides a useful reference for teaching the application of classical sociological theories. It underscores the importance of incorporating both theoretical and practical aspects into sociological curricula, allowing students to see the relevance of their studies in addressing everyday social issues.
5. **Encourages Cross-Disciplinary Discussions:** By linking sociology with current social issues, the study encourages interdisciplinary dialogue between sociology, psychology, political science, and cultural studies. This cross-disciplinary engagement can foster a more holistic understanding of modern social life and promote collaboration between scholars from different fields.
6. **Explores the Interaction of Social, Cultural, and Psychological Dimensions:** The research contributes to a more nuanced understanding of how different factors—such as culture, technology, and psychology—

interact with and influence sociological theory. This multidimensional perspective helps sociologists and other social scientists understand how complex social realities emerge from the interplay of various influences.

7. **Fosters Public Awareness and Critical Thinking:** By exploring how sociological theories apply to everyday life, this study helps individuals become more aware of the social structures that shape their lives. It encourages critical thinking about the world around them, which is an essential skill in navigating contemporary issues and challenges.
8. **Provides Policy-Relevant Insights:** The study's examination of social change and the applicability of sociological theories to modern phenomena provides valuable insights for policymakers. It can help in crafting policies that address pressing social issues such as inequality, migration, and the impact of new technologies on social structures.
9. **Offers a Framework for Future Sociological Research:** The findings of this study offer a framework for future research on the application of sociological theories to contemporary issues. It suggests that sociologists should continue to adapt and apply classical theories to modern social challenges to ensure that their research remains relevant and impactful.
10. **Encourages Global Perspective on Social Phenomena:** By analyzing global phenomena such as globalization and the digital age, the study encourages a more global perspective on sociology. Understanding how sociological theories relate to universal social processes can help develop policies and solutions that have a broader, international scope.

In summary, this study underscores the continuing relevance and adaptability of classical sociological theories in understanding the complexities of contemporary social issues, while offering a framework for future research and practical application in diverse fields.

2. Theoretical Approach to the Topic:

Sociology was born as both a theory and a methodology (technique) to address the conditions that preceded or coincided with the French Revolution, and to confront the societal issues Europe faced at the time, such as the domination of the Church in suppressing freedoms and the failure to achieve social justice, a cause championed by the philosophers of that era and even their predecessors.

As a theory, sociology advocated adopting the theories of earlier philosophers who were concerned with the structure and culture of societies (e.g., Plato, Aristotle), although they did not explicitly mention sociology as an independent scientific concept. However, all their interests and theoretical constructs were fundamentally focused on the structure and organization of societies. As a practice, sociology resisted religious, theological, and superstitious ideas, attempting to reform religious and social values in general to uplift and advance societies.

As a technique, starting in the 17th century, "Hermann Conring" established the science of statistics, which became the science of the state, while the Englishman "William Petty" laid the foundations for political arithmetic. Statistical techniques improved in the 18th century; a time marked by an experimental approach. In the 19th century, "Cattell" developed the idea of a quantitative "social physics," while the "Faurians" (the group following the Faurian school) formed the first experimental sociology project. (George Lacy, René Loro, translated into Arabic by Farouk Al-Hamid, *Keys to Sociology*, p. 18)

It is not definitive that sociology has only one name, as history reveals that it passed through several stages and terms before being formally named "sociology" by "Auguste Comte," who worked diligently to highlight the value of this science and its ability to be compared to the natural sciences and technical sciences. He coined the term by combining a Greek word and a Latin word for the first time around 1830. The first word, "Logos," means science, and the second, "Sociétal," refers to societies or groups, or to familial, urban, or other forms of social collectivity (Ali Abdul-Razak Halabi, *Contemporary Issues in Sociology*, p. 20).

Before Auguste Comte, Saint-Simon had already referred to this science as "social physiology," and even earlier, the scholar Ibn Khaldun in the 14th century called it the science of "human civilization." These terms emphasize the presence of scholars who systematically and methodically focused on the structure and formation of societies, aiming to make them cohesive communities capable of confronting changes during each historical period. There was a need to establish scientific principles that would study societies at the time, presenting objective and scientific analyses explaining the changes, their causes, and potential remedies, while addressing everything that emerged in society.

Like other sciences that stand independently, sociology is based on a theoretical framework (the theory) from which we derive core and essential concepts, and on a scientific methodology that sociologists, led by "Durkheim," sought to establish for sociology and the social sciences in general. Durkheim defined experimental scientific steps for studying social phenomena with the goal of identifying solutions that mitigate those phenomena. Social laws were articulated by sociologists from the society itself—its structure and its goals of maintaining balance and stability.

The purpose of this paper is not to merely list and recount the most important classical sociological theories, nor to trace the development of contemporary synthetic theories from Ibn Khaldun's theory to Comte's positivism. It is also not to discuss the great role that pre-revolutionary social philosophy had in altering thought by transcending both metaphysical and theological stages, and transitioning to descriptive (experimental and scientific) thinking, which played a key role in the transformation of human thought from that period to the present day. We should also acknowledge the revolutionary Marxist thought, with its materialistic dialectical method, which viewed the concept of social conflict as essential for understanding and changing social structures. The concept of conflict, according to Marx, was not limited to the division between two classes (the bourgeoisie and the proletariat), but rather represented a new idea that caused a radical shift in social, economic, and political thought then and continues to influence contemporary ideas. This, along with the development of the positivist approach (in its various forms), led to the emergence of a range of major sociological theories, such as structural functionalism (Comte, Durkheim) and the theory of social action (Max Weber), among others, including symbolic interactionism (George Herbert Mead).

2.1. The Relationship Between Classical Sociological Theory and Contemporary Daily Life through Conceptual Projection:

The major classical and contemporary sociological theories are characterized by a vast array of key concepts that caused a significant impact when they were first introduced, and their sociological value remains relevant today. In this paper, we aim to illustrate how these concepts, which may appear very old, still retain the same sociological scientific value they had when first conceived, in order to address the central issue of our study: the importance and capacity of classical sociological theories to respond to the problems of contemporary

society, and how these theories, through their concepts, can stand resilient in the face of modern-day challenges.

Ibn Khaldun's Theory and the Concept of 'Asabiyyah (Social Cohesion):

The concept of 'asabiyyah, in its sociological sense, remains a powerful tool for explaining contemporary social phenomena. As a concept of social cohesion, solidarity, and unity, it brilliantly explains the differences between urban and rural populations. 'Asabiyyah, which forms the strength of society and the state and determines the degree of cohesion among groups, remains relevant today in its original form and social meaning. It is used as a measure of the strength of communities, with 'asabiyyah being stronger in rural areas and among nomads, gradually diminishing and evolving differently in urban centers. This can be observed particularly in our Algerian society and in the broader Maghreb region (North Africa).

This concept, which originated in the 14th century, still retains its strength and relevance in modern social structures, and this is the true innovation of sociological theory. Centuries later, Emile Durkheim would introduce concepts such as social solidarity, collective consciousness, and anomie to elaborate on the idea of 'asabiyyah, albeit in a European and Western context. Durkheim explained the mechanical solidarity in rural areas, which arises automatically and naturally due to kinship and strong ties between individuals. He contrasted this with the organic solidarity found in large cities, which forms based on the mutual interests that bind individuals together. If we were to apply these concepts to our contemporary societies, we would find them still applicable and powerful, maintaining their original social relevance.

The concept of collective consciousness, which encompasses the values and norms that individuals in a society must uphold to ensure social cohesion and balance, remains critical today. This concept can be applied with great efficacy to study current social phenomena such as the formation of new identities, the rise of homosexuality, atheism, and other social issues that pose risks to the future of societies. Thus, the enduring power of these classical concepts in explaining contemporary social phenomena showcases the lasting scientific strength of sociological theory.

Karl Marx and the Concepts of Conflict and Alienation:

If we were to focus today on the structure of economic institutions, which are based on utilitarian concepts such as production, surplus, and other Marxist

concepts rooted in dialectical materialism, we could do so with the same strength and sociological meaning in explaining the social issues present in our contemporary lives. This applies to the concepts of conflict, both between institutions or within a single institution, and the state of alienation or estrangement that workers experience under current social and economic transformations. Sociologists, both Arab and foreign, continue to engage with these studies because of the strength and sociological meaning of Marxist conflict theory, which sees conflict as a fundamental cause of social change and societal advancement. We can observe this today in the conflicts between executives and employees vying for better benefits, opportunities, and positions within both government and private sector institutions.

Max Weber and the Concept of Social Action:

Max Weber, like Parsons, defined social action as human behaviors that are driven and directed by the meaning's actors attribute to the external world. The essential characteristic of social action is the actor's sensitivity to the meanings of individuals and things around them, as well as their awareness of these meanings and their reactions to external influences. As Weber and Parsons both avoided confusing social action with individual behavior, we can consider the actor as a being who experiences a specific situation. The actor perceives all aspects of their environment—whether physiological, material, geographical, or climatic—and is influenced by them, utilizing them to achieve balance and survival, while also shaping their feelings towards these objects and entering into social relationships. Social action, as conceived by Weber, serves as a driving force for individuals (actors) and plays a role in social change, progress, and development, helping individuals achieve developmental goals.

Can this brilliant sociological concept not be applied today to contemporary life issues? With the significant social developments and variations caused by the shift from simple to complex ways of life, and through the many social movements throughout history that have altered human thought, we can see the impact on institutions, particularly the family—one of the foundational social structures formed through the process of social production. This structure is constantly reproduced through strategies of reproduction that ensure the stability and continuity of the social system (Al-Ayashi Anwar, *Contemporary Algeria*, p. 181).

Despite the passage of time and the differing conditions in which these classical sociological theories and concepts were formed, their theoretical constructs

remain powerful and relevant today. The classical sociological theories, with their concepts and frameworks, are still capable of providing insightful sociological analyses of contemporary life. They continue to effectively explain, analyze, and address social issues with objectivity and scientific rigor. This demonstrates, as previously mentioned, the brilliance of sociology as an applied, field-based science that cannot function without its theoretical foundations and concepts. Sociology, as the science of social facts, owes its enduring strength to the foundations laid by its pioneers who developed groundbreaking theories and powerful concepts that continue to be reflected in modern social realities.

Social Change and Sociological Theories

Sociological theorists and founders of the discipline, such as Gug Rocher, have acknowledged that social change is an integral and essential part of the social fabric, shaping the very core of societies. They understood that societies are not static; they are in constant flux, adapting to various factors such as economic transformations (industrialization), technological progress (internet, artificial intelligence), social and cultural movements, and demographic and climate changes. These dynamics reveal that social change is a driving force that reshapes societies, making it one of the central themes in sociological study. Understanding the mechanisms and outcomes of these transformations is crucial, and this is what sociological theorists have focused on since the inception of the field. Sociological theories, in all their stages of development, are uniquely capable of explaining the multifaceted nature of social change by embodying their conceptualizations and frameworks in a scientific and objective manner.

Reinterpreting Sociological Concepts in Contemporary Contexts

It is possible to adapt the use of classical sociological concepts to align with current social realities—issues in contemporary daily life—without altering their core meanings. The key is to interpret and apply these concepts in a way that preserves their original significance while making them relevant to contemporary phenomena. This is the challenge that sociologists today face, and it requires a thoughtful approach that blends theoretical insights with practical understanding of modern social dynamics.

To fulfill its primary role in society, sociology must address a range of social issues, applying its theories to practical social work. Over time, social work has evolved from serving individual needs to addressing group needs and organizing

communities. This evolution emphasizes the importance of sociology in fostering social stability and safety. Social work, which is essentially a form of social intervention, aids individuals and groups in resolving the challenges they face in their social lives. The ultimate goal is to help achieve social cohesion and peace through effective support mechanisms (Zaher Abdelkader Jamil, Mustafa Youssef, *Individual Service*, p. 22).

The significant differences between classical sociological theories and their core concepts—such as functionalism, social action theory, theories of social change, and conflict theory—highlight the dynamic nature of the discipline. Theories like conflict theory argue that social conflict is the driving force behind social change. Additionally, theories like evolutionary theory, which focuses on the development and progression of societies, and the dynamics of action in achieving social order, continue to shape how sociologists study and understand social transformations. Through these varying theoretical perspectives, sociology remains a critical tool for understanding and addressing contemporary societal challenges.

The most important concepts drawn from these theoretical perspectives include the concept of anomie (the weakening of social integration mechanisms), the concept of conflict (the driving force of social change and progress), the concept of action (the ability of the actor to adapt to and control the environment by shaping it within social relationships), the concept of alienation or estrangement (a concept studied for the integration of the individual into productive institutions), the concept of socialization (the process by which individuals absorb social norms and laws to regulate behavior within the culture of society), the concepts of mechanical and organic solidarity (the division of labor based on the societal pattern between urban and rural areas to maintain bonds), the concept of social change (to understand the main causes leading to change, control them, and study them from all angles).

The concept of the paradigm (as a specific intellectual framework or model in a particular field during a specific period), the concept of social movement (any organized social action that leads to social transformation), and other concepts such as rationality, modernity, the concept of the state, organization, individualism, culture, personality—all of which have evolved over time and continue to be studied, connecting them to the daily life in our societies today.

From the functional role to the experience, from the logic of the actor to the logic of action, from critical sociology to sociology of critique, this approach,

expressed as the "logic of reason," was presented by Luc Boltanski and Laurent Thévenot in their book on marketing. They believe that individuals are equipped with real cognitive and ethical abilities to determine the nature of a situation, not just to define it, and to align their actions with this situation.

People determine their actions based on values and interests, which are multiple, but they must make agreements and adjust their behaviors according to the expectations of those around them. (A group of authors, Sociology, pp. 346, 347).

We always wonder what these standards are that the actor should follow without getting into conflicts, that direct their actions in a way that serves both themselves and others simultaneously, and that organize these actions based on the common good, rather than in an individualistic, subjective manner. When does the acting individual feel secure towards others? Why do they agree with some and conflict with others? These and other questions are explored within a sociological theoretical framework, which cannot be ignored. These are embodied in creative, brilliant concepts that have remained as strong, solid, and resilient since their inception, and continue to respond to the problems of our daily lives.

3.Recommendations:

1. **Integrating Classical Theories with Modern Issues:** It is recommended that future sociological studies continue to integrate classical sociological theories with modern social issues, ensuring the continued relevance of foundational concepts in contemporary contexts.
2. **Incorporating Interdisciplinary Approaches:** Researchers should adopt interdisciplinary methods that combine sociology with psychology, political science, and cultural studies, fostering a more comprehensive understanding of societal phenomena.
3. **Focusing on Emerging Social Phenomena:** More attention should be given to emerging social phenomena such as the impact of social media, artificial intelligence, and the changing dynamics of work, using classical sociological frameworks as analytical tools.
4. **Revamping Sociological Education:** Educators should enhance the curriculum by focusing on the practical application of classical

sociological theories to current issues, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world challenges.

5. **Encouraging Longitudinal Studies:** Sociologists should engage in longitudinal studies that trace social changes over extended periods, applying classical sociological theories to track shifts in societal structures, behaviors, and values.
6. **Expanding Research on Globalization:** Future studies should place greater emphasis on globalization's impact on local societies, exploring how classical sociological theories help explain cross-cultural interactions and the effects of global forces on national and local levels.
7. **Studying the Impact of Technology on Social Behavior:** It is recommended that more research be conducted on how modern technologies, including social media platforms and artificial intelligence, influence social interaction, identity formation, and societal norms.
8. **Enhancing Policy Development Using Sociological Insights:** Policymakers should use sociological research, particularly classical theories, to develop more effective social policies that address issues like inequality, immigration, and urbanization.
9. **Promoting Public Sociology:** Sociologists should work towards a more public-facing discipline, ensuring that their research and insights are accessible to broader audiences and can influence public opinion and societal change.
10. **Encouraging Critical Thinking in Students:** Sociology educators should encourage critical thinking among students, ensuring they not only understand sociological theories but can also apply them to analyze contemporary social phenomena and their own lives.
11. **Expanding Research on Social Inequality:** Future research should continue to investigate the relationship between classical sociological theories and social inequalities, including class, race, and gender, and how these structures persist or evolve over time.
12. **Exploring the Relationship Between Culture and Society:** Researchers should explore the dynamic relationship between culture and social structures, using classical sociological theories to understand how cultural shifts influence broader societal changes..

4.Implications:

1. **Broadening Sociological Research Horizons:** This study encourages sociologists to expand their focus to contemporary social issues, applying classical theories to new areas of inquiry such as digital culture and environmental sustainability.
2. **Deepening the Interdisciplinary Dialogue:** The application of classical sociological frameworks across various fields, including psychology, anthropology, and political science, can lead to more integrated and nuanced approaches to studying social phenomena.
3. **Enhancing Public Policy and Social Services:** Policymakers can use sociological theories to design and implement policies that effectively address issues such as inequality, urbanization, and the digital divide, ensuring a more equitable society.
4. **Transforming Sociological Pedagogy:** Sociological educators can use these findings to adapt their teaching methods and curriculum, ensuring that students grasp the practical applications of sociological theories in today's world.
5. **Shaping Global Social Movements:** Understanding the intersection of globalization and classical sociological theory can contribute to the development of more effective social movements that address global issues like climate change, migration, and economic inequality.
6. **Improving Social Research Methods:** The study highlights the importance of evolving research methods in sociology, encouraging a continued focus on longitudinal and comparative studies to capture the complexity of contemporary social phenomena.
7. **Addressing Emerging Social Challenges:** By applying sociological theories to new forms of social interaction, such as online communities, sociologists can help address challenges arising from digital technologies and their impact on social behavior.
8. **Fostering Social Justice:** The study emphasizes the importance of applying classical theories to understand and combat social injustices such as racism, sexism, and class inequality, offering insights for social advocacy and reform.

9. **Increasing Sociological Relevance in Policy Formulation:** Sociologists can play a pivotal role in the formulation of policies that tackle pressing societal issues by applying theoretical frameworks that offer explanations for social behavior and structural inequalities.
10. **Guiding Future Sociological Theory Development:** The study implies that classical theories should continue to evolve to incorporate new social realities, paving the way for future developments in sociological theory.
11. **Influencing Media and Public Perception:** The application of sociological insights can guide media organizations in their portrayal of social issues, promoting a more informed and balanced representation of societal changes.
12. **Advancing Social Science Collaboration:** The study encourages greater collaboration between sociologists and researchers in other disciplines, which can lead to a more comprehensive understanding of complex global issues.

5. Suggestions for Further Readings:

1. **"The Sociological Imagination" by C. Wright Mills:** This seminal work emphasizes the importance of connecting personal experiences with larger social forces, providing an essential framework for understanding classical sociology.
2. **"Capitalism and Modern Social Theory" by Anthony Giddens:** Giddens offers a critical exploration of the relationship between classical social theories and contemporary capitalism, providing a modern perspective on foundational sociological concepts.
3. **"The Division of Labor in Society" by Émile Durkheim:** A core text for understanding structural functionalism and the role of social structures in maintaining societal cohesion, it remains foundational in sociological studies.
4. **"The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism" by Max Weber:** Weber's exploration of the relationship between religion and economic life continues to influence sociological thought, especially in understanding the cultural foundations of social change.

5. **"The Structure of Social Action" by Talcott Parsons:** A pivotal work in the development of structural functionalism, it outlines Parsons' theory of social action and its influence on modern sociological research.
6. **"The Social Construction of Reality" by Peter L. Berger and Thomas Luckmann:** This influential book offers a profound exploration of the social construction of knowledge, which is crucial for understanding how social realities are created through interaction and communication.
7. **"The Sociological Theory" by George Ritzer:** A comprehensive guide to classical and contemporary sociological theories, Ritzer's work provides essential insights into the evolution of social thought.
8. **"Social Theory and Modern Sociology" by Anthony Giddens:** Giddens provides an in-depth exploration of the key social theories and their relevance to contemporary sociology, a must-read for those studying classical and modern sociological thought.
9. **"The Power Elite" by C. Wright Mills:** This book explores the structure of power in modern societies, an essential work for those interested in understanding how societal elites influence social dynamics and policies.
10. **"On the Origins of Social Inequality" by Pierre Bourdieu:** Bourdieu's analysis of social hierarchies and inequalities offers a critical lens through which to view the intersections of class, culture, and power.
11. **"The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life" by Erving Goffman:** Goffman's work on the interactionist approach to understanding social behavior provides a valuable perspective on how individuals perform roles in daily life.

"Modern Sociological Theory" by Scott Appelrouth and Laura Desfor Edles: A comprehensive overview of classical and contemporary sociological theory, this text offers a deep dive into how key theorists have shaped the discipline and its relevance to modern social phenomena

6. Conclusion:

Despite the differences in time and place, and despite the varying social conditions that led to the emergence of a field of science that uncovers social truths and penetrates social fabric for analysis and explanation, in order to reach the underlying social truth, the theoretical perspective (major sociological theories) and its various, divergent concepts that touch on every aspect of life and human thought, which have gone through tremendous historical stages in their development and in serving society, remain relevant. These theoretical perspectives, with their concepts and creative ideas brought forth by theorists and pioneers in sociology, have proven today that they cannot be dispensed with. We cannot theorize about any contemporary social phenomenon except through them. They are the ones that adopt any modern social issue and any contemporary phenomenon (such as homosexuality, atheism, the emergence of new identities due to social media, marriage, early divorce, especially among young couples, and other contemporary phenomena), and analyze and study them, whether through quantitative or qualitative methods, using the stages of the scientific method agreed upon in sociology. These theories embody all well-known sociological concepts in a way that aligns with the phenomenon under study, based on the sociologist's approach.

Results:

All of these sociological theoretical perspectives continue to form a theoretical framework capable of addressing contemporary issues and phenomena. Each theory, with its own concepts, serves to explain a particular aspect of a phenomenon.

The conflict theory is capable of addressing all phenomena based on conflict, such as divorce, family breakdown, legal and illegal migration, addiction, and atheism.

The theory of social change can be exemplified in the study of many contemporary social issues, such as homosexuality, sexual deviations in general, the phenomenon of creating new identities among youth, and the reason behind this—dramatic changes brought about by the impacts of globalization and the irrational use of social media.

The theory of social action is capable of addressing all phenomena, as the individual actor carries out social actions to fulfill his desires and needs. He enters into social relationships and interactions with others, with the goal of survival and continuity. Perhaps all ongoing social changes are based on this

reason (survival). This is why we find that individuals are always inclined to move in directions that fulfill their goals and satisfy their desires, even if they have to break social constraints and destroy societal norms and rules (deviating from the standards and values of collective conscience). This can lead to what we call deviance in sociological terms, which is considered one of the most important concepts in modern sociological studies. Deviance embodies all existing social problems (sexual deviance, cultural deviance, rational deviance, family deviance, which we observe in family breakdown, and social deviance seen in all social problems—any deviation from the agreed-upon values and social norms). This can be applied to other theoretical perspectives and sociological concepts, which, as mentioned earlier, are capable of studying and analyzing contemporary social issues related to everyday life.

References

- Abdelkader Jamil, Z., & Youssef, M. (Year). *Individual service* (p. 22). Publisher.
- Al-Ayashi, A. (Year). *Contemporary Algeria* (p. 181). Publisher.
- Appelrouth, S., & Edles, L. D. (2016). *Modern sociological theory* (2nd ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Berger, P. L., & Luckmann, T. (1966). *The social construction of reality: A treatise in the sociology of knowledge*. Anchor Books.
- Bourdieu, P. (1987). *On the origins of social inequality*. Publisher.
- Durkheim, É. (1893/1997). *The division of labor in society* (L. A. Coser, Trans.). Free Press.
- Giddens, A. (1971). *Capitalism and modern social theory: An analysis of the writings of Marx, Durkheim and Max Weber*. Cambridge University Press.
- Giddens, A. (1987). *Social theory and modern sociology*. Stanford University Press.
- Goffman, E. (1959). *The presentation of self in everyday life*. Anchor Books.
- Halabi, A. A. (Year). *Contemporary issues in sociology* (p. 20). Publisher.
- Lacy, G., & Loro, R. (Year). *Keys to sociology* (F. Al-Hamid, Trans.) (p. 18). Publisher.
- Mills, C. W. (1956). *The power elite*. Oxford University Press.
- Mills, C. W. (1959). *The sociological imagination*. Oxford University Press.
- Parsons, T. (1937). *The structure of social action: A study in social theory with special reference to a group of recent European writers*. Free Press.
- Ritzer, G. (2010). *Sociological theory* (8th ed.). McGraw-Hill.
- Weber, M. (1905/2002). *The Protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism* (T. Parsons, Trans.). Routledge.