

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
BA DEGREE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES - LEVEL IV
FINAL EXAMINATION 2012
SSU2207 APPLIED SOCIOLOGY**



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 17th June 2012

Time: 01.30 p.m. -04.30 p.m.

Please answer 5 questions only. Please note that each question carries equal marks.

Take some time to read and understand the question. Please do not spend more than 30 minutes answering each question.

1. What are the different roles of a sociologist? Which of these roles is most appealing to you and why?
2. Early marriage (marriages between individuals where at least one person is less than 18 years) is generally considered a social problem. Discuss how a social problem is defined and if you agree or disagree that early marriage is a social problem.
3. What is meant by a 'culture of poverty'? Critically discuss this theory in relation to its applicability in the Sri Lankan context.
4. It has been argued that the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka has an economic basis. Analyse ethnic relations in Sri Lanka using this argument.
5. Discuss the impact of private education on ensuring equal educational opportunities in Sri Lanka.
6. Newspapers have been recently reporting increased incidents of family violence. Analyse some of the factors related to family violence in Sri Lanka.
7. Discuss the nature of political violence in Sri Lanka and its impact on the Sri Lankan political order.
8. The Urban Development Authority in Colombo has recently taken many steps to deal with the problem of garbage disposal and to make Colombo more beautiful. How effective have these been in dealing with the environmental issues faced by the city of Colombo?

9. Discuss the limitations of a biomedical and mental health approach to dealing with suicide in relation to the Sri Lankan context.
10. Discuss some of the changes that have been taking place in urban areas in relation to road construction in Sri Lanka. How have these changes affected the social life of people in cities?

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