



**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC
POLICY
CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THOUGHT AND PUBLIC POLICY (SSP 2129)
FINAL EXAMINATION - 2009**

DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 22nd August 2009

Time: 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Answer three (03) questions only

1. Naila Dabeer's work describes the socio-economic and political context within which various discourses on women and development evolved. Discuss.
2. The universally powerful thesis of Amartya Sen that development without freedom goes against the spirit of human advancement is best kept in mind by Third World political regimes when selecting models of development. Discuss.
3. The assumption that civil society should function strictly within the space created by the government as a social institution is not quite harmonious with the concept of public sphere defined by Jurgen Habermas as an independent space for free discussion and deliberation. Discuss.
4. Moser was successful in translating feminist concepts into tools for development planning from a gender perspective. Discuss.
5. The work of Johann Galtung in highlighting the social obligations of peace communicators remain valid in the contexts of conflict and post conflict trust building process. Discuss.
6. The work of Michael Foucault with regard to knowledge, power and discourse and its impact on human behaviour provide a fresh dimension to our understanding of mental illness and its treatment. Discuss.
7. The significance of reconciliation as a peace making paradigm is greatly emphasized through the work of Laderach. Discuss.

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