

The Weberian view of class and status:

Use the source text and other books to answer the questions and develop your own notes on Weber.

source text: P.L. Selke, *Advanced Sociology*, Pan Study Aids (1987:127)

Questions

- What was wrong with the Marxist view of class in Weber's view?
- What is power?
- How does power vary between people?
- What is the main determinant of a person's class according to Weber? With whom does he share this view?
- How many types of social class are there according to Weber?
- Why are there no permanent class groupings?
- How does Weber's view of status differ from his view of class?
- What determines a person's status?
- What four criticisms have been made of Weber's concepts of class and status?

Analysis

These questions require you to give your own opinions and then your reasons for your beliefs.

- How useful would be the Weberian view of class and status be for anyone attempting a serious analysis of the class structure of present day Britain?
- Look at Selke (1987:119) to see changes in the occupational structure of Britain. Summarise these changes briefly and then suggest reasons whether they tend to support either the Weberian or the Marxist view of the class structure.
- Look at Selke (1987:117) to see the relationship between income and wealth. Do these findings offer any insight into the Weberian view of class and status? Does any other type of theory offer a better explanation for differentials of wealth and class in Britain?