

ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

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Nowadays, the society is determined by the economy in achieving its objectives or goals. Therefore, the economy is an essential part of modern-day society. Sociologists have a belief that a society cannot function properly without the economy. They also have a belief that the economy is a social practice in its own right. According to Marx, it also plays a role in the legal, ethical, educational, administrative, and the religious society. However, the go-ahead of the relationship and its determination is a matter of speculative discussion. Marx was the first theorist to investigate the link involving the economy and the society during the period of early twentieth and late nineteenth century (Humphrey, 1983).

Marx perceived the economy as the foundation that establishes the social superstructure. He believed that the economy fundamentally is a social trend and has a value to be studied. Today, sociologists argue that the nation is at the heart of Marx's sociological theories. Contrary to the beliefs of other sociologists, Marx considered the society to be the result of a social superstructure of an economic base. It is the theory that the economic base establishes other social arrangements such as politics, religion, and ideology. Marx latest development of his economic and social theories can be analyzed based on his book known as "The German Ideology." He argues that history depends on the way of life of people. He claims that people create their own mechanism that would enhance their chances of survival. It is evident that his book focuses on innovative ideas that people should have for successful survival in the society. Therefore, production would be a good activity that advances the living standards of individuals in the society.

From his book we learn that the economy develops from the means of production that comes about in the delegation and types of property. The growth of the economy bases the facts from various forms of properties in history. Such kinds of properties are ancient, feudal, and

tribal. Marx clearly gives a good explanation about each of the property ownership type. He stipulates that the tribal property ownership pursues the social organization of the family. Additionally, he claims that it is a comparatively primitive method of ensuring the growth of the economy. Alternatively, the ancient property pursues the growth of cities that are established because of the amalgamation of various tribes. Finally, feudal form is normally the consequences guilds of artisans and the development of countries (Andorka & Bertalan, 1986).

Marx claims that political and social organizations originate from the economics methods of production. Based on the facts from many research studies that he did, it is possible to state that consciousness is another factor that is determined by methods of production. For that reason, ideology resulting from consciousness is the element of social superstructure. Marx believes the economic base of a society determines social superstructure. Some of the factors that form the base of the economy include the conflict between the individual and common interests, division of property, and the division of labor. In this sense, a country, which grows because of the common interests, is normally opposed to personal interests.

Marx claims that joint control of the methods of production is preferable and Marxism as an ideology can offer sovereignty to the universal interest of the economy. This is facilitated by the privatization of the property and the division of labor. He also claims that the present form of the country's interest of the ruling economic class does conflict with the communal interest of the workers. To solve this conflicting problem, Marx proposed that revolution would be the ideal factor to ensure the movement forward of the economy. This is a circumstance where the leading methods of production are eradicated in order to create the new method that would improve the development of society (Marx, 1978).

Marx also claims that the ruling economic class determines the leading ideas in the community. This is evident as he says, “The class, which is the ruling intellectual force is at the same time the ruling material force of the society.” Additionally, workers must oppose the class interest with the revolution. Therefore, forming a new class would essentially defeat the role of the revolution. He claims that communism must offer the freedom from the current methods of production. When individual property and the division of labor are eliminated by joint ownership, people are open to pursue their own concerns.

According to his book “The Communist Manifesto,” the theory of revolution by considering the economic class efforts is effective. We see him arguing that Marxism resists the work of repression. This is the consequence of the class wars. Marx clearly stipulates that the problem in the society that is affecting the growth of the economy is the disparity of classes. It has led to the bourgeois society, which means that a person in this class belongs to a middle class. It also means that an individual behavior and attitudes are noticeable by the conformity of the standards.

It is clear that the economy determines the status of the society as Marx claims that the present industries and established markets in the economy have led to a class of the bourgeoisie. These people normally exploit the workers by not paying them their dues. They normally practice free trade to make their daily needs meet. Marx disregards this class as he claims that it is needed to have centralized means of production, agglomerated population, and take the scarce property in the society in their hands. This has resulted to political centralization. Additionally, it has resulted to the creation of the diverse groups, which inflict the right of the bourgeoisie to take advantage of the workers.

Therefore, learning from Marx about the modern bourgeoisie in the economy is vital for ensuring that the society conducts good practices that are of benefit to their survival. The background of the present bourgeoisie community is the constant upheaval of the factors of production in opposition to the provision of the production. Marx refers to this crisis as “epidemic of over production.” In the sense, in case a country reaches a point when there is no continuation of the production, it results in damage the community. As a result, it restores the nation to a situation where there is a continued growth of the economy and the industrial improvement.

Based on the facts from Marx, the bourgeoisie believes that labor is an economic product just like other materials for goods and services. Therefore, workers are strained to sell their labor on the marketplace and face inhumane working condition. Such people in the economy may bring imbalance to the society. The rise of disputes in the community may lead to war that would damage and reduce the growth of the economy. Marx stipulates that factories had replaced workshops, whereby it facilitated the reduction of the output in the economy. Marginal skills were required to operate the machines of the present industries in the economy. This resulted to the unstable economy that could not satisfy people’s wants in the society (Marx, 1932).

It is necessary to learn that the consistent development and growth of the industries led to the concentration of power in the trade union forms and the workers. This resulted to strikes and intermittent riots. It is clear that the economy is a critical element for any country in the process of ensuring the development and the growth of the country. It is evident that the classes had numerous disputes among themselves. For example, the rivalry between the workers destabilized their struggle in the society. Marx considers the economy as the cause of resulting superstructure. Therefore, the difference between workers and the ruling class that owned the methods of

production led to warfare. He forecasted that such warfare eventually would culminate in a communistic revolution, where private ownership of the methods of production and the class were abolished for good.

Marx perceived the relations in the economy to be essential, he means that the economics comprise of various factors such as methods of production, forces of production, and the class awareness with the society. He believed that the economic or the environmental factors determined the conscience of that class. Marx believed that the capitalist class was overthrown, which had all the power to control all the activities that were carried out in the nation. He said that a classless community could arise, which was not concerned about the exploitation of the common person but would share the sense of communism (Anyon, 2011).

He advocated for communism claiming it to be the ideology that would foresee the development and growth of the economy. Therefore, the growth of the economy would automatically lead to a good relationship between the people in the society. He argued that there would be equal distribution of wealth and justice in the community. However, Marx theory shows that the interior disagreement that led to the downfall of capitalism would occur. We see him discredit the mechanism of capitalism arguing that it opposes the acts of humankind in the society. Marx used his ability of economic and social context to evaluate roles played by the law.

Various scientists view Marx as a social theorist who has played a large role in reducing capitalism in a society. Additionally, his consideration has led to the reduction of the law to a means by individuals in economic power to take advantage of the people. It is evident from his writing that he disregards the activities done by people who are using the mechanism of capitalism to benefit themselves. He criticizes technique of capitalism saying that individuals

cannot exercise their full capacity with the use of capitalism as a mean to administer the people in the society.

It is the obligation of the economy to make sure that there is no conflict in the society. As we have seen from his narration, the application of capitalism cannot help in ensuring the success of the community in the future as it plays a crucial role in benefiting some individuals. Everyone should be in the forefront in advocating for appropriate actions in the society. Marx advocates for communal activities and government, when everyone in a country is given an opportunity to express his or her own view about appropriate mechanism. He claims that in order to make sure a given country conducts its activities in the right way, people should come about with the right propositions. According to Marx, the economy is needed for a society to give their view in the best practices that are suited for the continuation of the country (Marx & Fowkes, 1977).

Basing the argument on Marx narrations, the bourgeoisie class had all the power, which was used to exploit the people in the economy. Sometimes they would force the people in doing chores without getting any benefit, i.e. they could not get their wages after work. Marx criticizes the work of various socialist who base their argument on capitalism. In his book “The Communist Manifestos,” the author claims that capitalism can lead to a lot of negativity such as forced labor, the lack of adequate basic needs in the society among others. The bourgeoisie class conducted the activities of the country in a manner that was not pleasing to all the people. This led to disputes, wars and misunderstanding among the people in the society.

A lot of research studies conducted by Marx show that the economy is the key institution that is supposed to facilitate and to ensure the society is growing. In the past, there existed people who only advocated for practices that would only benefit them. Therefore, that led to imbalance in the society. There was the rise of two groups, i.e. the rich and the poor. Furthermore,

comparing the bourgeoisie class to others in the country showed that a large number of people were poor. Marx insists that capitalism could not bring equity in the nation in any way. We have evidenced many predicaments brought about by the capitalism. Marx claims that the application of capitalism in the nation caused a large number of problems, which is the reason that he motivated him in nurturing people on the best practices that would see good results to the society (Ayers, 2008).

Marx disregards capitalist societies where he argues that they have no part to play in an economy at all. Nevertheless, he criticized the focus universality and the timelessness of the way of life for such theories totally dismisses the certainty and the effects of how the economy is administered.

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