

MADRAS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
QUESTA FORUM
Talk on Social Stratification

Event No: 4

Date: 12.09.2022.

Time: 10 am – 11:15 am

Venue: Tag Auditorium

Faculty Organiser: Prof. Agnes Roshini.

Student Organiser: Mr Nalif, Mr Sathish

Documented by: Ms. Aishwarya

Total Participants: 40

Organised by: QUESTA forum

A Talk on social stratification started with Mrs. Taj introducing the guest speaker Mr. Sridhar.

The talk started with

1. what is Stratification
2. Principles
3. Global and local context
4. Impact
5. Binding factor?
6. How social stratification looks like?

These are the aspects the talk covered.

Social stratification is the society ranks people in hierarchy. Social stratification has 4 principles

1. Social stratification is a trait of society not simply a function of individual differences
2. Social stratification is universal but variable

3. Social stratification involves not just inequality but belief

4. Social stratification persists over generation.

Then Mobility in social stratification is discussed, Terms like caste, gender, sexuality, economical class were distinguished into upward, downward, open and closed mobility. He quoted an example from Dr. Ambedkar which made a huge impact on student's mind and why caste-based discussion is not happening in house. And sir gave us how upward or downward is multidimensional. The factors affecting it. Then Global context was discussed. USA, Japan, India and Africa were deeply analysed. " Is untouchability still practiced?

Do caste still exists?"

Sir shared his own experience. While he was searching for a house in Chennai, the people use to ask "Are you veg or non veg" and will you do Pooja regularly or not? And what is your native? This made him understand how casteism plays a major role. Sir gave a very good example with food pattern. Why coffee is prized high than Tea? And curd vs buttermilk. These aspects gave us deep understanding about the role of caste plays in our day today daily life. And most importantly the statistical analysis was done on the representative of Lower caste in IIT, AIMS, Supreme court judges. The data says out of 8856 faculties not even 3 Percent are from lower caste. And 70 percent of death penalty happens with Marginal caste. Then the students were made to do a very important experiment through Google search. Sir asked us to search Brahmin girl and Dalit girl and asked us to see the differences. This helped the students to understand the behaviour prevailing in the society. And we were given with a sheet to understand and figure our own freedom in all the aspects.

This suggestion ended with Mrs. Swarna by giving Vote of thanks. Followed by group photo.

Photos of the Event:







Conclusion:

In conclusion, the talk on social stratification by Mr. Sridhar provided a comprehensive understanding of the principles, impact, and global and local context of social stratification. The discussion on mobility in social stratification, caste-based discrimination, and statistical analysis of representation of lower castes in various institutions brought attention to the persistent inequality prevalent in society. The experiment on Google search provided a glimpse into the prevailing behavior towards different castes. Overall, the talk was an eye-opener and emphasized the need to work towards creating an equal and just society.