#### Sociology 126: Health of the Public Spring 2015 First Midterm Examination

Na	ame:
SI	D Number:
ΤI	F:
Di	rections:
	ease read these instructions carefully; we will deduct points if you do not comply with them actly:
1.	Write your full name, Yale SID number, and TF's name at the top of this page.
2.	This exam consists of SIX (6) questions. Each question is on a separate page. You need to answer FIVE of the six questions. <b>You should answer</b> <i>only</i> <b>FIVE questions</b> . If you answer all six, we will grade and count only #1-5, and you will have made bad use of your finite time. The last page is scrap paper that will not be graded (you may rip it off to use it, but leave the rest of the exam stapled together).
3.	On every page except the scrap paper, write your Yale SID and name at the top. DO THIS NOW.
4.	Leave blank the page with the question you are not answering. If you start writing on it and change your mind, put a large X through the page. It must be clear to the graders which question you are choosing not to answer.
5.	A good answer will refer to readings or lectures where relevant (you can mention a name or the title or just the article's topic – we do not expect precise citations). Your answer should be as organized, clear, and concise as possible. <b>Remember we are NOT expecting a full essay</b> ; <b>two paragraphs should be sufficient for each question.</b> You are not required (or even encouraged) to use all the space provided to answer a question. <b>Make sure to write legibly.</b>
6.	Please raise your hand to speak with a TF if you have any questions.
	Good luck!
	For graders' use only.
	Question 1: Question 4:
	Question 2: Question 5:
	Question 3: Question 6:
	Total:

Que	estion	#1

Name:	_
Yale SID:	-

The following is an excerpt from a *Wall Street Journal* article that appeared last month (January 26, 2015):

When the Kimura family moved here from Tokyo, their middle school-aged daughter missed her old friends. Midway into her first year in high school, she stopped going. Between 14 and 19, she barely left the house, and for one year hardly left her room, interacting only with her parents.

Now 33 and recovered, Ms. Kimura says she was "hikikomori." That's the name of a type of social withdrawal that can be so severe, people with it don't leave their houses for years. It's also what those who suffer from the condition are called.

The puzzling condition is often thought of as a Japanese phenomenon, affecting an estimated 500,000 to two million in Japan....

In Japan, hikikomori has been a household word since the 1990s, with many experts calling it one of the biggest social and health problems plaguing the country. Yet the causes and treatments of the condition—or even whether it's a mental illness or not—remain poorly understood. And while the Japanese government has poured significant funds into helping hikikomori, treatment success rates remain low......

Using two different definitions of disease, discuss and evaluate whether "hikimori" should be considered a disease.
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# **Question #2**

Name:	 	 
Yale SID:		

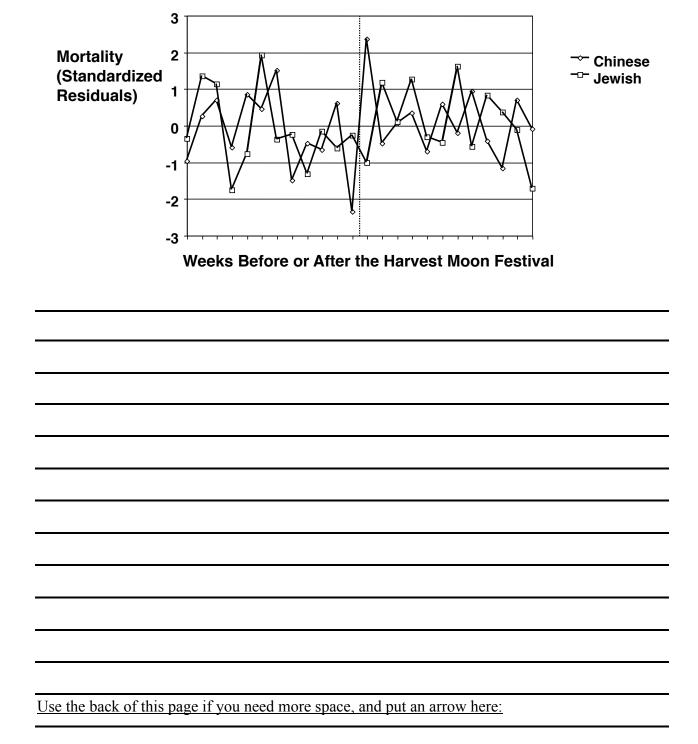
Define "structure" and "agency" as the terms have been used in class. Then consider the case of a patient suffering from a cardiovascular disease, such as a heart attack. Describe: (a) a factor related to agency that might help explain the patient's predicament; and (b) a factor related to structure that might explain the patient's predicament.			

## **Question #3**

Name:		
Yale SID:		

Consider the chart below, which shows deaths from natural causes around the Harvest Moon Festival for elderly Chinese and Jewish women in California, in the period from 1960-1984 (taken from DP Phillips and DG Smith, "Postponement of Death Until Symbolically Meaningful Occasions," JAMA 1990; 263: 1947-1951.) Please **briefly** answer the following:

- (a) Summarize the key finding in the slide.
- (b) Why do the authors include both Chinese and Jewish women in their analysis?
- (c) What do these findings say about **one mechanism** by which religion might affect health?



Question	<b>#4</b>
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Name:	
Yale SID:	

A patient goes to her doctor for a viral upper respiratory infection. For such infections, antibiotics are not helpful. Nevertheless, the doctor prescribes an antibiotic. The patient suffers a serious allergic reaction to the medication. Please **briefly** answer the following:

(a)	In w	hat	way	does	this	episode	reflect	clinical	iatrogenesi	s?
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<ul><li>(a) In what way does this episode reflect clinical iatrogenesis?</li><li>(b) In what way does it reflect social iatrogenesis?</li></ul>

### **Question #5**

Name:	
Yale SID:	

The graph below shows the rates of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) by race and level of education, before and after the "Back to Sleep" Campaign implemented between 1991 and 1996 (Pickett Am J PH 2005- Figure 1). Please **briefly** answer the following:

- (a) How does the graph provide evidence for improvements in response to the campaign?
- (b) Did white people at all educational levels benefit equally?
- (c) Provide one possible reason for your answer to (b): why or why not?

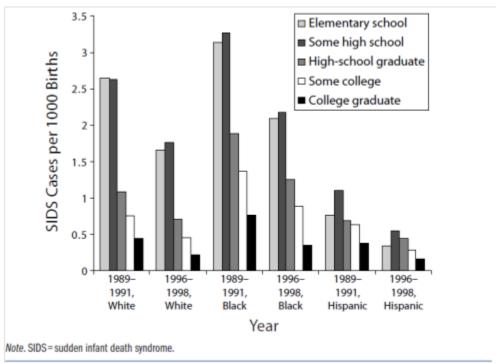


FIGURE 1—Rates of SIDS per 1000 live births by mother's race/ethnicity and social class in the before and after Back to Sleep birth cohorts.

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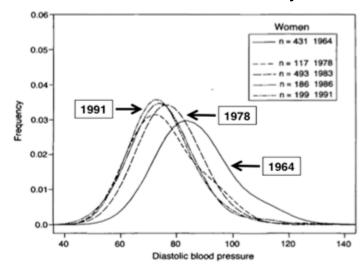
Question	#6
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Name:	
Yale SID:	

Are the data shown in this slide below more compatible with (1) the implementation of a campaign to treat high blood pressure with drugs discovered in the late 1960's, or (2) a set of broad socioeconomic changes in modern society?

Briefly explain why findings such as this are important with respect to arguments about the causes of health improvements in our society in the past century.

#### Distributions of Diastolic Blood Pressure in 50-year-old Danish Women, during 1964-1991



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# Scrap Paper \*\*Nothing on this page will be graded\*\*