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| Functionalism | Marxism | Feminism |
| “Ill – health is deviant because it stops people from performing their normal social role such as going to work or school.”“If someone is sick then they must adopt a ‘sick role’ where they seek expert medical health and follow this advice so they can get back to their normal role as soon as possible”.“A sick person must never self-diagnose, they must visit a health professional to prove they are taking the correct steps to return to health as quickly as possible”.“In order for society to function efficiently, its members need to be healthy”.“If an individual is sick, they should take all reasonable steps to get better and resume their normal place in society”.“Illness has a social consequence”. | “Doctors only treat people and help them return to normal health so they can get back to work and earn money for the economy”.“A doctor’s job is to provide a company will a healthy workforce”.“The Government allows companies to actually make profit from products that cause ill-health such as tobacco and junk food”.“Business firms and factories continue to produce toxic waste and pollute the atmosphere contributing to people’s poor health”.“Some people can’t necessarily afford what is considered ‘good’ for them, such as fresh and organic fruit and vegetables”. “Some people make lifestyle choices out of habit and culture, such as drinking and smoking, which in turn can lead to ill-health”.“Some people live in areas where they do not have effective access to services”.“Life expectancy decreases in poorer parts of the country. High unemployment and environmental pollution are linked to ill-health in areas of poverty”“Definitions of health and illness serve the interests of the powerful and dominant social groups in society”. | “Male doctors dominate pregnancy and treat pregnancy and child birth as medical issues, even sometimes as illnesses, rather than natural processes”.“Medical professions and pharmaceutical industries have given the male contraceptive pill a low priority, which has fewer harmful side effects than contraceptive methods used by women”.“Woman are exploited in society which leads to high numbers of anxiety, stress and depression”.“The family exploit a woman’s role, and the majority of responsibility to domestic chores, child care and taking on paid employment can lead to mental illness.”“Women’s mental health is often defined as medical problem that require medicine to treat rather than focus on the social inequalities that cause it in the first place”. |