**Social Class in the US:**

**Chapter 8 Lecture Outline**

1. **What Is Social Class?**
2. **Definitions.**
3. **Weber.**
4. **Mark.**
5. **Property dimension.**

**1. Wealth.**

**2. Income.**

**3. Distribution of wealth and income in U.S.**

1. **Power Dimension.**

**1. Hellinger and Judd; Democratic façade.**

**2. Mills: Power Elite.**

1. **Prestige dimension.**
2. **Occupation.**

**2. Status symbols.**

**3. Status consistency.**

**4. Status inconsistency.**

1. **Sociological Models of Social Class.**
2. **Marx: Unidimensional model.**
3. **Bourgeoisie (capitalist class).**
4. **Proletariat (working class).**
5. **Inconsequential others (beggars, homeless, serfs)**
6. **Wright (modern modification of Marx).**
   1. **Capitalist class.**
   2. **Petty bourgeoisie (small business owners).**
   3. **Managerial class.**
   4. **Proletariat (working class).**
7. **Weber: Multidimensional model. Gilbert and Kahl modification.**
   * 1. **Capitalist class (1%).**
     2. **Upper-middle class (15%).**
     3. **Lower-middle class (34%).**
     4. **Working class (30%).**
     5. **Lower class (15%).**
     6. **Underclass (5%).**
8. **Symbolic Interactionism: Different meanings gender, housework, and childcare**

**have for women and men.**

1. **Consequences of social class..**
   1. **Healthcare.**
   2. **Mental health.**
   3. **Family, marriage, childhood socialization.**
   4. **Education levels.**
   5. **Political affiliation and involvement.**
   6. **Religious orientation.**
   7. **Criminal justice system.**
2. **Social Mobility**.
   1. **Intergenerational.**
   2. **Structural.**
   3. **Exchange.**
3. **Poverty**.
   1. **Federal poverty income guidelines.**
   2. **Social groups most at risk of poverty.**

**1. Regional: Clustered in south.**

**2. Race-Ethnicity: Disproportionate amount of poor minorities.**

**3. Education level: High school dropouts most at risk.**

**4. Gender: Feminization of poverty.**

**5. Age: Elderly less likely to live in poverty (elderly minorities exception).**

**c. Children more at risk than mature adults or elderly.**

**d. Culture of poverty thesis (Oscar Lewis).**

**e. Structural or individual factors.**

**f. Welfare reform.**

**g. Horatio Alger Myth.**