

Test #2

Part I. Essays (1 hour)

You should allocate twenty minutes of exam time for answering each question. Your grade on these answers will depend on the coherence and completeness of the answer and on your demonstrating knowledge of the material covered in this course. Use equations, graphs, or diagrams to illustrate your points when helpful.

- 1) Describe the different discrimination theories and indicate for each how potentially applicable it is to explaining the U.S. gender earnings gap.
- 2) Discuss the relationships between the level of economic development of a society and the relative status of women and men in the society.
- 3) Describe the U.S. trends in female labor force participation, occupational sex segregation, and the gender pay gap since the late nineteenth century.

Part II. Short questions (20 minutes).

A. True/False — circle your answer.

- 1) T / F There are no countries where women are reported to have higher average earnings than men.
- 2) T / F In the monopsony model, employers pay the group of workers with the more elastic labor supply a lower wage; thus this can explain why women are paid less than men.
- 3) T / F In South Asia, more men than women attend college.
- 4) T / F After the fall of the Soviet empire, labor force participation rates in Eastern Europe fell for both men and women.
- 5) T / F In the U.S., the gender earnings gap is narrowest among persons of Asian-American ancestry and widest among persons of Hispanic-origin ancestry.

B. Fill in the blank with an appropriate word or words.

- 1) The biggest difference between male and female life expectancy is found in
the country _____ .
- 2) The country _____ has the highest female/male earnings ratio
among the industrialized capitalist societies.
- 3) _____ is the geographic region with the lowest rate of
female labor force participation.
- 4) In the U.S., foreign-born married women tend to have _____
labor force participation rates than do native-born married women.
- 5) Men have _____ disability-adjusted life expectancy than do women.

Part II (contd.)

C. Circle your answer out of the word choices.

- 1) The Akerlof model of status-based wages is an example of a
employer / two-sector / rent-seeking / statistical discrimination model.
- 2) Female labor force participation characterized by a high participation level and
postponement of marriage while remaining in the labor force is the pattern for:
industrial society / Latin America / the Caribbean / the Muslim Middle East .
- 3) The development of large immobile settlements and use of fertilizer, irrigation, and
animals for plowing describes a society that is:
forager / horticultural / pastoral / agrarian .
- 4) “Constraints on female involvement in the economy shaping women’s subordinate
position” describes the theoretical perspective of:
separate spheres / sexual division of labor / class analysis / social ideology .
- 5) The degree of coverage of workers by employer health insurance is
higher / equal / lower in the current decade as compared to the 1980s.

D. Multiple choice — circle your answer.

- 1) The U.S. Civil Rights Act, of which Title VII provides the main basis for
antidiscrimination actions by the federal government, was passed in:
a. 1944 b. 1954 c. 1964 d. 1974 e. 1984
- 2) An interesting example of how social development may occur without
correspondingly high levels of economic development is provided by:
a. Kerala b. Monaco c. Norway d. Ontario e. South Korea
- 3) Women currently comprise about ____ of doctoral degree recipients in the U.S.
a. 18% b. 28% c. 38% d. 48% e. 58%
- 4) The female labor force participation rate in 1800 in the U.S. was about:
a. 5% b. 15% c. 25% d. 35% e. 45%
- 5) The female/male median earnings ratio for African-American year-round full-time
workers currently is about:
a. 0.60 b. 0.75 c. 0.90 d. 1.05 e. 1.20