### Ideology

#### Features of science
- Objective
- Based on reason
- Theories are tested by systematic observation
- Look for cause and effect correlations
- Theories abandoned if found to be untrue or not supported by the scientific community

#### Features of religion
- Subjective
- Based on faith
- Theories untested but thought to be true
- Theories never changed or modified despite the evidence (Polanyi: circularity, subsidiary explanations, denying legitimacy of rival views)

#### Features of Ideologies
- Think society has a central problem
- Ideas are based around evidence to convince us
- Offer a solution to the problem
- Have happened in various countries/times

**Kuhn:** If scientific and religious knowledge is so different then how can we say one is better than the other?

### Religion:
- Functionalists: Durkheim, Malinowski, Parsons, Bellah
- Marists: Marx and Engles
- Neo-Marxists: Maduro, Gramsci
- Feminists: Woodhead, Armstrong, Holm, Watson

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**Ideology**

All ideologies have the following features:

1. They think society has a central problem.
2. Their ideas are based around evidence to convince us.
3. They offer a solution to the problem.
4. Ideologies have happened in the real world in various countries and times.

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**Definition**

A worldview or set of ideas and values about how the world works. Often the term is associated with distortion and biased ideas but it doesn’t have to be.

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**Marxism**

The problem is ruling class ideology creates false class consciousness. The solution is Communism.

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**Theories of Ideology**

**Political ideology - Nazism**

Germany has suffered because of the Jews and poor leadership. The solution is a unified nation with Hitler’s strong leadership.

**Real world:** Russia (1917), China (1921), Eastern Europe (1945)

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**Feminism**

The problem is society is patriarchal, men rule over women in all aspects of social life. The solution is equal rights or the separation of men and women.

**Real world:** Nazism Germany (1933-1945), Neo-Nazi movements across the world