

## CLARIFICATION OF CLASS AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS

**Socioeconomic status (SES)** is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, and occupation.

**In Marxist theory**, the capitalist stage of production consists of two main classes: the bourgeoisie, the capitalists who own the means of production, and the much larger proletariat (or 'working class') who must sell their own labour power (See also: wage labour).

**Erik Olin Wright** (1985) [updated Marxism] → argued, in advance capitalist society, exploitation of one group by another does not only occur through control of property or the means of production (as Marx had insisted), but through ownership of skill or credential assets and **control of high positions within organizations** as well → ex. 'Super-Bureaucrats'

Ergo – the need to understand things that nuance 'class' like SES (eg. Canada – nine classes)

---

## SOCIAL STRATIFICATION IS INCLUSIVE OF BOTH

\***Note**: the way that modern social researchers conceive of **social stratification is inclusive of both** these [Marxian & SES] definitions of class →

---

All fit within the larger conception of:

**Social Stratification** is the hierarchical arrangement of social strata {3p's – property, power & prestige} is a manifestation of the social construction of society {i.e., how society works}.