

**OUTLINE. Lecture 16. Sociology 621. What Makes the Capitalist State a Capitalist State?
What Makes the Patriarchal State a Patriarchal State?
October 24, 2013**

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Pivotal Contrast:** “State *in* Capitalist Society” versus “a *Capitalist* State”
- 2. Central question for both instrumentalists and structuralists:** *How do we explain the fact that the state broadly functions to serve the interests of the capitalist class and reproduce capitalism?*

II. METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS (Claus Offe)

1. THE MEANING OF CLASS CHARACTER

1.1. Negative Selectivity:

1.2. Nested Filter Mechanisms

- structural/constitutional properties
- ideological filters
- process/procedures of policy formation, bargaining, etc.
- repression

2. How to demonstrate class bias: the logic of explaining “nonevents”

3. Methodological problem = there is an infinity of things that do not happen.

- Contingently excluded nonevents
- “Epochally” excluded nonevents

4. Strategies for identifying systematically excluded possibilities

- *normative criteria*
- *objective interests*
- *empirical comparisons*
- *voiced claims*
- *crisis and failure of limits*

III. WHAT MAKES THE CAPITALIST STATE A CAPITALIST STATE? (Göran Therborn)

1. State Apparatus & State Power

2. Illustration of some class attributes

- The Selection of Tasks
- Resource Acquisition
- Transformation of tasks
- Leadership

IV. THE PROBLEM OF THE “PATRIARCHAL” STATE

1. Some possible candidates for patriarchal form

- Familialism
- Professionalism
- Abstract universalism in formal rationality of the law

2. Familialism