

WHAT IS LIFE?

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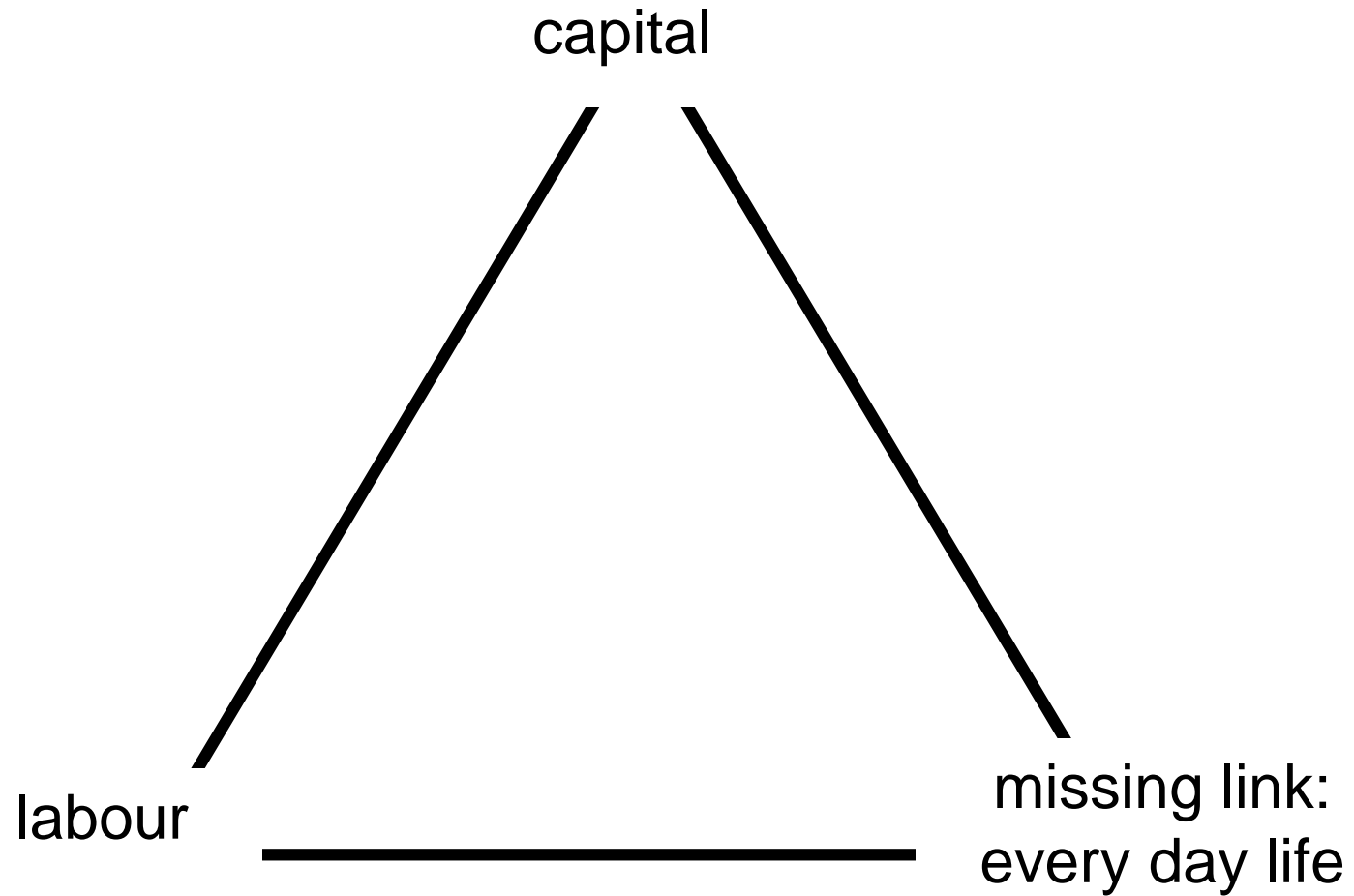
NATURE/SOCIETY

- Marx: second nature
- constructivism: constructed reality
- both views are only partly true

BASIC IDEAS ABOUT LIFE

- The Nazis coined the word “lebensunwertes Leben” (life which is unworthy to be kept alive).
- Albert Schweitzer developed his concept of a “reverence for life” to include men and animal.
- Theodor W. Adorno gave his famous book “Minima Moralia” the subtitle “Reflexions from Damaged Life” .

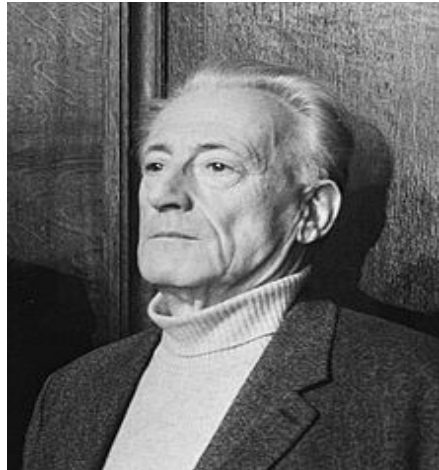
MARXIST THEORY OF THE SOCIETY



MARXIST THEORETICIANS OF EVERY DAY LIFE



Jürgen Kuczinski
(GDR)



Henri Lefebvre
(France)



Antonio Gramsci
(Italy)



Ágnes Heller
(Hungary)

EVERY DAY LIFE (1)

The relation of the three categories to each other

- on the one hand capital and labour do not determine form and content of every day of life completely
- on the other hand it is difficult to isolate the remaining part from labour and capital.

EVERY DAY LIFE (2)

Methodological problems

- transfer between micro and macro
- economics and political sciences vs. sociology, anthropology, ethnology and cultural studies
- neglect of the societal feedbacks between the individual and the society
- subjectivism, romanticism and esoterics of societal problems

LIVING CONDITIONS AND EVERY DAY LIFE (1)

Frederic Engels: The Condition of the Working *Class* in England
(1844)

- cottage and truck systems, bad health, deformities, sexual irregularities, death ceremonies, restricted language code
- methodological problem: deficit syndrom by the bourgeois observer

LIVING CONDITIONS AND EVERY DAY LIFE (2)

different form and content of every day life
according to the different *social milieus*

- hedonistic
- traditional proletarian
- rigid Protestantism
- non-materialistic, alternative

THE MEDIA

- increasing media/information consumption of the individual per day
- increasing media/information work of the individual at his/her workplace
- increasing media/information production everywhere (digital capitalism)

- socialisation patterns, effects, functions and consequences?

Thank your for your attention!