

A REPORT ON SILENT MOVIE SCREENING.

DATE: 9TH February 2024

VENUE: AV ROOM

NAME OF THE MOVIE: 'MODERN TIMES (1936)' BY CHARLIE CHAPLIN

TARGET GROUP(S):

- Faculty members and students of the sociology department.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Illustrate Historical Context of Industrialization and Labor:

- **Understanding Industrialization:** Highlight the social and economic conditions of the early 20th century during the rise of industrialization.
- **Labor Conditions:** Provide a visual and narrative depiction of factory work, assembly lines, and the impact of mechanization on workers' lives.

2. Analyze Themes of Modernity and Technological Change:

- **Impact of Technology:** Examine the effects of technological advancements on the workforce, including issues of deskilling, automation, and worker alienation.
- **Modernity:** Discuss the concept of modernity and how it influences social structures, relationships, and individual identities.

3. Discuss Socioeconomic Inequality:

- **Class Struggles:** Explore themes of class struggle, economic inequality, and the plight of the working class as depicted in the film.
- **Capitalism Critique:** Analyze Chaplin's critique of capitalism and the socioeconomic systems that prioritize profit over human welfare.

4. Highlight the Role of Humor and Satire in Social Critique:

- **Use of Comedy:** Understand how Chaplin uses humor and satire to critique serious social issues, making them more accessible and thought-provoking.
- **Engagement:** Encourage students to think critically about the effectiveness of humor as a tool for social commentary and engagement.

5. Encourage Critical Thinking and Discussion:

- **Interpretation of Symbolism:** Engage students in interpreting the film's symbolism, metaphors, and visual storytelling.
- **Class Discussion:** Facilitate discussions on how the themes presented in the film relate to contemporary economic and social issues.

6. Connect Theoretical Concepts to Visual Media:

- **Application of Theory:** Apply sociological and economic theories to the analysis of the film, such as Marx's theories of labor, Weber's rationalization, and Durkheim's division of labor.
- **Visual Learning:** Utilize visual media as a tool to enhance understanding of complex theoretical concepts.

PROGRAM OUTCOME:

- Students can analyze the film to understand the structure of society during the Great Depression era, including the hierarchical nature of the workplace and the struggles of the working class.
- The film provided a platform to discuss issues related to class struggle, exploitation of labor, and the impact of industrialization on workers' lives.
- "Modern Times" offered a satirical critique of capitalism, consumerism, and the dehumanizing effects of modern industrial society. Students can explore these themes and their relevance to contemporary society.
- The portrayal of gender roles and relationships in the film sparked discussions about gender dynamics within the workforce and society at large.
- Chaplin's portrayal of technology and its effects on individuals and society prompted discussions about the impact of technological advancements on employment, social interactions, and human well-being.
- Students can analyze the film within its cultural and historical context, examining how societal norms, values, and attitudes are reflected and challenged in the narrative.
- The screening facilitated interdisciplinary connections between sociology and other fields such as film studies, history, economics, and political science

