**Analysis of Social Science Paradigms:**

**A New Approach**

**Introduction**

It is possible to define social science paradigms as specific models and frames which can be used and followed by researchers when they make conclusions regarding the world around them.[[1]](#footnote-0) Social science paradigms are usually applied to research when it is necessary to support researchers’ conclusions.[[2]](#footnote-1) These paradigms provide scientists with opportunities to discuss questions from several theoretical perspectives. [[3]](#footnote-2) In their practice, sociologists are inclined to refer to such models as the conflict paradigm, symbolic interactionism, and structural functionalism. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the paradigms in detail with a specific focus on their similarities and differences in applying.

**Principles of the Conflict Paradigm**

The conflict paradigm was developed by Karl Marx. In his works, Marx claimed that people’s behaviors and interactions with the public in different environments are usually determined by their intentions to dominate or, on the contrary, to follow other people.[[4]](#footnote-3)  When some people prefer to dominate, and other people are ready to follow them, it is almost impossible to speak about a social conflict.

1. Sean Ashley, *Society: A Global Introduction* (London: Routledge, 2022), 54. [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. Ashley, *Society*, 55. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. Lukas Beck and James D. Grayot, “New Functionalism and the Social and Behavioral Sciences,” *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* 11, no. 4 (2021): 103. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
4. Bradley Campbell, “Social Justice and Sociological Theory,” *Society* 58, no. 5 (2021): 356. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)