

# Language and Society (CL2.203)

Monsoon 2021, IIT Hyderabad  
16 September, Thursday (Lecture 7)

Taught by Prof. Dipti Misra Sharma

## Social Groups, Networks and Codes

The characteristic features of social relationships and social groups divide them into primary and secondary ones.

Characteristics				
Primary	Physical	Social	Relationships	Domains
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proximity</li><li>• Small in number</li><li>• Long in duration</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common goals</li><li>• Intrinsic valuation</li><li>• Extensive knowledge of participants</li><li>• Freedom</li><li>• Informal</li><li>• Essential solidarity</li></ul>	Friend-friend	Play group
			Parent-child Husband-wife	Family
			Teacher-student	school
Secondary				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distance</li><li>• Large size</li><li>• Short duration</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disparate goals</li><li>• Extrinsic valuations</li><li>• Partial knowledge</li><li>• Constraints</li><li>• Formal</li><li>• Essential power</li></ul>	Officer-subordinate	Armed forces
			Employer-employee	Corporates
			Performance spectator	Concert

Figure 1: Primary and Secondary Relationships

Social networks are another notion that describes how and on what occasion individuals interact with each other. They may be divided into dense and loose networks, or multiplex and simplex networks.

An individual plays many roles in society, participating in many different networks. The set of language norms associated with a certain role is called a code. The set of all codes an individual has is called their repertoire.