



# **SOCIALIZATION OF YOUTH**

## **Lecture-5**

- Socialization is the process by which an individual learns to behave in specific manner that is acceptable to the society.
- Elkin and Handel (1972) said that socialization is the social learning of beliefs and behaviour typified by the individual's adaptation and conformity to social norms. This also includes learning of expectations, habits, values, motives, skills, beliefs that are necessary to interact with one's own social groups. Thus, this definition sees socialization as a process that familiarizes us with, and makes us skilled at, the rules for living in society in an effective manner.



- The process by which an individual develops through interaction with other people, his specific patterns of socially relevant behaviour and experience is called 'socialization'.
- Socialization is the process through which individuals integrate in society through various agencies such as family, peer-group and educational institutions. In the most general sense, socialization is the process through which individuals acquire the social knowledge and skills necessary to enable them to interact with others.



- Socialization is also seen as accounting for the continuation of society through successive generations and, thus, helps both the biological and social reproduction of society. Individuals learn to act in accordance to their expectations and that of others. This mean that the process occurs in a cultural context that is unique to the individual.
- Socialization is the process of learning to become a member of the society.
- Socialization is a continuous process.



# TYPES OF SOCIALIZATION

- **Primary socialization** - Most essential and basic type, takes place in the early years of life  
Concentrates on teaching of the language, cognitive skills, internalization of cultural norms and values, establishment of emotional ties and appreciation of other roles and perspectives.
- **Anticipatory socialization-** A process whereby men socialize themselves into the culture of a group with the anticipation of joining the group is refereed as anticipatory socialization



- **Developmental socialization-**

Learning based on achievement of primary socialization. It builds on already acquired skills and knowledge as the adult processes through new situations such as marriage or new job

- **Re-socialization-** stripping away the learned patterns and substitutes of new ones for them.



# AGENCIES OF SOCIALIZATION

## Informal agencies of socialization

- Family
- Neighborhood
- Peer group
- Community

## Formal agencies of socialization

- School
- Law
- Media



# FAMILY AND PARENTS

- Intimate relationship between the child and family
- Parents are the first person to introduce the child to the culture of the group
- Child receives additional communication from his/her older siblings, who have gone through the almost same process
- Because of their power, parents are able (in varying degrees) to enforce codes of conduct upon their children.





# PEERS OR AGE MATES

- Another socializing agency is the peer group. Peer groups are friendship groups of children of a similar age.
- In peer groups, by contrast, a child discovers a different kind of interaction, within which rules of behavior can be tested out and explored.
- Informal groups of people of similar ages at work, and in other contexts, are usually of enduring importance in shaping individuals' attitudes and behaviour



# SCHOOL

- Schooling is a **formal organization**: there is a definite curriculum of subjects studied. Yet schools are agencies of socialization in more **subtle** respects too. Alongside the formal curriculum there is what some sociologists have called a **hidden curriculum conditioning children's learning.**



# MEDIA

- The media can make the access to information more democratic.
- Media gives us their message. These message too contain in capsule form, the premise of our culture, its attitudes and ideologies.
- In individual cases, some of these influences are more important than others.



# SOCIALIZATION AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

- There may be conflicts between socializing agencies, between school and home, between home and peer groups.
- However, since the cultural settings in which we are born and come to maturity so influence our behavior, it might appear that we are robbed of any Individuality or free will. Such a view is fundamentally mistaken.
- The fact that from birth to death we are involved in interaction with others certainly conditions our personalities, the values we hold, and the behavior in which we engage. Yet socialization is also at the origin of our very individuality and freedom. In the course of socialization each of us develops a sense of self-identity, and the capacity for independent thought and action.



# THEORIES OF SOCIALIZATION

C. H. Cooley's theory of "Looking- Glass self"

- Self and social are two sides of the same coin.
- As per Cooley, self ideas and self-attitudes develop by a process of imagining what others think of us by a looking glass process.
- Three elements-
  - i) The imagination of our appearance to the other person,
  - ii) The imagination of his judgment of that appearance,
  - iii) Some sort of self-feeling, such as pride or mortification.



# GEORGE HERBERT MEAD'S THEORY OF SELF

- **Theory of the social self**, which includes the concepts of 'self,' 'me,' and 'I.'
- Mead's **theory of the social self** is based on the perspective that the self emerges from social interactions, such as **observing and interacting with others**, **responding to others' opinions about oneself**, and **internalizing external opinions and internal feelings about oneself**.



# IMPORTANCE OF SOCIALIZATION

- Socialization converts man, the biological being into man, the social being
- Socialization contributes to the development of personality
- Helps to enact different roles
- Provides the knowledge of skills
- Contributes to the stability of the social order
- Helps to reduce social distance
- Helps in transmission of culture

