

What Is an Organization

Organizations are conceived as **social structures created by individuals** to support the collaborative pursuit of **specified goals**. (Scott: 11)

	Examples	Qualities
Organizations	Companies, schools, families and voluntary associations	Roles, rules, goals, recurring behaviors, clear boundaries.
Not Organizations	Random collections of persons, isolated individuals	No roles, rules, goals, pattern of recurrence, or boundary.
Ambiguous Cases	Street gangs, friendship groups, social movements	Less clear roles, rules, and goals, porous boundaries and fluid participants.