

UNDERSTANDING THE SELF

CHAPTER 2 SOCIOLOGICAL

PERSPECTIVE OF THE SELF

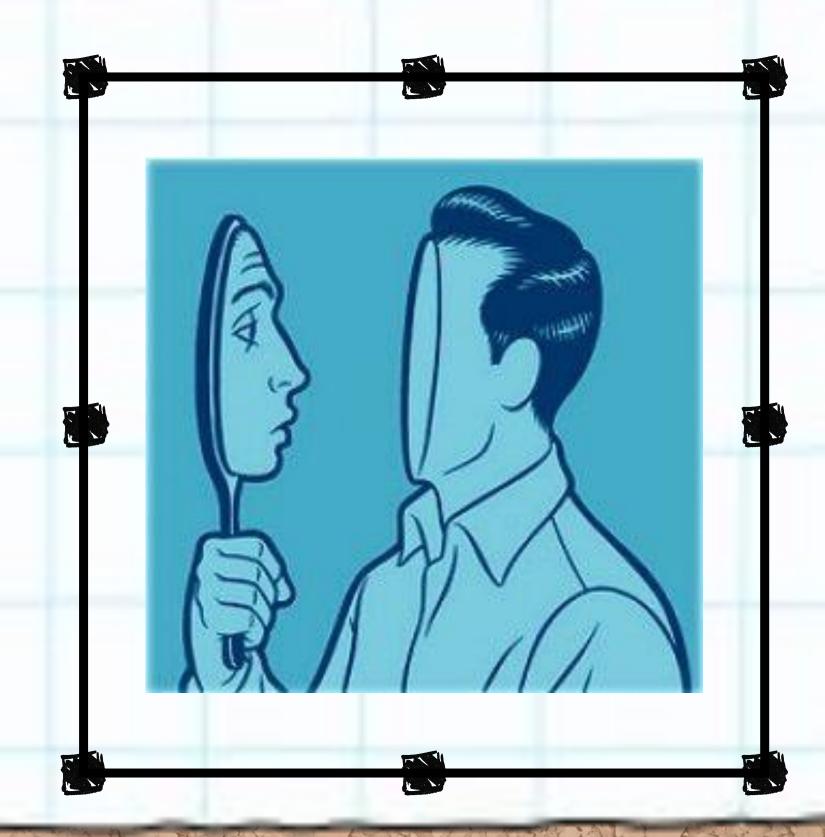


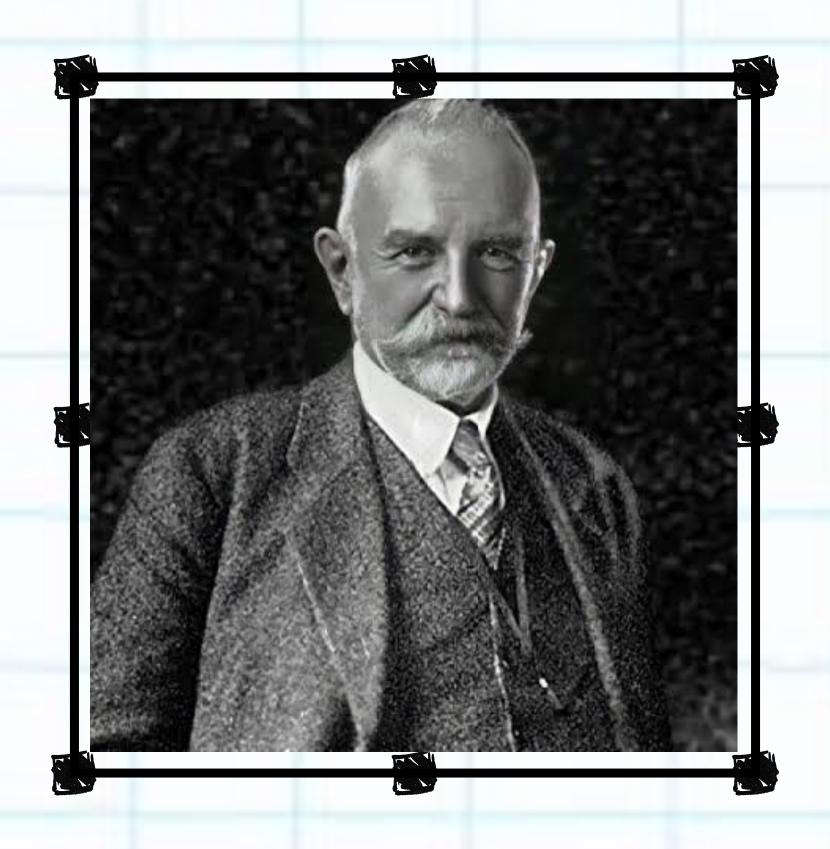
by: Group 3

PRESENTED BY KARL JERICK BUCCAT & CLIFFJOHN SADAGNOT

SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE SELF

Sociology, or the study of how human society is established, its structure and how it works, the people's interaction with each other and the effects they have to one another is an aspect in which we have to consider with regards to the development of a person.





George Herbert Mead

George Herbert Mead is an American Sociologist, he is considered as the Father of American pragmatism, and one of the pioneers in the field of social psychology because of his contributions on the development of the person relating to various social factors.





Mead rejected the idea of biological determination of the self which proposes that an individual already has an established self from the moment he is born. For him, the notion of a person with regards to who they are develops from one's social interaction with other people.

The "I" and the "Me"



ME "

Immediate experience of self

Example:

Imagine a child playing with a toy.

When the child is alone, they might refer to themselves as "I" while playing, experiencing their actions and thoughts firsthand.

socialized self

Example:

Imagine the child playing with other children. In this social context, the child might start to view themselves from the perspective of others, considering how they are perceived and fitting into the group dynamics.

MEAD'S THREE

ROLE-PLAYING STAGES

The Preparatory Stage

(Birth – 2 years Old)

This stage the infant simply imitates the actions and behaviors of the people that the infant interacts with.

The Play Stage

(2-6 years old)

This stage is the time where children begins to interact with other with which certain rules apply, these rules often time does not adhere to any set or standards but rather are rules that are set by the children themselves.

The Game Stage

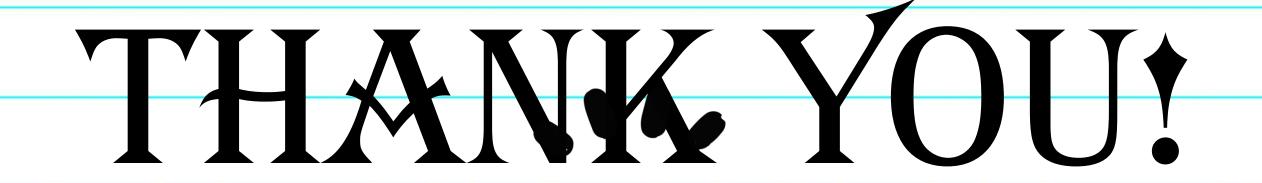
(6-9 years old)

The final stage of self-development according to Mead where are characterized by the ability of the children to recognize the rules of the game and be able to identify their roles and the roles of the others that is playing with them.

THE IDEA OF MEAD

The establishment of the sense of self, socialization is a lifetime endeavor, and the people one interacts with will change throughout a person's life.

That idea of "Self" may be based on the general attitudes and behaviors of other people or the individuality of the person that manifests as a response to those attitudes and behaviors of others.





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