Religion is the minor influential agent of socialization in my life because nowadays, it is not very significant in people’s lives as it was in the previous generations. Religion has declined in the United States, among other developed countries, because life expectancy has increased and the mortality rates have decreased (Ref-J7X2BZ). Therefore, religious beliefs that encouraged women to bear many children due to high mortality and low life expectancy have become irrelevant.

### How Agents of Socialization can be Both Positive and Negative in the Development of the Self

Agents of socialization can be positive and negative in developing the self in various ways. From a positive perspective, agents of socialization such as family and schools give our first system of values, norms, and beliefs while teaching us social life skills, including how to take care of ourselves. According to Carpenter (Ref-DJ49F2), the social interactions that the agents create help one to develop a healthy mind and emotions.

From the negative perspective, some agents of socialization such as peer groups and mass media steer destructive behaviors such as violence. For example, adolescent peer groups accelerate drug abuse and hate crimes, leading to murder and underage drinking (Ref-J49F2K). On the other hand, mass media promotes youth violence, especially the rap lyrics that promote hostility against women.