

# **SOCIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION**

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# AT THE END OF THIS LESSON, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- 1.** Identify, explain and concretize the different social theories;
- 2.** Expound on culture and its aspects;
- 3.** Discuss the various agents of culture and give examples to demonstrate comprehension; and
- 4.** Explain the difference between acculturation, enculturation and socialization.

# SOCIAL THEORIES

## ■ Symbolic Interaction Theory

- The symbolic interaction perspective, also called symbolic interactionism, is a major framework of sociology theory. This perspective focuses on the symbolic meaning that people develop and rely upon in the process of social interaction.



## ■ Conflict Theory

- Conflict theory emphasizes the role of coercion and power in producing social order. This perspective is derived from the works of Karl Marx, who saw society as fragmented into groups that compete for social and economic resources. Social order is maintained by domination, with power in the hands of those with the greatest political, economic, and social resources.



## ■ Feminist Theory

- Feminist theory is one of the major contemporary sociological theories, which analyzes the status of women and men in society with the purpose of using that knowledge to better women's lives. Feminist theory is most concerned with giving a voice to women and highlighting the various ways women have contributed to society.



## ■ Social Learning Theory

- Social learning theory is a theory that attempts to explain socialization and its effect on the development of the self. It looks at the individual learning process, the formation of self, and the influence of society in socializing individuals. Social learning theory is commonly used by sociologists to explain deviance and crime.

## ■ Rational Choice Theory

- Economics plays a huge role in human behavior. That is, people are often motivated by money and the possibility of making a profit, calculating the likely costs and benefits of any action before deciding what to do. This way of thinking is called rational choice theory.



## ■ Game Theory

- Game theory is a theory of social interaction, which attempts to explain the interaction people have with one another. As the name of the theory suggests, game theory sees human interaction as just that: a game.





- **Sociobiology**
- Sociobiology is the application of **evolutionary theory** to social behavior. It is based on the premise that some behaviors are at least partly inherited and can be affected by natural selection.

## ■ Social Exchange Theory

- Social exchange theory interprets society as a series of interactions that are based on estimates of rewards and punishments. According to this view, our interactions are determined by the rewards or punishments that we receive from others, and all human relationships are formed by the use of subjective cost-benefit analysis.



## ■ Disengagement Theory

- Disengagement theory, which has many critics, suggests that people slowly disengage from social life as they age and enter the elderly stage.



# CULTURE

- • Culture is the way of life shared by a group of people, including their ideas and traditions.
- • Cultures reflect the values and beliefs of groups in different ways.
- • Culture influences viewpoints, rules, and institutions in a global society.

# ASPECTS OF CULTURE

- Art
- Music
- Language
- Food
- Daily Life
- Government
- Clothing
- Religion
- Traditions
- Norms
- Values

# ASPECTS

## ■ ART



## ■ MUSIC



# ASPECTS

## ■ LANGUAGE



## ■ FOOD





# ASPECTS

## ■ DAILY LIFE



## ■ GOVERNMENT





# ASPECTS

## ■ CLOTHING



## ■ RELIGION



## ■ TRADITIONS



## ■ VALUES



# CULTURAL AGENTS: SCHOOL, FAMILY, PEER GROUP, OTHER AGENTS

## SCHOOL

- School is an institution established by society for the basic enculturation of the young.
- It is a certain building having a unity of interacting personalities, a field of social forces, a system of formal-informal control, a special cultural world, a community service agency ( Cook and Cook).

## FUNCTIONS

1. Instruction
2. Child enculturation
3. Socialization
4. Acculturation

## FAMILY

- Family is the smallest social institution of society. Some social thinkers called family as a primary group. A person is related to a family right from his birth up to his death a family participate in the joys and sorrow of a person.
- Family plays an important role in personality development of a child. Family institution is present in all human communities. Person in family have blood relation.

- All members of this institution participate in a financial process and responsibility. There is only one resident for all the members of the family. This institution is small in size .when the children grow they get married and they form own independent family.
- Therefore, the size of the family is small. The concept of the family is observed in all human group. Family institution plays a very important role in giving stability to society.

## Functions of the Family

1. Reproduction of the race and rearing of the young
2. Cultural transmission or enculturation
3. Socialization
4. Growth and development
5. Provision of an environment for personality development and growth of self-concept in relation to others

## PEER GROUP

- A **peer group** is made up of people who are similar in age and social status and who share interests.
- Peer group socialization begins in the earliest years, such as when kids on a playground teach younger children the norms about taking turns, the rules of a game, or how to shoot a basket.
- As children grow into teenagers, this process continues.
- Peer groups are important to adolescents in a new way, as they begin to develop an identity separate from their parents and exert independence.

- Additionally, peer groups provide their own opportunities for socialization since kids usually engage in different types of activities with their peers than they do with their families.
- Peer groups provide adolescents' first major socialization experience outside the realm of their families.
- Interestingly, studies have shown that although friendships rank high in adolescents' priorities, this is balanced by parental influence.



# OTHER AGENTS

## GOVERNMENT

- Although we do not think about it, many of the rites of passage people go through today are based on age norms established by the government. To be defined as an “adult” usually means being eighteen years old, the age at which a person becomes legally responsible for him- or herself. And sixty-five years old is the start of “old age” since most people become eligible for senior benefits at that point.

- Each time we embark on one of these new categories—senior, adult, taxpayer—we must be socialized into our new role. Seniors must learn the ropes of Medicare, Social Security benefits, and senior shopping discounts. When U.S. males turn eighteen, they must register with the Selective Service System within thirty days to be entered into a database for possible military service. These government dictates mark the points at which we require socialization into a new category.

## CHURCH

- The church must be considered as a social institution in much the same manner as we consider the school or local government. Functions of the church include teaching, exhortation, provision for communal religious activities, welfare and recreation, personal counseling of members, and acting as one of the agencies of social control.

# ENCULTURATION

- Enculturation is a broad term that refers to the process of acquiring the cultural norms and values of one's home culture.
- Enculturation can affect how you go about your own life without even knowing it. For example, if you live in a city you may take a taxi instead of driving, but if you live in the middle of nowhere you may drive a car.
- It is what we adopt from our surroundings to build ourselves to be a part of it, blending in perfectly.

- Enculturation does not always come from deliberate learning, but also by seeing and observing.
- As we observe our elders doing a particular thing, we do it too, sometimes without even thinking why we do a particular thing that way. There may be a reason behind it, but as we learn, we don't necessarily reason our elders, but just do things how they ask us to do them. This comes from having a sense of trust and respect for them, that they definitely know more than us.

- **Enculturation is also known as socialization. Socializing gives a person more knowledge than what he would gain from books or his surroundings on his own. As he meets people of his culture he gets more and more information and deep understanding of real life situations which later help him in his own experiences.**

# ACCULTURATION

- Acculturation is the process of sharing and learning the cultural traits or social patterns of another group.
- Acculturation is a process through which a person or group from one culture comes to adopt the practices and values of another culture, while still retaining their own distinct culture. This process is most commonly discussed regarding a minority culture adopting elements of the majority culture, as is typically the case with immigrant groups that are culturally or ethnically distinct from the majority in the place to which they have immigrated.

- Acculturation is a process of cultural contact and exchange through which a person or group comes to adopt certain values and practices of a culture that is not originally their own, to a greater or lesser extent. The result is that the original culture of the person or group remains, but it is changed by this process.



# SOCIALIZATION

Socialization is the means by which human infants begin to acquire the skills necessary to perform as functioning members of their society.

## TYPES OF SOCIALIZATION

### 1. Primary Socialization

- Primary socialization is early childhood socialization. It is called primary socialization in a sense; it is the beginning of the socialization process, it occurs first and it is the most crucial stage of socialization for later development. This stage is considered to be the development stage in children in which their personality and self-concept is developed; they acquire cognitive abilities, language and internalize norms and values. Moreover, they establish emotional ties and pick up other roles and perspectives.

## 2. Anticipatory Socialization

- This stage occurs in between the childhood and adulthood. Adolescence begins to establish independence from their parents. During this stage adolescence participate in Anticipatory socialization. They not only learn their immediate group culture but also learn the culture of a group which they are expecting to join in future.

### 3. Professional or Developmental Socialization

- Developmental socialization occurs during the adulthood. This type of socialization is dependent on the primary and anticipatory socialization. In the early two stages an individual has acquired the skills, developed his attitude and established the goals for future, which have prepared him for the position which he is likely to hold as an adult. As an adult individual is encountered with new situations and roles such as, marriage, job, husband and employee or employer, which will require new expectation and obligations. In this stage new learning combines with old to continue the process of developmental or professional socialization.

## 4. Re-Socialization

- Sometime when an individual changes his group and become a part of new group he have to abandon his old way of life. Such situations compel an individual to abandon the old values, norms and beliefs. To adjust in a new group he has to learn the values norms and beliefs of new group. The process of learning a new ways of life is called re-socialization.

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■ **END OF  
PRESENTATION**