

## **LEC 03 - Sociological Theory II**

### **Symbolic Interactionalism:**

- Max Weber, George Herbert Mead
- Microsociology
- Society is created, recreated, and modified continuously by human activity

**Symbol:** Objects and gestures that carry meaning to those in a shared culture

#### **Goffmans “Dramaturgical Model”:**

- The self and the scene
  - The front stage and the backstage
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### **Differences between Structural Functionalism and Symbolic Interactionalism:**

- Structural is macro level, while symbolic is micro
  - Structural functionalism is concerned with how each piece of society works together, while symbolic interactionalism focuses on the value of symbols to a culture
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### **Feminist Theory:**

- Newer theory relative to structural functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism
- Both macro and micro
- Womens standpoint

**Patriarchy:** The system of male domination over women

- Patriarchy as important as class
  - Women couldnt work in the factories described in conflict theory
- Patriarchy as a central force in women’s lives

**Intersectionality:** The interconnection of factors like race, gender, and social class that simultaneously affect our lives

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### **Postmodern Theory:**

- “Antitheory”
  - Most other theories have a overall trajectory
- Not micro or macro
  - Consumerism is micro as individuals
  - Consumerism can be macro based on the advertisements we are fed
- Set of ideas and not an overall grand theory
- No obvious natural trajectory of the world

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- Focusing on aspects of modern world
- Society as complex, diverse, unpredictable, and with no overarching mechanism of control
  - Ex. families, the gig economy

**Simulacra:** Images or other representations of items that replace reality

**Hyperreality:** A social reality where images and simulations are so persuasive that they become reality, independent of any real existence or origins

**Poststructuralism:** How rules and laws can be used to control a population

- By calling something normal, it is marked as the expectation
- Anyone else is othered
- Works because people want to be seen as normal