Group Dynamics

• The social process by which people interact and behave in a group environment is called group dynamics.

 Group dynamics involves the influence of personality, power, and behavior on the group process.

Types of Groups

Formal Group

Structured to pursue a specific task

Informal Group

response to organizational or member interests

Group Development/Formation

Tuckman's Theory

Forming	The major goals of the group have not been established. The nature of the task or leadership of the group has not been determined
Storming	In this stage, the group is likely to see the highest level of disagreement and conflict. Members often challenge group goals and struggle for power. Individuals often view for the leadership position during this stage of development.
Norming	This stage is characterized by the recognition of individual differences and shared expectations. Hopefully, at this stage the group members will begin to develop a feeling of group cohesion and identity.
Performing	Performing, occurs when the group has matured and attains a feeling of cohesiveness. During this stage of development, individuals accept one another and conflict is resolved through group discussion.
Adjourning	Not all groups experience this stage of development because it is characterized by the disbandment of the group.

Group Structure

• Effective group performance depends to a large extent, on the size and composition of the group. A group may consist of as few as two people

 Individual skills and performance must be a consideration in forming a group

 Diversification is a factor in both group development and skill requirement.

Group Structure

Four Major Components of a Group

Group Size

Group Role

Group Norms

Group Cohesiveness

Group Size

• Group Size differ with respect to the type of group.

• Large groups are good for gaining divers perspective but they effect the individual performance.

Group Role

- Various parts played by the members of the group
- Two elements that define the identity of a group member

Role Perception An individual is expected to behave according to there own perception in a group

Role Expectation

 How others believe that one should behave in a group

Group Norms

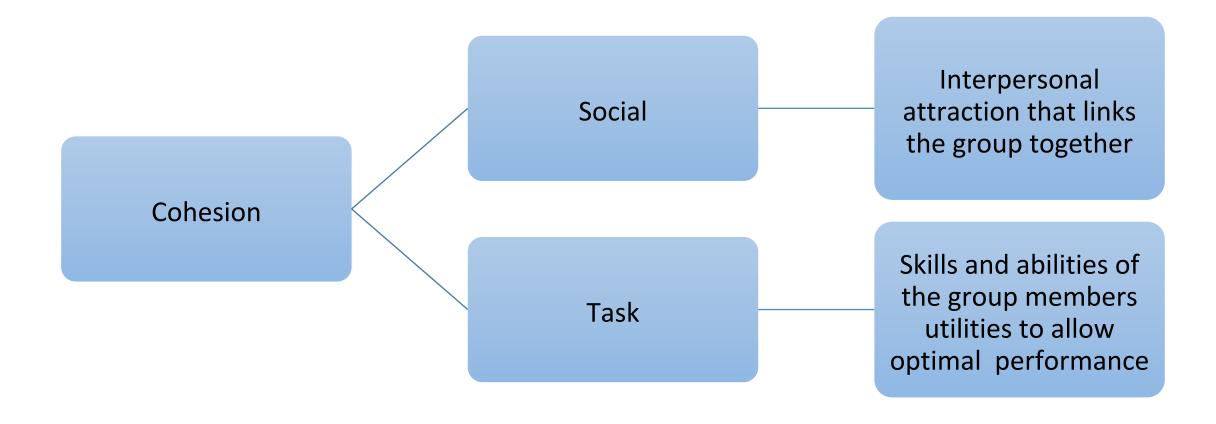
- Acceptable standards of behavior within a group that are shared by the group's member.
- Group Norms mainly serve three functions

Predictive – basis for understanding others behavior

Relational – define relationships

Control – regulate the behavior of others

Group Cohesiveness

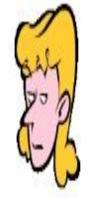


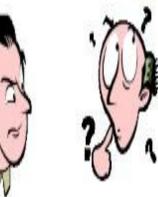
Who won, and why?

Did your group act like this...

... Or like this?









High Cohesiveness

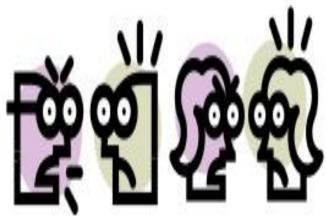
- Unity
- Interactive
- Positive Feelings
- Ability to Cope with Problems
- More Productive



Cohesiveness

- Negative Feelings
- More Problems
- Less Productive





Groups with High Cohesiveness Get Better Results!

Group Phenomenon

Brain Storming	Groups can energize thought but can also be inefficient in sharing and compiling ideas
Social Loafing	The reduction of individual effort when people work in groups compared to when they work alone
Group Polarization	The tendency to respond in a more extreme way when making a choice or expressing an opinion as part of a group, as opposed to when responding individually
Group Think	Occurs when a group with a particular agenda makes irrational or problematic decisions because its members value harmony and coherence over accurate analysis and critical evaluation.