

Sociology Notes

CHAPTER 3

Q.1: What is socialization?

Ans : Socialization is the process whereby the helpless infant gradually becomes Self aware, knowledgeable person, skilled in ways of the culture into which he or she was born. Socialization is the life long process in which people learn the Attitudes, Values and appropriate behaviors for members of a particular culture.

Q.2 : What is Personality/Self ?

Ans: It is a distinct identity that sets us apart from others. it is not a static phenomenon but continues to develop and change throughout our lives.

Q.3: Describe Development of personality/self and its process.

Ans: The process of developing a self concept has three phases,

First, We imagine how we present ourselves to others such as relatives, friends, strangers & to society.

Secondly, We imagine how others evaluate us.

Finally, We develop some sort of feeling about ourselves such as Respect & Shame as a result of the impression.

Q.4: Describe Agents of socialization and their roles.

Ans : The Agents of Socialization are groups or social contexts in which significant processes of socialization occur. The prime example of these agents are **Family, Schools, Peer Groups, Work Place & Mass media.**

1. Family : The family normally remains the major agency of socialization from infancy to adolescence and beyond in a sequence of development connecting the generations. Children pick up ways of behavior characteristic of their parents or their neighborhood or community.

2. Schools : Another important socializing agency is the school. Schools are agencies of socialization in more subtle respects. Children are expected to be quiet in class, be punctual at lessons and observe rules of school discipline. They are required to accept & respond to the authority of the teaching staff. Reactions of teachers also affect the expectations childrens have of themselves. These expectations become linked to their job experiences when they leave school.

3. Peer Groups : Peer Groups is another agency of Socialization. Peer group consists of children of a similar age. Peer relationships are likely to have a significant impact beyond childhood & adolescence Thorne found that peer groups have a great influence on gender socialization, particularly as children talk about their changing bodies, a subject of great fascination. Thorne's research is a powerful reminder that children are social actors who help create their social world & influence their own socialization.

4.Work place:A workplace can be described as a social agency in the sense that it is an organization that plays a significant role in shaping and influencing the social interactions and relationships of its employees. As a social agency, the workplace provides a structured environment where individuals come together to work towards a common goal, and as such, it has a profound impact on the social dynamics and relationships that develop within it.

5.Mass Media : Mass media has a significant impact on society, as it provides information, entertainment, and education to large numbers of people. It can also be used to promote certain ideas or ideologies, and to influence public opinion on important issues. Its influence can be both positive and negative, and it is up to individuals and society as a whole to critically evaluate the messages conveyed through mass media and to work towards promoting positive social change.

Chapter 5

Q.1: Define social stratification, Social class, social inequality & social mobility .

Ans: Social stratification : The division of society into layers or strata based on various factors such as wealth, income, occupation, education, and social status. This hierarchical arrangement results in unequal distribution of resources and opportunities among different groups of people.

Social class : A group of people in a society who share similar economic, social, and cultural characteristics. These characteristics include income, education, occupation, and lifestyle. Social class is often used as a way to understand and analyze social stratification.

Social inequality : The unequal distribution of resources and opportunities in a society among different groups of people. It can be based on various factors such as social class, race, gender, and age. Social inequality can lead to disparities in health, education, income, and other areas of life.

Social mobility : The ability of individuals or groups to move up or down the social ladder within a society. This movement can be based on factors such as education, occupation, income, and social status. Social mobility can be upward (moving from a lower social class to a higher one) or downward (moving from a higher social class to a lower one), and can be influenced by various social and economic factors.

Q.2: Describe Systems of stratification - slavery, caste, class & feudalism.

Ans: Systems of stratification refer to the ways in which societies are divided into distinct social classes based on factors such as wealth, occupation, race, or ancestry. There are several systems of stratification that have existed throughout history, including slavery, state, caste, class, and feudalism.

1.Slavery: This system of stratification is characterized by the ownership of individuals by other individuals or groups. Slaves are considered property and have little to no rights. In many societies, slavery was based on race or ethnicity, with people from certain groups being more likely to be enslaved than others.

2. Caste: The caste system is based on social hierarchy and is primarily found in India. Individuals are born into a specific caste and their social status is determined by their birth. The caste system is highly stratified and individuals have limited mobility within the system. Major Characteristics of Caste

- ➔ Caste is innate.
- ➔ There are laws (Customs/culture) concerning food in the caste.
- ➔ Occupations of most caste are determined.
- ➔ Caste is Endogamous.
- ➔ Caste has laws concerning position & touchability.

3. Class: The class system of stratification is based on economic and social status. Individuals are classified based on their wealth, income, education, and occupation. In this system, individuals can move up or down the social ladder based on their achievements and opportunities.

4.Feudalism: Feudalism is a system of stratification that existed in medieval Europe. In this system, individuals are divided into a hierarchy of lords, vassals, and serfs. The lords own the land and provide protection to the vassals in exchange for their loyalty and military service. The serfs are bound to the land and must work for the lords in exchange for protection and access to resources.

Q.3: Describe Types of social mobility.

Ans: Social mobility refers to the movement of individuals or groups between different social classes or positions within a society. There are several types of social mobility:

Horizontal mobility: This refers to the movement of an individual from one position to another within the same social class or status. For example, a teacher who moves from one school to another but remains in the same salary range.

Vertical mobility: This refers to the movement of an individual from one social class to another. Vertical mobility can be upward, where an individual moves to a higher social class, or downward, where an individual moves to a lower social class. For example, a person who was born into a low-income family and becomes a successful entrepreneur experiences upward mobility.

Intergenerational mobility: This refers to the movement of an individual or family from one social class to another between generations. For example, a child born into a lower-income family who grows up to become a successful lawyer experiences intergenerational upward mobility.

Intragenerational mobility: This refers to the movement of an individual within their own lifetime, from one social class to another. For example, a person who starts out as a factory worker and later becomes a CEO experiences intragenerational upward mobility.

Chapter-6

Q.1: How are society's important decisions made?

Ans: Important decisions in society are made through a complex interplay of social, political, economic, and cultural factors. In democratic societies, important decisions are often made through elected representatives, who are responsible for making laws and policies on behalf of the people they represent. Public participation in decision-making can also take the form of public consultations, referenda, and other forms of direct democracy.

Q.2: Describe types of government/political systems.

Ans: There are several types of government/political systems in the world, each with its unique characteristics and principles. Here are the descriptions of these political systems:

1.Dictatorship: A dictatorship is a form of government where a single individual, usually known as a dictator, holds absolute power and control over the state. The dictator

exercises authority without any checks and balances, and there are no free or fair elections to choose leaders. This type of government can often be oppressive, with human rights violations and restrictions on personal freedoms.

2. Totalitarianism: In totalitarianism, the state exercises complete control over all aspects of society, including the economy, culture, and individual freedoms. Totalitarian regimes are often characterized by propaganda, censorship, and the suppression of dissent.

3. Democracy: In a democracy, the people have the power to elect their leaders and participate in the decision-making process. There are two main types of democracy: direct democracy, in which citizens vote directly on laws and policies, and representative democracy, in which citizens elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf.

These are just a few examples of the many different types of government and political systems that exist around the world.

Q.3: Describe Types of authority.

Ans: Authority refers to the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience. There are several types of authority, including:

1. Legal-Rational Authority: Legal-rational authority is a type of authority that is based on a system of rules and laws that are created through a legitimate process, such as a constitution or legislation. This type of authority is grounded in the belief that individuals or institutions have the right to exercise power over others only if they do so in accordance with established laws and procedures.

2. Charismatic Authority: Charismatic authority is based on the personal qualities of an individual, such as their charm, charisma, and ability to inspire others. This type of authority is often associated with leaders who are able to inspire and motivate their followers. Examples of charismatic authority include religious leaders, political leaders, and social activists.

3. Traditional authority: This type of authority is based on long-standing customs, traditions, and social norms. Traditional authority is often associated with monarchies, aristocracies, and other hierarchical social structures.

Q.4: Define: government, politics, authority/power, tradition

Ans: Government: A government is a system of individuals, institutions, and organizations that have the authority to govern a society or a nation. Its primary

function is to make and enforce laws, regulations, and policies that guide the actions of individuals and groups within the society.

Politics: Politics refers to the activities and processes that are associated with the governance of a society or nation. It involves the use of power, influence, and negotiation to make decisions, formulate policies, and allocate resources. Politics is also concerned with the relationship between different groups and individuals within a society, and with the exercise of authority.

Authority/Power: Authority or power refers to the ability to control or influence the actions of others. It is the capacity to make decisions, enforce rules, and allocate resources. Authority can be formal or informal, and it can be derived from various sources such as tradition, law, or personal charisma. Power can be used for good or bad purposes, and it can be distributed in different ways in a society.

Tradition: Tradition refers to the customs, beliefs, practices, and values that have been passed down from generation to generation within a particular community or culture. It is the accumulated knowledge and experience of a society, and it often provides a sense of identity and continuity. Tradition can be expressed through art, music, literature, religion, and other cultural practices, and it can be an important source of meaning and inspiration for individuals and communities.

Chapter-7

Q.1: What is Economic system?

Ans : An economic system is a set of institutions, social relations, and policies that determine how goods and services are produced, distributed, and consumed in a society. It encompasses the production, exchange, and consumption of goods and services, as well as the allocation of resources and the distribution of income and wealth.

Q.2: Describe Social/cultural significance of work.

Ans: Work plays a significant role in shaping the social and cultural fabric of society. Here are some of the ways in which different aspects of work can contribute to social and cultural significance:

1.Money: Work is a means of earning money, which is crucial for meeting basic needs such as food, shelter, and clothing. In many societies, one's income level is often used to determine social status and prestige, and thus work can have a significant impact on social mobility and class structure.

2.Activity level: The type of work one does can influence their activity level, which in turn can affect their physical and mental health. Physically demanding jobs, for instance, may have a positive impact on one's overall health and wellbeing, while sedentary jobs may increase the risk of certain health issues.

3.Variety: The variety of tasks and challenges involved in a job can impact one's personal growth and development. Jobs that offer a wide range of tasks and opportunities for learning and skill development can be more fulfilling and contribute to a sense of personal achievement.

4.Temporal structure: The structure of work can also have a significant impact on social and cultural norms. Traditional 9-to-5 workdays, for instance, have become deeply ingrained in many cultures and are often seen as a symbol of professionalism and productivity.

5.Social contacts: Work can provide opportunities for social interaction and networking, which can contribute to one's personal and professional relationships. The social contacts made through work can often lead to new job opportunities, mentorship, and career advancement.

6.Personal identity: Work can play a significant role in shaping one's personal identity and sense of self-worth. One's job title, profession, and career achievements can become a central part of their identity, and may influence how they are perceived by others in society. Additionally, the sense of purpose and meaning that can come from fulfilling work can contribute to a positive self-image and overall well being.

Q.3: Describe Challenges in economic involvement.

Ans: Economic involvement can refer to the participation of individuals, businesses, or governments in economic activities such as production, consumption, and distribution of

goods and services. However, economic involvement can pose several challenges that can affect economic growth and development. Some of these challenges include:

1.Inequality: Economic involvement can be limited by the unequal distribution of wealth and income, which can prevent some individuals or groups from participating fully in the economy. For example, those with limited financial resources may not be able to access credit or invest in businesses, leading to further economic disparities.

2.Access to resources: Economic involvement requires access to resources such as land, capital, and technology. However, in some cases, access to these resources may be limited by various factors such as government policies, legal frameworks, or monopolies, making it difficult for some individuals or groups to participate fully in the economy.

3.Market inefficiencies: Inefficient markets can limit economic involvement by reducing competition, increasing prices, and reducing the availability of goods and services. Market inefficiencies can arise due to various factors such as information asymmetry, externalities, and market power.

4.Corruption: Corruption can undermine economic involvement by distorting markets, increasing the cost of doing business, and reducing public trust in institutions. Corruption can also limit the ability of governments to provide public goods and services, reducing economic growth and development.

5.Political instability: Political instability can discourage economic involvement by creating uncertainty and reducing investor confidence. Instability can also lead to the breakdown of institutions and the rule of law, making it difficult for businesses and individuals to operate effectively.

Overall, these challenges can make it difficult for individuals, businesses, and governments to participate fully in economic activities, limiting economic growth and development. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive approach that involves policies and strategies aimed at promoting inclusive economic growth and development

Q.4: What are the obstacles women have to face?

Ans:

Women face numerous obstacles & Some of the most common obstacles include:

1. Gender Pay Gap: Women often earn less than men for doing the same work. According to the World Economic Forum's 2021 Global Gender Gap Report, women earn 16% less than men on average worldwide.

2. Unequal Access to Education: Women are often denied access to education, which limits their opportunities for higher-paying jobs.

3. Lack of Representation in Leadership: Women are often underrepresented in leadership positions, which limits their ability to influence economic policies and practices.

4. Discrimination in Hiring and Promotion: Women may face discrimination in the hiring and promotion process, which can limit their earning potential and career advancement.

5. Lack of Access to Financial Services: Women may have limited access to financial services such as credit and loans, which can limit their ability to start businesses or invest in their careers.

6. Unpaid Care Work: Women often bear the burden of unpaid care work, such as taking care of children and elderly family members. This can limit their ability to work full-time and earn a steady income.

7. Gender-based Violence: Women may face gender-based violence, which can limit their ability to participate in the economy and access economic opportunities.

Overall, these obstacles limit women's ability to participate fully in the economy and reach their full potential. Addressing these obstacles is crucial for promoting gender equality and economic growth

