I. Duality of Social Life: In “Conflict” and “Order”

A. Order Theory or Structural Functionalism

1. Classical Influence: Durkheim
   1. society is real phenomenon with unique properties: **sui generis** – “of its own kind”

b. external: “social facts are things”

c. coercive: inhibits, constrains behavior

1. analogous to organism

organism strives for homeostasis

society strives for stability/order

e. studied by applying scientific method

1. Contemporary theorist: Talcott Parsons

a. society: an ordered and harmoniously functioning system (i.e. like a car – all parts work together to make a car run; but not all parts are **valued equally)**

b. all parts have positive function towards maintaining order

c. primary function of every part is to maintain overall stability of system

d. parts are interdependent

e. parts are structured so that they can perform their function

f. system selects individuals to fill roles (status role complexes)

g. most important function: latency function

socialization of the individual

determined action

g. education, sports, military, stratification

1. Conflict theory
2. Classical Influence: Marx
3. society is a socially constructed reality
4. society is site of conflict, in capitalism

class conflict

bourgeoisie (capitalist) and proletariat (worker)

c. institutions reflect interests of capitalist

d. ideas are ideas of dominant class

2. Contemporary Theorists: Mills

1. society is site of conflict between groups for control of society and its resources
2. winners and losers
3. Mills: Power elite

economy

political

military

d. control the most powerful institutions

e. make the decisions which shape the direction of society

1. need to “manufacture consent”

g. mass media, education, military

h. conflict theorists: class, race, gender

<http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/thu-january-9-2014/slumdogs-vs--millionaires>

C. Another theory!!: Symbolic Interaction (Mead, Goffman, Weber)

1. society as primarily

fact to face social interactions

created and recreated

at the micro level through interactions

rule governed and ritualized

education and sports

1. “presentation of self in everyday life”