

# **SOCIALIZATION OF YOUTH**

## **Lecture-5**

- Socialization is the process by which an individual learns to behave in specific manner that is acceptable to the society.
- Elkin and Handel (1972) said that socialization is the social learning of beliefs and behaviour typified by the individual's adaptation and conformity to social norms. This also includes learning of expectations, habits, values, motives, skills, beliefs that are necessary to interact with one's own social groups. Thus, this definition sees socialization as a process that familiarizes us with, and makes us skilled at, the rules for living in society in an effective manner.



- The process by which an individual develops through interaction with other people, his specific patterns of socially relevant behaviour and experience is called 'socialization'.
- Socialization is the process through which individuals integrate in society through various agencies such as family, peer-group and educational institutions. In the most general sense, socialization is the process through which individuals acquire the social knowledge and skills necessary to enable them to interact with others.



- Socialization is also seen as accounting for the continuation of society through successive generations and, thus, helps both the biological and social reproduction of society. Individuals learn to act in accordance to their expectations and that of others. This mean that the process occurs in a cultural context that is unique to the individual.
- Socialization is the process of learning to become a member of the society.
- Socialization is a continuous process.



# TYPES OF SOCIALIZATION

- ▣ **Primary socialization** - Most essential and basic type, takes place in the early years of life

Concentrates on teaching of the language, cognitive skills, internalization of cultural norms and values, establishment of emotional ties and appreciation of other roles and perspectives.

- ▣ **Anticipatory socialization**- A process whereby men socialize themselves into the culture of a group with the anticipation of joining the group is refereed as anticipatory socialization



### ▣ **Developmental socialization-**

Learning based on achievement of primary socialization. It builds on already acquired skills and knowledge as the adult processes through new situations such as marriage or new job

▣ **Re-socialization-** stripping away the learned patterns and substitutes of new ones for them.



# AGENCIES OF SOCIALIZATION

## Informal agencies of socialization

- Family
- Neighborhood
- Peer group
- Community

## Formal agencies of socialization

- School
- Law
- Media



## FAMILY AND PARENTS

- Intimate relationship between the child and family
- Parents are the first person to introduce the child to the culture of the group
- Child receives additional communication from his/her older siblings, who have gone through the almost same process
- Because of their power, parents are able (in varying degrees) to enforce codes of conduct upon their children.





## PEERS OR AGE MATES

- Another socializing agency is the peer group. Peer groups are friendship groups of children of a similar age.
- In peer groups, by contrast, a child discovers a different kind of interaction, within which rules of behavior can be tested out and explored.
- Informal groups of people of similar ages at work, and in other contexts, are usually of enduring importance in shaping individuals' attitudes and behaviour



# SCHOOL

- Schooling is a formal organization: there is a definite curriculum of subjects studied. Yet schools are agencies of socialization in more subtle respects too. Alongside the formal curriculum there is what some sociologists have called a hidden curriculum conditioning children's learning.



# MEDIA

- The media can make the access to information more democratic.
- Media gives us their message. These message too contain in capsule form, the premise of our culture, its attitudes and ideologies.
- In individual cases, some of these influences are more important than others.



## SOCIALIZATION AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

- There may be conflicts between socializing agencies, between school and home, between home and peer groups.
- However, since the cultural settings in which we are born and come to maturity so influence our behavior, it might appear that we are robbed of any Individuality or free will. Such a view is fundamentally mistaken.
- The fact that from birth to death we are involved in interaction with others certainly conditions our personalities, the values we hold, and the behavior in which we engage. Yet socialization is also at the origin of our very individuality and freedom. In the course of socialization each of us develops a sense of self-identity, and the capacity for independent thought and action.



# THEORIES OF SOCIALIZATION

C. H. Cooley's theory of "Looking- Glass self"

- Self and social are two sides of the same coin.
- As per Cooley, self ideas and self-attitudes develop by a process of imagining what others think of us by a looking glass process.
- Three elements-
  - i) The imagination of our appearance to the other person,
  - ii) The imagination of his judgment of that appearance,
  - iii) Some sort of self-feeling, such as pride or mortification.



## GEORGE HERBERT MEAD'S THEORY OF SELF

- **Theory of the social self**, which includes the concepts of 'self,' 'me,' and 'I.'
- Mead's **theory of the social self** is based on the perspective that the self emerges from social interactions, such as observing and interacting with others, responding to others' opinions about oneself, and internalizing external opinions and internal feelings about oneself.



# IMPORTANCE OF SOCIALIZATION

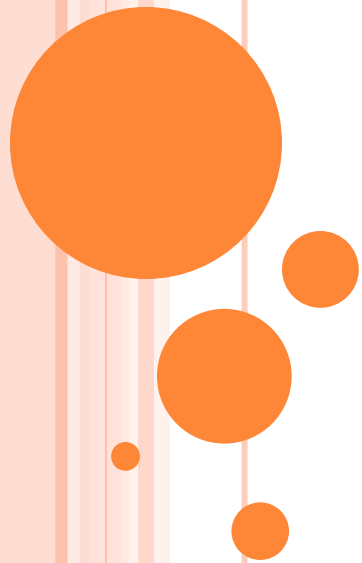
- ❑ Socialization converts man, the biological being into man, the social being
- ❑ Socialization contributes to the development of personality
- ❑ Helps to enact different roles
- ❑ Provides the knowledge of skills
- ❑ Contributes to the stability of the social order
- ❑ Helps to reduce social distance
- ❑ Helps in transmission of culture



- ❑ **How does socialization shape our understanding of individual freedom?**
- ❑ **Can individual freedom exist within the constraints of social norms and expectations?**
- ❑ **What role do family, peers, and educational institutions play in socializing individuals towards particular notions of freedom?**
- ❑ **Is there a tension between individual freedom and societal stability? How can this tension be navigated?**
- ❑ **To what extent do economic factors impact an individual's freedom within society?**
- ❑ **How does technology influence the boundaries of individual freedom in contemporary society?**







# POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION

# POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION

- Political socialization is a process by which an individual gets knowledge about the political system, political values and belief. Political socialization helps the individual to acquaint himself with political culture and also to change himself according to it.
- Political socialization is how people develop their political knowledge, values, and opinions.
- During political socialization, individuals absorb and internalize information about political institutions, parties, leaders, and policies from various sources



- It begins in childhood and continues throughout adulthood, as individuals encounter new experiences and engage with different social and political contexts.
- Political socialization is the process of learning, embracing, and maintaining the flow of political values.



# CHARACTERISTICS OF POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION

- ❑ It is a process.
- ❑ Political socialization is Universal Process.
- ❑ Political Socialization is a continuous process.
- ❑ Political Socialization can be guided to a particular Direction.
- ❑ Political socialization can be manifest or laden.
- ❑ The Political socialization is both, formal and informal.
- ❑ With the process of political socialization political culture passes on from one generation to another.
- ❑ Political socialization differ from state to state.



## AGENTS OF POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION

- ❑ **Family-** The child takes note of the mentality of his parents and family and puts a deep and lasting strain on his mind. It is from the family that the child learns about its political values.
- ❑ **Intimate Friend's Group-** The political attitude of friends can influence and change a person's moral outlook.
- ❑ **Educational Institution-** Attempts to increase loyalty to the country through the curriculum of the school include nationalist ideals, the past glory of the nation, discussions about the leaders of the nation, etc.



- ❑ **Political Parties-** People's political role depends on the economic, social, and political outlook of the political party and its relationship with the political system.
- ❑ **Mass Media-** Influence of science and technology, in modern times, the media such as radio, film, television, internet, etc. are very advanced and play an important means in political socialization.
- ❑ With the help of the media, news, commentary, and images related to political events quickly reach the masses. Members of the government or government party use the media to voice their views. Opposition parties and their members take the same path.



- **Professional Organization-** Various organizations organized on a professional basis are labor unions, trade unions, peasant associations, teachers 'associations, students' unions, etc.
- These organizations do not get political power like political parties or participate in the electoral competition but try to preserve their professional interests by influencing the government's decision-making process.
- **Religious Organization-** The political role of religious organizations in modern-day secular democratic states has diminished. Yet it turns out that they have some indirect role.



## FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL SOCIALISATION

- ❑ **Maintaining political culture** This function is performed by communicating political culture from one generation to another generation. Under stable conditions this is an important function. But since the political field is generally disturbed, the political socialization does not always act for maintaining political culture.
- ❑ **Modification of political culture** Therefore, an important function of political socialisation is the modification of political culture. This aspect is clear from its relationships to change.





- ❑ **Creating political culture-** with the establishment of new political system every society needs the creation of a new political culture. This function is performed by means of the process of political socialization.
- ❑ **Continuity and Change** The above discussion shows that the political socialisation works in the directions of both continuity and change. In it change and modification is a permanent feature However, this change too has stability Sometimes this process is fast and sometimes slow.



# IMPORTANCE OF THE POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION

- ❑ It brings enlightenment among the people.
- ❑ It brings efficiency in the working of the political system.
- ❑ Provide legitimacy to political system.
- ❑ Helpful in the formation of the political culture
- ❑ It prepare the people for political roles.
- ❑ Provide link between political system and social system.
- ❑ Provides knowledge about the political matters.
- ❑ Provide stability to political system.



- In order to properly understand the politics of a country we must endeavor to understand the process of the political socialization of that country. The process of political socialization also contributes in the evolution, modification and orientation of political culture in a society.



## YOUTH AND ELECTIONS

- Elections lie at the heart of democracy and effective and inclusive participation of all citizens—including youth—in elections and broader political processes is critical to democratic development.
- Creating an enabling and empowering environment for youth participation in electoral processes and the building of peace is a vital part of strengthening democratic governance.



This entails strategically addressing the:

- ❑ **legal framework:** reviewing the legal framework (constitution, electoral law, regulation, jurisprudence and managerial rules) and its effects on youth political participation
- ❑ **pre-electoral phase:** recognizing and supporting youth as community, political leaders and engaged citizens
- ❑ **electoral phase:** mobilizing youth as voters, candidates, observers and active participants in all aspects of the electoral process
- ❑ **post-electoral phase:** supporting youth voices in the legislature and government and strengthening youth agency



- The core principle for meaningful and effective youth political participation is “*nothing about us without us.*”
- Engagement with youth to foster meaningful and effective youth participation is/should be:
  - Genuine
  - Respectful and rights-based
  - Transparent
  - Accountable
  - Youth friendly, relevant and purposeful



- Inclusive
  - Flexible and open to innovation
  - Capacity-developing
  - Sustainable
  - Voluntary and safe
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- Youth as agents for change :involved in activism in the digital space, protesting, volunteering to improve their communities and innovating for social good, their participation in and influence on formal politics is limited

