

# Sociology

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Importance of social interaction to sociologists Social interaction is important to sociologists because it helps them explain human behaviour, that it is not as random as it may appear but has components that can help establish patterns. Patterns in human behaviour help sociologists know how to control or predict it. In social interaction, status refers to the different positions that individuals hold in the society and role denotes the expected behaviour of an individual in an interaction. Social interaction also helps sociologists understand how individuals construct reality. The reality of situations is a function of their perceived consequences and functions in social interaction (Giddens and Simon 42).

Communication helps sociologists explain people's realities. For example, a son (status) is expected to respect his parent (role), and the language he uses talking to his parents (communication) is different from the one he uses with his friends. This is because the things he does with his parents are different from the ones he does with his friends (social construction of reality) (Giddens and Simon 42).

### Scapegoat

A scapegoat is a person or group that is forced to shoulder the blame of things that are not their fault. When people find themselves in problems, they look for targets, on which they can displace their aggression.

Scapegoats are distinct, powerless and are preferably members of an out-group. Anger and frustration are some of the causes of people blaming others. Once picked on as a scapegoat, it is difficult for an individual or group to shake off the label. Scapegoating is most prevalent in scenarios where deprived ethnic groups compete for economic rewards. Minority groups are easy targets of scapegoating and this is evident in history. For example, the <https://assignbuster.com/sociology-essay-samples-19/>

Jews became the scapegoat to the Nazis during the Holocaust (Giddens and Simon 73).

#### Works Cited

Giddens, Anthony, and Simon, Griffiths. *Sociology*. Cambridge, UK [u. a.: Polity Press, 2006. Print.