

# Sociology



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Topic: SOCIOLOGY The Structural-Functional Theory and the Socio-Conflict

Theory of Culture Structural Functional Theory Socio-Conflict Theory

introduce by Talcott Parsons ( 1902-1979)

it focus at the function, or part, that social structure play in maintaining the society.

Social Structure or the Type of Behavior

1. gender-based division of labor
2. the norms that govern students behavior

is the way people are organized.

- a. nature of kin groups and family
- b. relationships between business and consumers

Structure – is a part of society that has been present for a relatively long period of time.

Parts of the Structural Society

Functions

1. Cultural norms and values
2. Gender-based division

-It guarantees child care and mutual support within the group.

-if infants, and ultimately a society, ae to survive, women are less expendable than men. Women do something extensively 0only when the activity won't interfere with their childbearing and child rearing tasks and they risk themselves only in emergencies.

Social Structure is Supported by the followings:

a) Folklore/ Ideologies

- are learned at early age and are accepted by all who surround us, we simply accept by all who surround us, we simply accept them as truth.

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## b)Rituals

- often involve the super naturals, beings beyond the level of human life, which is not only reinforce but also was suggested that powerful, forces have t6he decreed that life should be the way it is.

## Robert Merton

He introduced the idea of dysfunctions or negative consequences of society for the the whole and also according to him structures can be both functional and dysfunctional and that it is important to determine the relative balance of these negative and positive consequences.

He proposed the following functions.

### a. Manifest Functions

-those that are easily seen.

### b. Latent Functions

-those which is less obvious, often unintended, and unnoted by the people involved.

## E mile Durkheim

- stated that in the gender-based division the differentiation within a society, makes people more dependent on one another.

## An example of the Structural-Functionalism

The presence of families and kin is a social structure that functions to guarantee child care and mutual support within groups. The presence of family and kin across societies is example of cultural regularity.

- by Marvin Harris

It examines how the physical environment in which people live influences their life.

a) They exist in different environments and have different resources or

materials.

b) They have different types of family structure. Ex. Nuclear / extended family.

#### Example of Socio-Conflict Theory

Polynesians traditionally built their houses made out of grasses and plant materials in part because they were readily available and the climate did not require protection against harsh weather. Inuit, on the other hand, built igloos to provide extensive protection from cold. The difference in habitat between Polynesians and Inuit is an example of cultural variation.

#### Social Interactions

In our everyday living, we use to have this social interaction and we are always a part of it. Here are theories of Social interactions.

#### A} Exchange Theory

- by George Homans {1910 – 1989}

According to him it is a social action which is an ongoing interchange, or exchange, of activity between individual individuals who decide whether they will perform a given action based on its relative rewards or cost that before we decide what to do and say we need the notion of distributive justice or the norm of equity, that thing should be fair, this theory is can be used to analyze all types of social relationship.

Ex. A suspect arrested in a crime night decide to not on a co-conspirator if she believe the police

#### B) Role Theory

-This theory looks at the social obligations and expectations associated with the statuses of the people hold.

Ex. When children obey their parents, they are fulfilling their social roles and legitimating the roles both of their parents and themselves.

### C) Symbolic Interactionism

- This theory looks at how individuals continually interpret communications {symbols} presented by others and base their actions on these interpretations.

Ex. When someone calls to you in a loud voice, you interpret this action and base your response on this interpretation.

### Work Cited

Stockard, Jean. *Sociology Discovering Society*. USA: Wadsworth, 2000 2nd ed.