

Soc #2



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Socialization the lifelong process of learning to become a member of the social world, including learning the values and beliefs of one's culture.

interaction: the basic building block of socialization, through which a child is shaped into a human being and becomes a member of a society. ONSOC #2

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self-perception of who we are The nurture argument: sociobiology is a reductionist theory. Social behaviors vary, are not hard wired. Socialization is more important than genes Importance of socialization: children need human

contact, affection, and interaction in order to fully develop. Evidence:

cases of isolated children Most activities are part of the socialization experience •.

Micro level: parents, peer groups. Meso: schools, religious groups. Macro:

national advertisements. Social importance of socialization. Organizations

are dependent upon socialized people to help them survive. Lack of

adequate socialization increased the likelihood of deviant behavior Self: the

perceptions we have of who we are, derived from our perceptions of the way

others respond to us. Not born with, develops at infancy. The looking glass

self. A symbolic interactionist theory of the self developed by Charles H

Cooley. The looking glass, "each to each a looking glass reflects the other

that doth pass" • Role taking. Symbolic interactionist theory of the self,

George Herbert Mead. View ourselves through interaction with others. Once

we can symbolically recognize objects, we can then view the self as an object.

E.g. having a name allows us to see ourselves as objects separate from

other objects; the I the spontaneous, unpredictable impulsive. ME reflective

part of the self, formed through role taking, that knows the rules of society

and attempt to control and direct the _____ into socially acceptable

behavior mead stages of development: imitation child observes and imitates

others. Play: children play at taking roles of significant others, but do not understand complex relationships. Game stage: children take the roles of multiple others concurrently and the role of the generalized other.

Generalized other: a composite of social expectations. As behavior comes to be governed by abstract rules, children can enter into novel social arenas.

• resocialization: the process of abandoning one or more social positions in favor of others that are more suitable for newly acquired status. Where does resocialization occur? ____ may occur in a total institution, in which people are isolated from the outside world and lead bureaucratically regimented lives.

• social networks are sets of relationships between individuals, groups and other organizations. They are held together by ties. Ties are the content of a particular relationship. Embeddedness: the degree to which ties are reinforced through indirect paths through a social network. inequality.

Differences in access to opportunity enhancing networks are one reason for persistent ____.

• Strong ties: ____ ties strengths: solidarity and agreement.

Important for the health of the community. Weaknesses: clustered in own environment. weak ties new ideas and experiences, larger network of diverse people.

Comparative reference group: ____ we assess ourselves in accordance with the standard of another reference group: anomie: ____ the group lacks norms or rules.

Egoism bonds tying individual to the group are too weak.

altruism bonds to group are too strong. Bureaucracy: a specific type of large and formal organization that attempts to maximize efficiency.

Characteristics of bureaucracy: formal relations between

participants, clearly laid out procedures and rules, pursuit of stated goals.

Max Weber: studied growth of bureaucracy in the 20th century, developed ideal

types of conceptual models. Ideal type bureaucracy characteristics: • division

of labor based on technical competence, administrative hierarchy, formal rules and regulations, impersonal relationships, emphasis on rationality and efficiency, provision of life long careers. problems in BUR: Alienation: workers with boring dead end jobs feel uninvolved uncommitted and unappreciated

problems in BUR : oligarchy • concentrated of power in a small group, the iron law of oligarchy

Macdonalization of society: increasing dominance of organizations characterized by: efficiency maximized by sameness, Predictability, nothing left to chance, calculation of everything, increased control over customers and employees

best way to understand deviance? social constructionist theory: IT IS VERY SITUATIONAL

subset of deviance that violates laws and results in formal sanctions what leads to deviant behavior interaction, social structure and the social processes _____

theory individuals make choices about deviance based on costs and benefits to themselves. Positive sanctions and negative ones are allocated for breaking social norms. Social control occurs when cost of deviance is higher than reward. Punishment should impose high costs for criminal behavior, as a deterrent

rational choice theory of deviance people are bonded to society in 4 ways: attachment, commitment to conventional activities, involvement in activities that keep them busy, belief in the social rule of their culture. •

Social control theory: • deviance results from power struggles between socially unequal groups. Dominant groups use the legal status to support them. Elitist use deviance to maintain control. They have power to define as deviant activities and groups that threaten their interests or norms.

Conflict theory of deviance: Symbolic interactionist theories of deviance • Focus on how others shape one's definition of what is normal and acceptable

- Examine how society defines some acts as deviant

- Examine deviance related symbols and how they affect the self-labeling theory within symbolic interactionism. Behaviors become deviant because they are labeled as such. Societies define behaviors as deviant and impose sanctions. Primary deviance - actors are not labeled deviant. Secondary deviance - actors are labeled. Being labeled reinforces deviant behaviors. Those with less power and status are most likely to be labeled as deviant (link to conflict theory). Deviance as a social label: "criminal, rapist, schizophrenic" deviance as a self-concept: "bad apple" they begin to think that is who they are. Differential association: focuses on how we learn deviant and criminal behavior from others. By associating with others who engage in crime and have criminal values, we learn how to commit crimes and criminal behavior is enforced. Strain theory: another source of social deviance. It is frustration resulting from gap between socially shared goals and access to legitimate methods of achieving those goals. Strain causes some people to turn to deviant ways of achieving goals. Stratification: ranks of groups in society according to how many valued resources they possess. On-going process of sorting people into layers, legitimated by cultural beliefs that justify inequality. Cultural capital: knowledge and access to important information. Social capital: networks with others who have influence. Symbolic interaction: stratification • Individuals take up social positions through socialization in which they learn the appropriate cultural capital. Cultural capital influences children schools and home environments. Social positions are represented by symbols. Conspicuous consumption: displaying goods in a way that will be noticed and will earn the owner respect. Conflict: stratification • Comes out of struggles for dominance and scarce resources. Individuals take advantage of others. Conflict between those trying to hold

onto existing advantages and those trying to gain new advantages is inevitable. Functionalism: stratification • Stratification is inevitable. They think it is good because everyone has a position. Motivates individuals to carry out their roles. As a result every individual maintains society. Davis Moore thesis. Some positions are highly valued because people feel they are important. Prejudice: attitudes towards a group, usually negative and not based on facts. May be stimulated by meso and macro events: micro attitude. Discrimination: differential treatment and harmful actions against minorities: actions occur at all levels. Herbert Blumer "race prejudice as a sense of group position.

- -- key points: people usually think of racism in terms of individual feelings of hostility. Racism originates first and foremost in group membership dynamics. Four basic feelings associated with racism: feelings of superiority, feel that minorities are different. Feelings of claim to certain areas of privilege/advantage. A fear/suspicion that the minority group will threaten the position of the dominant group