

Sociology social  
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Sociology is, simply, the scientific study of social behavior and human groups (Schaefer, 2017).

It is made up of many parts from contributions of numerous researchers of sociology. Each individual added to the theoretical findings of the previous contributor. A theory is a set of statements that seeks to explain problems, actions, or behavior. Although other early sociologists acknowledged the importance of using science to study sociology; Emile Durkheim, a 19th century pioneer of sociology (1858-1917), was the first person to apply scientific methods to sociology as a discipline. He believed in the importance of studying social facts and patterns of behavior without one's personal bias.

His focuses were on how society maintained order and stability. Aside from Emile Durkheim's books, "The Divisions of Labor in Society," "Suicide: A Study in Sociology" and "The Elementary Forms of Religious Life," he also contributed important theoretical work on suicide. He was interested in suicide rates and how they varied from country to country. Durkheim developed a highly original theory about the relationship between suicide and social factors. He advocated the use of systematic observations to study sociological events. Durkheim's contributions to sociology are relevant today! Just like other scientific disciplines, sociology involves the organized, systematic study of phenomena (in this case, human behavior) in order to enhance understanding (Schaefer, 2017). According to that same text, all scientists attempt to collect precise information through methods of study that are as objective as possible.

Twentieth Century sociologist, Talcott Parsons (1902-1979), was an educator and scholar of sociology. He played a significant role in the development of functionalist theory. The functionalist perspective emphasizes the way in which the parts of society are structured to maintain its stability (Schaefer, 2017). He began development of his, "General Theory of Action" in structure of social action in 1937. It published in 1951. He produced a general theoretical system for the analysis of society, known as structural functionalism. Parsons analysis was based on observation, reasoning, and verification.

He explored the difference between concepts of behavior and action. He was influenced by the work of Emile Durkheim and Max Weber among other European sociologists. Functionalist perspective is still used in today's sociology, so Parsons's contribution is still relevant. Schaefer, Richard T. (2017). Sociology: A Brief Introduction with Connect Access Card.

(12th ed.). McGraw-Hill.