

SOC LECTURE

The Discipline of Sociology

- Industrial economy
- Growth of cities
- Political change

How did Sociology Develop?

Emile Durkheim- study behavior within larger social context

W.E.B. Dubois(1868-1963)- Knowledge essential to achieve tolerance and justice

Four Major Theoretical Perspectives

Functionalist- Society is a stable, ongoing entity with enduring values (family, organized religion, and other social institutions)

Conflict- conflicting groups compete for scarce resources

Interactionist- routine interactions among individuals sometimes taken for granted

Feminist- Social construction of gender

Functionalist Perspective

- Assumption that society is a stable orderly system
- The parts of society work together to promote solidarity and stability
- Everything in a society(institution, customs, interactions) function to keep the society going

Example of a functionalist: Durkheim

Conflict Perspective

- Assumption that groups are engaged in a continuous power struggle for control
- Social patterns benefit some while hurting others
- People are shaped by power

Feminist Perspective

- Assumption that gender is necessary category to understand and to explain inequalities in the household, paid labour force

Symbolic Interactionist Perspective

- Assumption that society is a sum of the interactions of individuals and groups
- Focuses on micro level of analysis
- Symbolic interactionists attempt to examine people's day to day interactions and their behavior in groups
- People manipulate symbols and create their social worlds through interaction

Example: Mead

What is one way your schooling explicitly socialized you?

SOC LECTURE

- **Explicitly-** through seating arrangements or group work, national anthem/lords prayer
- **Implicit-** Learning about authority, making friends, value through marks