

Socialization and the Life Course

Socialization

- Socialization is the process through which people _____
- **Roles** - _____ associated with a given status in society.
- Through socialization, people absorb _____ – customs, habits, laws, practices, and means of expression.
- **Socialization** is the basis for identity (_____).
 - Also establishes _____ – relatively consistent pattern of behavior, feelings, predispositions and beliefs in a given person.
 - Internalization – behaviors are learned so _____

Nature V. Nurture

- Nature – _____ aspect to socialization
 - Innate, natural traits that predict behavior
- Nurture – _____ aspect to socialization
 - Learned ways that predict behavior
- Sociology does not discount nature nor readily accept nurture – _____!

Socialization as Social Control

- Social Control
 - The process whereby groups and individuals are brought into _____ with _____
 - Self
 - Family
 - _____
 - Language, Cultural Symbols
 - Institutions: Law, Religion, Economy, Education, State
 - Coercion: Punishment, Imprisonment, Violence
 - Social control does not mean _____ or total expectations are expressed
 - Men (aggression, risk taking); Women (low self worth, anorexia)

Socialization as Social Control

- How much value one sees in oneself is greatly affected by socialization and how one is seen by society.
 - A national study of 9th and 12th graders examined eating behaviors:
 - ___% of the girls and ___% of the boys reported eating disorders
 - _____ to others was associated with this risky behavior.

Consequences of Socialization

- Establishes _____
 - How we think of ourselves is the result of how we were socialized (Walton article)
- Creates the capacity for _____
 - See the perspective of another, making it reflective
- Creates the tendency for people to act in _____
 - Learn normative behavior → predictability
- Makes people the _____
 - We internalize beliefs and then create/pass along culture

Agents of Socialization

- Institutions pass on expectations about appropriate social behavior:
 - Family
 - Mass Media
 - Peers
 - Religion
 - Sports
 - Schools

Family

- Families introduce children to the _____
- How parents treat a child is crucial to the development of the child's sense of self.
 - Japanese (polite) v. American (object) mothers
- Some families emphasize _____; some may be more permissive, others emphasize _____
 - Thus, what children learn in families is _____

Mass Media

- The average young person (age 8-19) spends ___ hours per day immersed in media in various forms, often using multiple media forms simultaneously.
- _____ is the dominant medium, although half of all youth _____ daily.
- Analysts estimate that by age 18, the average child will have witnessed at least _____ on television.

Mass Media

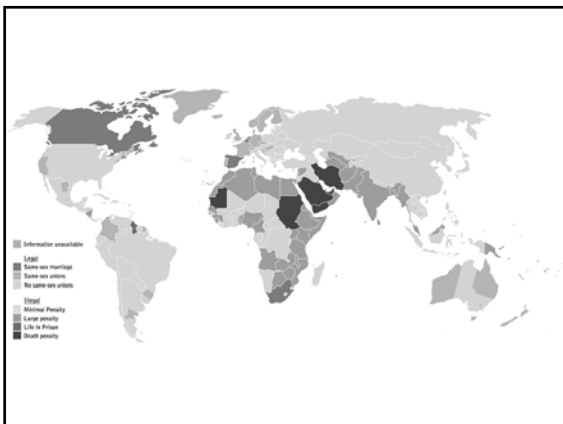
- Violence on TV, video games, etc.
 - Watching televised violence also:
 - Encourages _____ behavior
 - Increases _____
 - _____ and people have _____ towards victims
 - Heightens the imitation of _____
- Keep in mind that TV is not the only source of violence
 - People can have same outcomes by living in _____

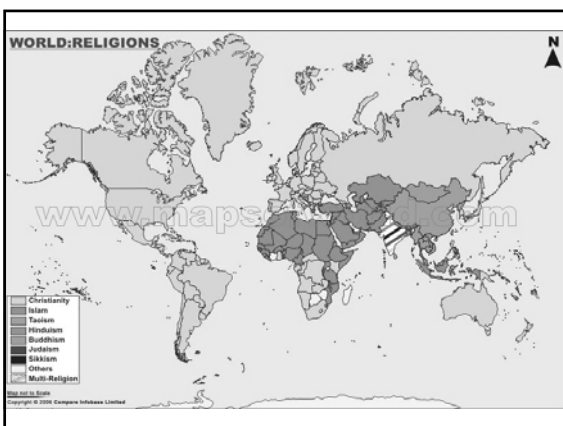
Peers

- Those whom you interact with _____
- For children, peer culture is an important source of identity.
- Through interaction with peers, children learn _____, _____, and _____.
 - Girls' peer groups tend to be closely knit and _____.
 - Boys' peer groups tend to be more _____, with evident status distinctions between members.
 - Thus, peer cultures come in the form of cliques

Religion

- Children tend to develop _____ religious beliefs _____ their parents.
- Very often those who disavow religion _____ at some point in their life
 - Especially if they have _____ of origin and after they form families of their own.
- Religious socialization also influences _____, including the likelihood of tolerance for gay and lesbian sexuality.
 - influences a large number of beliefs that guide adults in how they organize their lives





Sports

- Michael Messner's research on the meaning of sports for men
 - _____ is a context for developing a relationship with a father
 - It is through sports relationships with male peers, more than anything else, that men's identity was shaped
 - Athletic accomplishments of other family members creates _____
 - Sports are a _____ to develop male bonds

Sports

- _____ and the development of gender equity in sports
 - Increase _____ in colleges
- Women in sports develop a sense of bodily competence, stronger bonds, _____, willingness to accept challenges, risks, and _____.
- Many ideas about gender differences are formed and reinforced

Schools

- In school, teachers and other students are the source of expectations that encourage children to think and behave in particular ways.
- Research finds that teachers respond _____, with _____ receiving more attention.
- The _____ consists of the informal and often subtle messages about social roles (linked to race, _____ and class) conveyed through classroom interaction and materials

Schools

- E. Jordan & A. Cowan (1995)
 - Schools as a _____ institution
 - Takes _____ boys and socializes them to accept a _____ of the world
 - sit down, don't fight, don't spit, be quiet, line-up, share.
- _____ and the resistance of little boys
 - _____ from use to another for symbolic purposes
 - Dolls as grenades, cars etc.

Theories of Socialization

- A Review
 - Functionalism
 - Each part of society has a specific FUNCTION and when people perform them, it contributes to stability of society
 - Conflict Theory
 - POWER, coercion and CONFLICT are used to create stability in society
 - Symbolic Interaction
 - People are actors and we interpret actions to gain meaning and perspective

Theories of Socialization

- Functionalism and Socialization
 - Socialization integrates people in society because it helps _____
 - Because these roles are _____, socialization maintains stability by _____
 - So, YOUR specific role in society is to adhere to the socialization messages received from the 6 agents, which are _____

Theories of Socialization

- Conflict Theory and Socialization
 - Why are _____ more likely to pursue arts/humanities majors rather than math/science majors?
 - A person's identity (socialization is the basis of identity) is shaped by patterns of _____
 - _____ tend to choose majors based on work opportunities ("_____")
 - Social control through socialization pressures people to conform
 - Oates (2004) – Blacks have higher self-esteem than Whites, even more when they are in "_____ " schools and when they have a _____ background

Theories of Socialization

- Symbolic Interaction and Socialization
 - People _____ through socialization because of the meanings they apply to social situations
 - What does it mean to be a _____?
 - Internalization of those characteristics becomes embedded in the self (_____)
 - Conceptually different from _____ (consistent pattern behavior, feelings, predispositions, beliefs)

Theories of Socialization

- Symbolic Interaction and Socialization
 - Socialization is a fluid and dynamic process
 - Through children's games, we are socialized in _____
 - Childhood is an important time for socialization but not the _____ where socialization occurs

Theories of Socialization

- Symbolic Interaction and Socialization
 - C.H. Cooley and the _____
 - We develop the self by
 - How we think _____
 - How we think _____
 - How these two thoughts _____
 - The formation of the self is thus a _____ process involving both perception and effect

Theories of Socialization

- Symbolic Interaction and Socialization
 - G. H. Mead and taking the role of the other
 - **Imitation Stage** – children imitate behavior of those around them (role taking is inconsistent)
 - **Play Stage** – children take on the role of significant others (becomes self-aware)
 - **Game Stage** – _____
 - _____ – abstract composite of social roles and social expectations
 - » Understands the system of social relationships
 - » Children do not learn the same generalized other

Theories of Socialization

- S. Freud and Psychoanalytic Theory
 - ID – deep drives and impulses
 - SUPEREGO – _____
 - EGO – serves as the bridge between the primal id and the socialized superego

Theories of Socialization

- S. Freud and Psychoanalytic Theory
 - Identity is _____ at a relatively early age, in a process greatly influenced by _____
 - Identity created from a largely _____ tension between strong _____ impulses and social standards of society

 - Sociologists caution the applicability of his theory to others based on his _____

Theories of Socialization

- N. Chodorow and Object Relations Theory
 - An application of _____
 - Identity shaped less by biological drives and more by social processes involving relationship with _____
 - Attachment and Individuation
 - Identity or sense of self results from _____
 - Boys and girls attachment to the parent of the _____

Theories of Socialization

- N. Chodorow and Object Relations Theory
 - _____, no need to make a radical break of individuation from the same-sex parent – They are “like” the same-sex parent. No need to break from the loving (life-giving) _____
 - _____ tend to have personalities based on attachment and orientation toward others
 - _____, need to ***break*** from the mother (primary caretaker) in order to attach to the _____. A ***break*** from all things female
 - Could reduce this gender difference by more _____

Theories of Socialization

- Social learning theory
 - Identity is not the product of unconscious but to model one’s self to the expectation of others
 - Identity develops in response to _____
 - Identity is created through the interaction of _____
 - Humans do not simply respond to stimulus but they absorb (or learn) to create a picture of how the world operates (Piaget)

Scenario

- Your wife or husband is ill and you have no money.
- Should you break into a drug store to steal medicine to save his or her life?

Theories of Socialization

- Social learning theory
 - Identity is not the product of unconscious but to model one's self to the expectation of others
 - Identity develops in response to positive and negative cues (reinforcement and encouragement)
 - Humans do not simply respond to stimulus but they absorb (or learn) to create a picture of how the world operates (Piaget)
 - Gender differences in the how the world operates (Gilligan)
 - _____
 - » _____
 - » _____

Aging and the Life Course

- Socialization may be concentrated at early ages but continues throughout one's life
 - Socialization starts at birth
 - _____ – the connection between personal attributes, the roles they occupy, life events and the social/historical aspects of the events
 - _____
 - Phases of life course – childhood, adolescence, adulthood and old age.

Aging and the Life Course

- Childhood – _____ begin as early as infancy
- Adolescence – at this stage, there is a formation of _____
 - Once thought of as indistinct from childhood but through _____ we see an emergence of “not a child, not yet an adult” mentality

Aging and the Life Course

- Adulthood
 - Adult socialization – learning behaviors that are appropriate to specific situations
 - Today, life transitions no longer follow orderly, straight line path
 - _____
 - _____
 - Anticipatory socialization – learning the expectations associated with a role _____
 - Professor by being a teaching assistant, then instructor
 - Taking parenting classes

Aging and the Life Course

- Old age
 - While growing old is biophysical, it is also social
 - Age stereotypes – _____ about people of a certain age group
 - Young as _____
 - Elderly as _____



Aging and the Life Course

- Old age
 - Age stereotypes – _____ about people of a certain age group
 - Young as _____
 - Elderly as _____
 - Age prejudice – negative attitudes about an age group that _____
 - Baby talk to elderly – childlike and incompetent
 - Age discrimination – _____ of people based on age
 - Age Discrimination Employment Act
 - Ageism – _____ practice of prejudice and discrimination
 - Social resources & cultural values are not _____ distributed
 - Symbolic interaction - Age stratification promotes ageism (p. ___)

Aging and the Life Course

- Rites of Passage
 - Major transition point in our socialization – a ceremony or ritual that marks the transition of an individual from one role to another.
 - Rites of passage _____ that begin or end each stage of life.
 - Examples: weddings, _____, bat mitvahs, _____.
 - **Question:** *What is the strong, uniform marker in the transition from adolescence to adulthood in our U.S. culture?*

Resocialization

- The process where existing social roles are _____

- Takes place in organizations that maintain strict social control
- Examples: Military, Prison, Cults, Fraternities and Sororities
 - _____
- The brainwashing debate: are people within these organizations _____ or are their identities shaped by _____
_____ that occur within organizations
