

SOC101

General Sociology Concepts

1. **Sociology**

Definition: The systematic and scientific study of human behavior, social groups, and society.

Example: Studying how social norms influence individual behavior in different cultures.

2. **Social Groups**

Definition: Groups of individuals who interact and share a sense of unity.

Example: Families, clubs, and workplaces are examples of social groups.

3. **Social Phenomena**

Definition: Observable events or actions that arise from human interactions.

Example: The rise of social media as a platform for activism.

4. **Social Structures**

Definition: Patterns of organized relationships and social arrangements within a society.

Example: The hierarchical structure of a corporation or the caste system.

5. **Social Norms**

Definition: Accepted behaviors and expectations within a society.

Example: Shaking hands as a greeting in Western cultures.

6. **Sociological Perspective**

Definition: A viewpoint for understanding human behavior within its broader social context.

Example: Analyzing poverty not just as individual failure but as a result of systemic inequality.

7. **Social Contexts**

Definition: The cultural, economic, and societal settings in which people live and interact.

Example: The differing social expectations in rural versus urban areas.

8. **Sociological Imagination**

Definition: The ability to see the link between personal experiences and larger social forces.

Example: Connecting personal unemployment to global economic downturns.

9. **Social Facts**

Definition: Values, cultural norms, and social structures that transcend individuals but constrain their behavior.

Example: Laws, religious beliefs, or marriage traditions.

10. **Social Stratification**

Definition: A system by which society ranks categories of people in a hierarchy.

Example: Class systems in capitalist societies.

Foundational Theories and Thinkers

11. Auguste Comte

Definition: The founder of sociology who introduced positivism, emphasizing observation and scientific methods.

Example: His law of three stages (theological, metaphysical, and positive) describes societal development.

12. Positivism

Definition: The application of the scientific method to the study of social phenomena.

Example: Using statistical analysis to study crime rates.

13. Herbert Spencer

Definition: Sociologist known for applying evolutionary theory to societies, coining "survival of the fittest."

Example: His work influenced Social Darwinism.

14. Social Darwinism

Definition: The belief that societies evolve like organisms, with "fittest" cultures thriving.

Example: Justifying capitalism as a natural hierarchy.

15. Karl Marx

Definition: Philosopher who introduced conflict theory, emphasizing class struggle and economic systems.

Example: His ideas are foundational in studying capitalism and socialism.

16. Class Conflict

Definition: The struggle between social classes for resources and power.

Example: The proletariat versus bourgeoisie dynamic in industrial societies.

17. Emile Durkheim

Definition: Sociologist who explored social cohesion and the impact of social facts on behavior.

Example: His study on suicide demonstrated the effects of social integration.

18. Mechanical Solidarity

Definition: Social cohesion in traditional societies based on shared values and similarities.

Example: Tribal societies where everyone contributes to farming and rituals.

19. Organic Solidarity

Definition: Social cohesion in modern societies based on interdependence and specialization.

Example: Urban communities where different professions depend on each other.

20. Collective Conscience

Definition: The shared beliefs and moral attitudes of a society.

Example: National pride during independence celebrations.

Research Methods

21. Research Design

Definition: A structured approach to conducting research.

Example: Choosing a qualitative method to study cultural practices.

22. Survey Method

Definition: Collecting data through questionnaires or interviews.

Example: Polling citizens about their voting preferences.

23. Case Study

Definition: An in-depth study of a single subject or group.

Example: Examining the impact of industrialization on a small town.

24. Observation Method

Definition: Watching subjects in their natural environment.

Example: Observing children's behavior on playgrounds.

25. Experimentation

Definition: Testing hypotheses under controlled conditions.

Example: Analyzing group dynamics through role-playing exercises.

26. Secondary Data

Definition: Using previously collected data for new research.

Example: Analyzing census data for demographic studies.

27. Research Ethics

Definition: Guidelines ensuring integrity and ethical treatment of subjects.

Example: Obtaining informed consent from participants.

28. Variables

Definition: Measurable elements that can vary in a study.

Example: Age, income, or education level in sociological research.

29. Correlation

Definition: A relationship between two variables.

Example: Higher education levels correlating with higher incomes.

30. Causation

Definition: When one variable directly affects another.

Example: Smoking causing an increase in lung cancer rates.

Sociological Theories

31. Functionalism

Definition: Views society as a system of interdependent parts.

Example: Religion as a means of maintaining social order.

32. Conflict Theory

Definition: Focuses on power struggles between groups.

Example: Analyzing gender wage gaps.

33. Symbolic Interactionism

Definition: Studies how individuals interact based on shared symbols.

Example: The significance of wedding rings in marriage.

34. **Feminism**

Definition: Analyzes gender inequality and advocates for women's rights.

Example: Researching workplace discrimination.

35. **Post-Colonialism**

Definition: Examines the lasting impact of colonialism on societies.

Example: Studying cultural hybridity in former colonies.

36. **Post-Modernism**

Definition: Challenges universal truths and focuses on subjective experiences.

Example: Analyzing media's role in shaping identities.

Social Issues and Institutions

37. **Gender Inequality**

Definition: Unequal treatment based on gender.

Example: Disparities in leadership roles between men and women.

38. **Religion**

Definition: A set of beliefs and practices related to sacred things.

Example: Examining the role of rituals in community building.

39. **Family Structure**

Definition: The organization of relationships within a family unit.

Example: Nuclear versus extended family dynamics.

40. **Education**

Definition: The process of learning and socialization within institutions.

Example: Studying the effects of standardized testing.

41. **Globalization**

Definition: The increasing interconnectedness of the world.

Example: The spread of multinational corporations.

42. **Urbanization**

Definition: The movement of populations to cities.

Example: Examining the rise of megacities in Asia.

43. **Health Sociology**

Definition: The study of social factors affecting health and illness.

Example: Researching disparities in healthcare access.

Key Methodological Concepts

44. **Inductive Reasoning**

Definition: Developing general theories from specific observations.

Example: Observing classroom behavior to form theories about student motivation.

45. **Deductive Reasoning**

Definition: Testing hypotheses derived from general theories.

Example: Testing theories of inequality through income data.

46. **Empirical Evidence**

Definition: Data derived from systematic observation or experimentation.

Example: Survey results on public opinion.

47. **Hypothesis Testing**

Definition: Assessing if a proposed relationship between variables is true.

Example: Testing whether income affects voting behavior.

48. **Social Variables**

Definition: Characteristics that influence behavior or social outcomes.

Example: Religion, class, or ethnicity.

49. **Data Analysis**

Definition: Examining collected data to draw conclusions.

Example: Using statistical software to analyze survey responses.

50. **Theory Building**

Definition: Creating frameworks to explain social phenomena.

Example: Developing a theory on the causes of unemployment

BS English

<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaazKAVBfxoDMH419U0u>

For Files

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1m6HPIs6iAPIL6v3xf85y4fylxg6dwqne?usp>