

status: A social position that a person occupies.

role: behavior expected of someone who holds a particular status.

role conflict: A situation where the roles associated with different status positions are incompatible, placing the individual trying to play the roles of these different positions in a situation of conflict.

norm: rules and expectations by which a society guides the behaviors of its members.

culture: the knowledge that the members of a social organization share

value: Moral ideals about good-bad, appropriate-inappropriate, and right-wrong

subculture: a culture within a larger culture that accentuates some values more than the larger culture (or perhaps downplays others)

socialization: The process of learning cultural values, norms, and expectations (Those interactions instilling in individuals the basic components of personality that are necessary for their participation in society)

socialization to disadvantage: when the process of socialization disadvantages you to others in society.

the General Other: Widespread norms used for evaluating and identifying ourselves – the perspective of the larger society (1. You'll never meet G.O. 2. G.O. becomes larger as you mature. 3. G.O. is not totally the same for everyone. Its content and your identity are shaped by your social background and current social statuses.)

deviance: any behavior that does not conform to social expectations (1. Deviance is normal – that is, it is common. 2. Deviance is socially constructed. Acts aren't inherently deviant.)

ethnocentrism: Judging other cultures by the standards of one's own culture.

Cultural relativity: The belief customs of another society must be viewed and evaluated by their standards, not by an outsider's.

institution: Widespread social arrangements that channel behavior in prescribed ways in important areas of life. (1. Experienced as having external reality. 2. Coercive power and moral authority. 3. Historical facts.)

the distinction between normative and empirical statements: Empirical: a claim about what is a purported fact. Normative: an evaluative judgment.

macro vs. micro sociology:

Macro sociology

the unit of analysis is societies

Micro sociology

the unit of analysis is individuals

Meso sociology

the unit of analysis is between the micro and macro levels - in INSTITUTIONS

(families, sports, social movements, church choirs, etc.)

Macrosociology is an approach to sociology which emphasizes the analysis of social systems and populations on a large scale, at the level of social structure, and often at a necessarily high level of theoretical abstraction. Microsociology, by contrast, focuses on the individual social agency. Macrosociology also concerns individuals, families, and other constituent aspects of a society, but always does so in relation to larger social system of which they are a part

self-fulfilling prophecy: An event that occurs *because* it was predicted (The prophecy is confirmed because people alter their behavior to conform to the prediction.)

the social processes indicated by the "nested" model (See Collab for the model.)

Macro > Meso > Micro

variable: independent: cause and dependent: effect

hypothesis: the relationship between two variables

concepts/operational definitions (indicators): a way of measuring a concept; not right or wrong; just more or less useful; How you measure a variable can affect your results

a control variable: a variable that is held constant

spuriousness: when there is a 3rd variable that allows the relationship between the IV and the DV to exist /a relationship in which two events or variables have no direct causal connection, yet it may be wrongly inferred that they do, due to either coincidence or the presence of a certain third, unseen factor (referred to as a "confounding factor" or "lurking variable")

Non-spuriousness: when a relationship between two variables is not caused by a third variable---all plausible alternatives to causation have been eliminated

the difference between correlation and causation

correlation: a mutual relationship between two or more variables

causation: a relationship between two variables in a change in one variables causes change in the other

"A" causes "B" if:

1. "A" is correlated with "B"
2. "A" precedes "B"

The relationship between "A" and "B" is non-spurious

(That is, the "A-B" relationship is not attributable to the relationship between both "A" and "B" and some other factor(s), "C".)

Durkheim's theory of suicide – the basic cause of variation in rates across groups:

most suicide is anomic; the person has a lack of connection to a group

anomic suicide: type of suicide that occurs when the structure of society is weakened or disrupted and people feel hopeless and disillusioned

altruistic suicide: Suicide that occurs when one experiences too much social integration

Patterns of Suicide Rates

1. Urban > Rural
2. Protestants > Catholics > Jews
3. Single > Married > Married with Kids
4. More educated > Less educated

Pursuit of Attention: the causes of "conversational narcissism," the connection of "C.N." to patterns of inequality, the ways in which book's thesis illustrates the nested model.

1. capitalism causes individualism which causes C.N.
2. The more power people have in the economic system, the more they expect attention and are able to command it.
3. In Derber's theory, capitalism (macro-level) promotes individualism, (micro-level). As people behave in the manner, they are reinforcing the system.

Institutions are inherently conservative

People don't like reform or change. People like to rely or stick with the comfort of their past. For example, education or in churches -- people don't want to change their ways of doing things.

We are the creators and prisoners of culture.

Culture controls it; it shapes our individual behavior.
-We reinforce culture with our behavior.

It's the social reaction to an act that determines its deviance.

Society determines what is deviant based on expectations. If an action is not expected, the reaction will let you know that it is deviant.

Deviance issues are inherently political

Definition of politics: The struggle among groups over the direction of society and how the "goodies" are divided.

Power affects what gets defined as deviant, and deviance policies affect the distribution of power.

Theories of Deviance:

Biological: people are born bad

Personality: weird heads

Differential association: like our friends

Labeling theory: the stigma of the label

Structural Strain: the gap between aspirations and means

Deviance is normal

People are socialized into an understanding of their society's norms and values. But, they are never 100% socialized. This would involve not one member of society ever even thinking a deviant thought, and this is not possible

Why Collins and Makowsky believe that sociology is hard to do well

BECAUSE social life is familiar:

"like rebuilding a boat, plank by plank, while floating on it in the middle of the ocean."

and