

3Chapter 1

Paradox- makes something that seems natural and see why it seems natural

Sociology is the study of the human society

Sociological imagination- coined by wright mills

Helps us to :

1. Connect our persona; experiences to society at large and greater historical forces

2. make the familiar strange or to question habits or customs that seem natural to us

social institutions are networks of structures in society that work to socialize the groups of people within them

Examples :

1. legal system
2. the labor market
3. educational system
4. military, family and more

The way individuals define themselves in relationships to groups they are part of or in relationship to groups they choose not to be a part of.

Auguste comte - society is better understood by determining the logic or scientific laws governing human behavior called social physics or positivism

Harriet Martineau- first to translate comte written works to English one of the earliest feminist social scientist

Karl Marx- theory of historical materialism which identifies ;class conflict as the primary cause of social change.

Max Weber- emphasis on subjectivity became a foundation of interpretive sociology

Emile Durkheim- founder of positivist sociology developed the theory that division of labor helps to determine how social cohesion is maintained or not maintained in that society

Georg Simmel - formal sociology or a sociology pure numbers (for instance, how a group of two is different than a group of three)

Modern sociological theories:

1. functionalism (crime has purpose)
2. Conflict theory(have and have nots)
3. Feminist theory (structured action)
4. Symbolic interactionism(can blue be a car)
5. Postmodernism (media shaping reality)

American sociology

Early American sociology became prominent of the university of Chicago so the perspective that emerged became known as the Chicago school

Chicago thinkers

1. Charles Horton Cooley
2. George Herbert mead
3. W.I. Thomas
4. W.E.B. Dubois
5. Jane Addams

The Chicago school focused on empirical research with the belief that people behaviors and personalities are shaped by their social and physical environment

- Sociology focuses on
 1. Making comparison across case
 2. Finds patterns and create hypotheses

3. Ask how societies work or have worked
4. Looks at how individuals interact
5. Looks at how groups interact with one another.

Microsociology- understands local interactional contexts , focusing on face to face encounters and gathering data through participant observations and in depth interviews

Macrosociology- looks at social dynamics across whole societies or large parts of them and often relies on statistical analysis to do so

Mesosociology in between

Chapter 2

Research methods - standard rules that social scientist follow when trying to establish a casual relationship between social elements

Quantitative methods- obtain information about the social world that is in or can be converted to numeric form

Qualitative methods - collect information about the social world that cannot be readily converted to numeric form

Two research Approaches - deductive

1. Starts with a theory
2. Develops a hypothesis
3. Makes empirical observations
4. Analyze the data collected