

Stratification- structured inequality or more specifically, systematic inequalities between groups of people that arise as intended or unintended consequences of social processes and relationships (classism, racism, ageism, any of the isms)

Stratify- builds a hierarchy

Socialism never took root in America because the poor see themselves not as an exploited proletariat but as temporarily embarrassed millionaires- John Steinbeck

Rousseau

1st form of Inequality is Physical (or natural)- age, health, bodily strength, and qualities of mind or soul

2nd form of Inequality is Social (or Political) such as being more- rich, honored, powerful, or even in a position to exact obedience

Ontological Equality- it's the notion that everyone is created equal in the eyes of God

Unequal Childhoods (Anette Lareau) focused mostly on class and observed children of all races in middle-class, working-class, and poor families

Findings- different parenting styles, different opportunities to participate in extra curricular activities, parents varied in amount of time and money they could spend on children

More Findings- reproduction of social class, little upward mobility, downward mobility still possible for some

Upward Mobility

Since most people will most likely reproduce the class that they were raised in there are few ways to become upwardly mobile

-Education tends to be one of the few people can be upwardly mobile

-However, most go to underprivileged high schools, have little knowledge of financial aid opportunities, and know few people who have gone through the process

Social Mobility

Horizontal mobility- people can go from one job to another that is similar

Vertical mobility- many can experience downward mobility, usually when there is a downturn in the economy

Many people base their opinion on inequality on the exceptions to the rule

We hold up examples like Bill Gates and assume that everyone is capable of inventing something, working so hard, or maybe winning the lottery and moving up the social strata

Net Worth Distribution

The bottom 80% of the population only approximately 7% of the Net Wealth

While 1% of the population makes approximately 43% of the Net Wealth

According to the book in 2001 bottom 80%=16%, 1%=33

In the 1970s CEO's of major corporations made approximately 2-3 million dollars a year
By 2008 most CEO make 100s of million of dollars a year, and many get untaxed perks
All while unions are being dissolved, wages and being reduced, and many low wages jobs
are being outsourced