

Power point notes

(9/23/2014)

Socialization:

- establishes our social identity
- teaches us role taking
- controls our behavior

Internalization: process of learning cultural behaviors and expectations so deeply we accept them without question

- transmits culture to the next generations

Nature & Nurture

- biologists focus on the role of heredity, emphasizing the role of **nature**
- socialization, and culture, emphasizing the role of **nurture**
- Sociobiology**: a theoretical approach that applies biological principles to explain the behavior of animals, including human beings

It's also argues that nature determines who we are including: gender identity & levels of aggression

- Cross-cultural data show very different conditions for children
- Research suggests that the environment can influence biology
 - o Alcohol abuse can cause genetic damage
 - o Childhood trauma influences the developing brain
- We can conclude that nature and nurture interact in the socialization process and both are important to development

Explanations

Social learning theory:

- People learn new attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors through social interaction.
- **Direct socialization**: learning through reward and punishment
- **Indirect socialization**: learning through modeling and imitation

Symbolic Interaction Theories:

- social interaction shapes socialization

-social interaction develops the **self**: an awareness of one's social identity

Looking-Glass Self

- Concept introduced by Charles Horton Cooley

- Self-image based on how we think others see us

- Looking-glass self develops in phases

- o *Perception*: we imagine how we appear to others and how they perceive us

- o *Interpretation*: we imagine how others judge us

- o *Response*: we experience self-feelings based on what we think others think

- According to George Herbert Mead

- o Self is composed of the "I" and the "me"

 - I: creative, impulsive, imaginative, spontaneous

 - ME: internalized social roles

- **Role taking**: learning to take the perspective of others

- o Children acquire the ability to role take through a series of stages

 - Play stage (2-6)

 - ✓ Children begin to understand language and symbols

 - ✓ **Significant others**: the people who are important in one's life and greatly impact socialization

 - ✓ Child acts out imagined roles

 - ✓ **Anticipatory socialization**: the process of learning how to perform a role they don't occupy

 - Game stage (6 and older)

 - ✓ Involves the ability to understand the connections between roles

 - ✓ In a game a child learns to understand and anticipate the actions of others

 - ✓ **Generalized other**: people who don't have close ties to the child but who can influence her or his internalization of norms and values

- Erving Goffman analyzed social life as theater

- **Impression management**: involves presenting ourselves in a favorable light by controlling settings, appearance, and manner

- We used expressive resources in impression management

- o *The setting*: physical space

- o *Appearance*: clothing, hairstyles, props

- o *Manner*: how we act

- **Reference groups** shape an individual's self-image, behavior, values, and attitudes

We may already belong to a reference group (family) or we may hope to belong (active participation in future occupation)

Socialization Agents

Agents of socialization are the persons, groups, or institutions that teach us what we need to know to participate effectively in society

- parenting styles:
 - o **Authoritarian** parents use their power to control a child's behavior
 - o **Authoritative** parents set reasonable limits but are warm and responsive
 - o **Permissive** parents set few rules but are usually warm and responsive
 - o **Uninvolved** parents are indifferent and focus on their own needs
- Play:
 - o Promotes cognitive development
 - o Keeps children out of trouble and enhances their social development
 - o Strengthens peer relationships
- Peers:
 - o Reinforce desirable behavior or skills
 - o Serve as positive role models
 - o Teach new skills
 - o Encourage high-risk behaviors
- School:
 - o Enhance cognitive development
 - o Transmits knowledge
 - o Teaches us to think in different ways

Teachers may create a self-fulfilling prophecy. Students perform according to what is expected of them.

Socialization throughout Life

- Socialization continues into adulthood as individuals adapt to a series of new roles including work and parenting.
- **Boomerang children:** young adults moving back into their parents' home
- we are likely to spend 20% of our lives in retirement
- aging requires adapting to another series of new roles

Resocialization

Resocialization:

- process of unlearning old ways of doing things and adopting new attitudes, values, norms, and behaviors