

Programme : M.Ed

Course Code : CC1A

Course Name : PHILOSOPHICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL  
PERSPECTIVES OF EDUCATION

Unit : IV

Title : Foundation of Educational Sociology

Dr. K. JAYARAMAN  
Professor and Head  
Department of Educational Technology  
Bharathidasan University  
Trichy

# Introduction

- In sociology, education is referred to as a social institution that serves the objective of socializing an individual from their very birth into the systems of society.
- Henslin states education as “a formal system” which imparts knowledge to individuals, instils morals and beliefs (which are relevant with those of the culture and society) provides formal training and develops skills.

# Aims

- The different components of education are always influenced by the form of the society.
- It is determined as per the social needs.
- The inclusion of new subjects in the educational curriculum depends on the present and future needs of society.
- Methods of teaching, discipline, role of teacher, students and school are also governed by the social culture.

# Approaches to Sociology of Education

## Structural Functionalism

- The theory of structural functionalism emphasizes that society is like a system which is made up of interrelated parts. The social system has certain basic requirements which must be fulfilled for it to survive. These needs are referred as functional prerequisites. The function of every part of society is its contribution in the maintenance of society. Since society is like a system, there must be some degree of integration between its parts.
- The French sociologist **Emile Durkheim** believed that the main function of education is the transmission of society's values.

# Conflict Theory

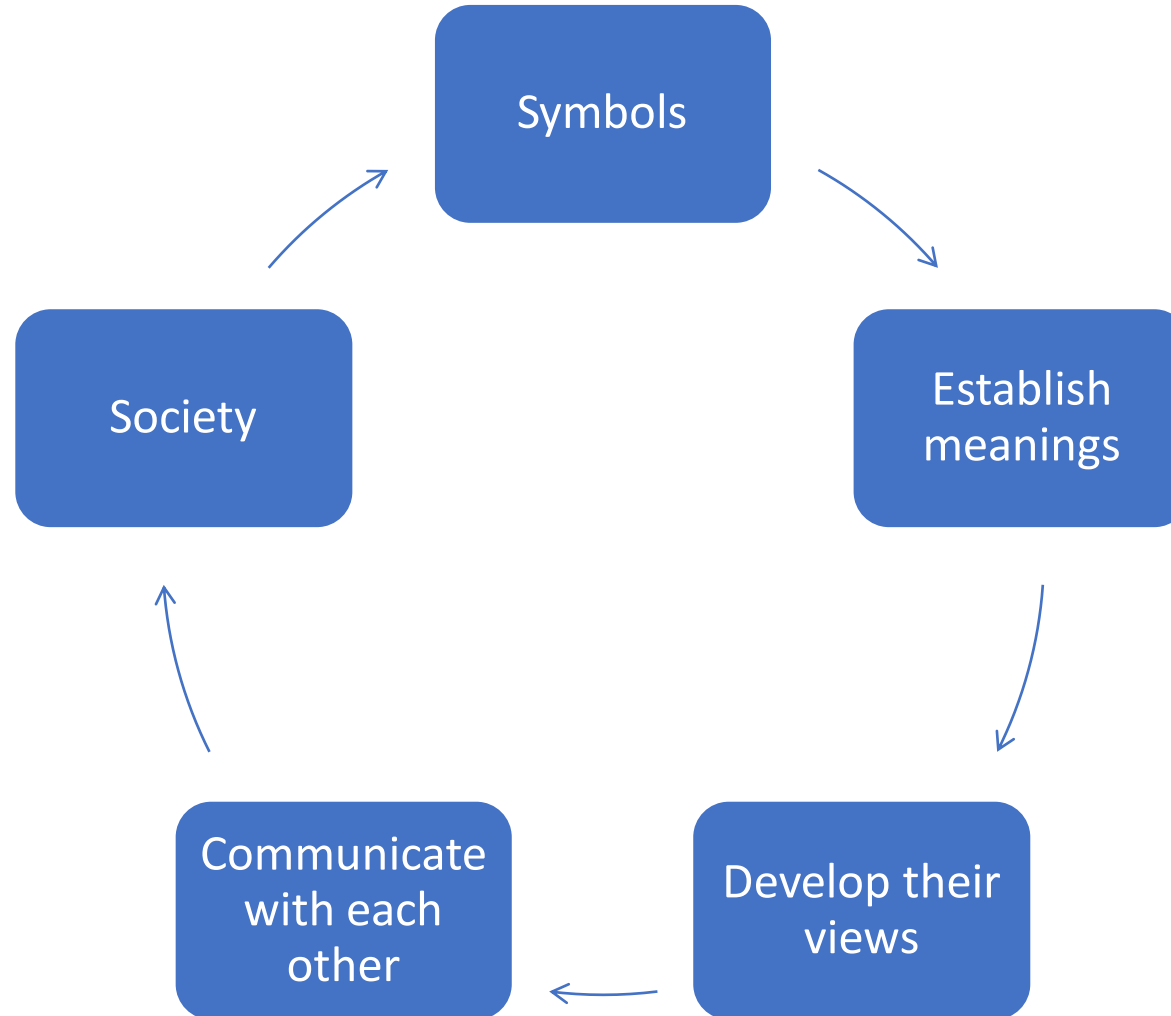
According to **Karl Marx**,

- Social order is maintained by domination of the powerful and elite class on the working class. The people with power and property want to hold on to it by any means and they do so by oppressing the poor and powerless. Conflict theory focuses on the competition among groups within society over limited resources.
- Conflict theory sees society as divided because of the conflict between the working class and the ruling class.

# Symbolic Interactionism

- It is perspective in a sociology that explains how societies are created and maintained through repeated actions of individual.
- George Herbert Mead is said to be the proponent of Symbolic Interactionism, though the term symbolic interactionism has been coined by Blumer. It is a perspective that sees society as the product of shared symbols, such as objects, language etc. The social fabric is thus constructed by the meanings that individuals attach to certain objects, events and social interactions and these symbols are transmitted across the generations.

# Symbolic Interactionism





# Social Institutions

- In sociology, the term social institution implies a system of social arrangements that steer the behavior of people in a society in prescribed ways in important areas of social life.
- Social institutions are designed by the people for the smooth functioning of the society such as to meet the basic needs, ensure law and order and clearly delineate roles of authority and decision making.
- Social institutions are important structural units of modern societies that address one or more fundamental functions.

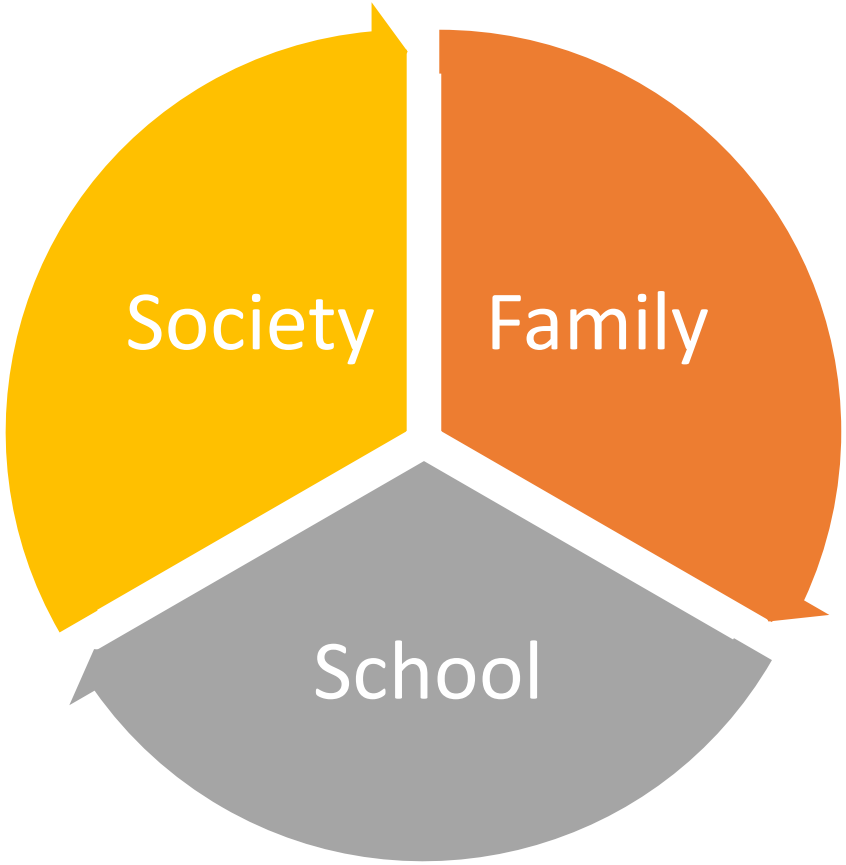
# Characteristics of social institutions

- Social institutions are collective in nature and are systems of social arrangements that guide behavior of people in prescribed ways in significant areas of social life.
- Social institutions are universal and exist in all societies at all points of times.
- Social institutions regulate human behavior.
- Social institutions are relatively permanent, interrelated with other institutions and abstract in nature.

# Functions of social institutions

- Simplifies the behavior, responsibilities and work of an individual.
- Provides a means to control and regulate the society and people who constitute it.
- Every individual is designated with a role depending on his placement and status.
- Social institutions help in maintaining order in the society.
- Establish permanent norms of social behavior.
- Gratifies the basic needs of society.

# Types of social institutions



# Characteristics of Family

- It is universal
- Emotional basis
- Formative influence
- Shared responsibility of the members
- Social regulation
- It is a bilateral in nature

# Types of Family

- Nuclear Family
- Joint Family
- Family of orientation
- Family of procreation

# Functions of Family

- Biological function
- Socializing function
- Sustenance function
- Property transmission
- Transmission of culture
- Social placement

# Functions of Schools

- Cultural knowledge and exposure of one's society.
- Opportunities to acquire educational and vocational abilities, which are significant to make one a socially useful and economically productive citizen of society.
- Knowledge of various skills and other cognitive abilities.
- Education also teaches the right way to communicate, develop positive attitude and practice etiquette according to the society.
- Education provides exposure to the students and help them in learning the perspectives for themselves and their society.



# Functions of Society

- Socialization
- Provisions for fulfillment of basic needs
- Inter-dependence
- Social control through laws, principles and rules
- Goal attainment
- Division of labor
- Role allocation
- Role substitution
- Production and Distribution of resources

# Social Movements

- A social movement is conscious collective endeavor to bring change in a society. It may be defined as an organized effort by a large number of people to bring about social, political, economic or cultural change. Social movements comprise of people who share the same ideas about what they believe is significant. For bringing this change, these people take help of campaigning, protesting, advocating or making speeches.

# Characteristics of Social Movements

- Social movements require the active and volunteer participation of its members.
- A social movement aims towards change relating to a specific aspect. The change aimed at could be partial or complete in some rules, norms, traditions and values.
- Most of the social movements have some solid ideological base. It is the ideology which attracts people to join a movement and work in coordination with the specified targets and goals.

# Types of Social Movements

- Migratory movements
- Reform movements
- Revolutionary movements
- Revivalist movements

# Theories of Social Movements

- Relative Deprivation Theory
- Resource Mobilization Theory
- Political Process Theory
- New Social Movement Theory

**Thank you**