SOCIAL MEANING OF MAN

Contents:

- The Meaning of Social
- Socialisation
- Social Institutions of Socialisation
- Erikson's Psycho-Social Development
- The Social Construction of Reality
- Understanding Social: a social imagination
The Meaning of Social

- Attitudes, orientations, or behaviors which take the interests, intentions, or needs of other people into account
- Weber: by virtue of the subjective meanings attached to the action by individuals, it takes account of the behavior of others, and is thereby oriented in its course.
- Contra: Anti-Social

Socialisation

- The lifelong process of inheriting and disseminating norms, customs and ideologies, providing individual with the skills and habits necessary for participating within his/her own society and performing such social roles.
- The process on how the society makes unhuman, i.e. parts of the society.
Socialisation ... (Cont)

- Childhood Development:
  - Nature: Heredity
    - Each man inherits particular physical/emotional characteristics from their ancestors, i.e. races
  - Nurture: Social Environment
    - Each man learns skills and knowledge in order to become a fully recognised man in the society.

- Locke: Tabula Rasa
  - Individuals are born without built-in mental content and that their knowledge comes from experience and perception.

Social Institutions of Socialisation

- Family (nuclear, extended)
- Religion or Religious/Spiritual Group
- Peer Group
- Education System (formal or informal)
- Other social system: economic, legal, penal
- Language (mother tongue, national, formal)
- Mass Media (television, newspaper etc)
### Erikson's Psycho-Social Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Virtues</th>
<th>Crises</th>
<th>Involving</th>
<th>Question?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infancy (18 months)</td>
<td>Hope</td>
<td>Trust v Mistrust</td>
<td>Parents</td>
<td>Can I trust the world?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childhood (3 years)</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>Autonomy v Shame and Doubt</td>
<td>Parents and Siblings</td>
<td>Is it Okay to be me?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school (5/6 years)</td>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Initiative v Guilt</td>
<td>And other families</td>
<td>Is It Okay for me to do, move and act?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School (11/12 years)</td>
<td>Competence</td>
<td>Industry v Inferiority</td>
<td>School mates</td>
<td>Can I make it in the world of people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### ... Psycho-Social Development

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adolescence (18 years)</td>
<td>Fidelity</td>
<td>Identity v Role Confusion</td>
<td>Peers</td>
<td>Who Am I? What Can I Be?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adulthood (40 years)</td>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Intimacy v Isolation</td>
<td>Partners</td>
<td>Can I Love?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Adulthood (65 years)</td>
<td>Care</td>
<td>Generativity v Stagnation</td>
<td>Household, neighbours</td>
<td>Can I Make My Life Count?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maturity (65 to death)</td>
<td>Wisdom</td>
<td>Ego Integrity v Despair</td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Is It Okay To Have Been Me?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>