



# Socialization

## Part II

Our normal expectations about reality are created by social consensus. We are taught how to see and understand the world. the trick of socialization is to convince us that the descriptions we agree upon define the limits of the real world. What we call reality is only one way of seeing the world, a way that is supported by social consensus.

Carlos Castaneda

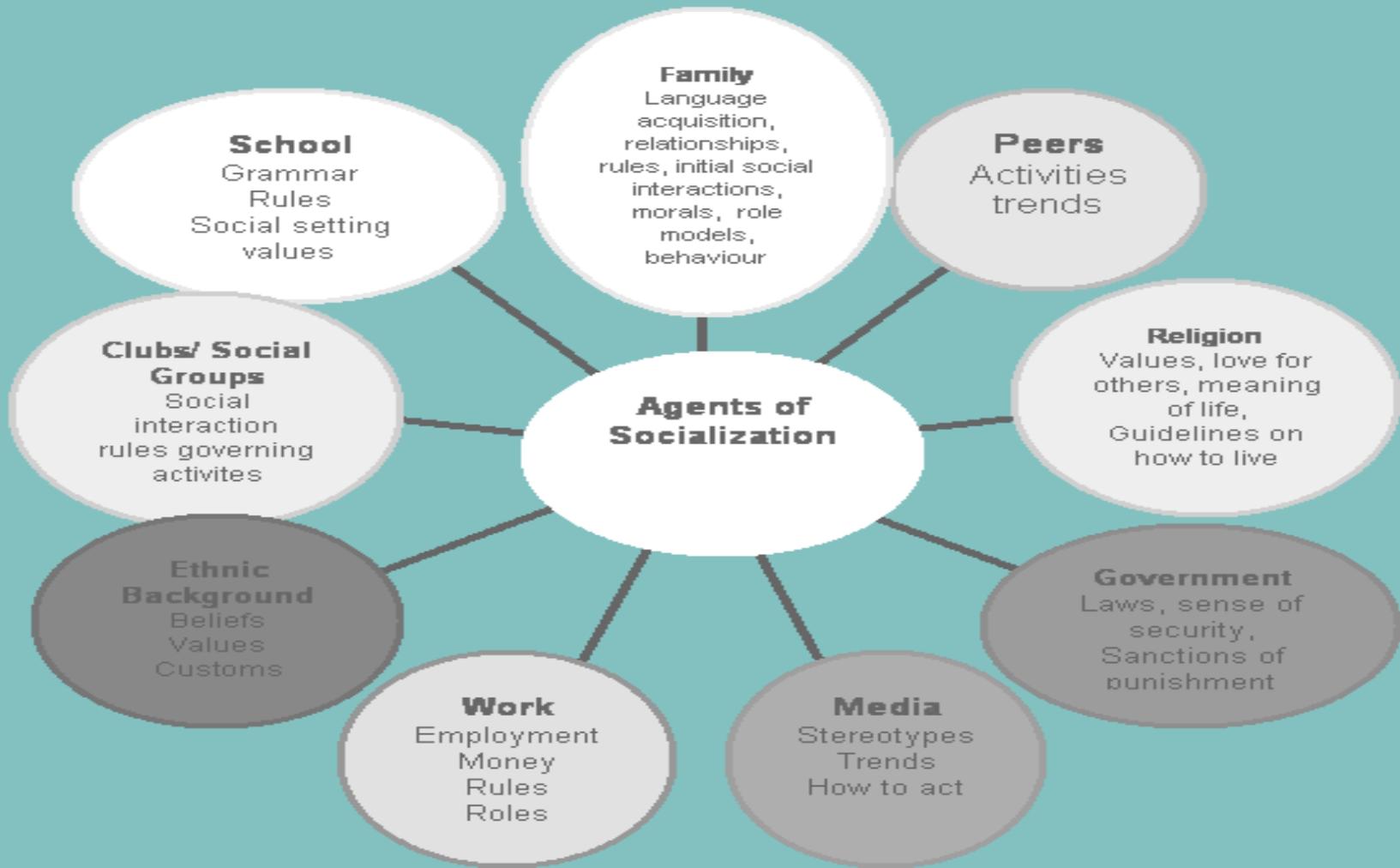


# Agents of Socialization

- ... something that affects you as an individual, and thus the society as a whole ... the sources from which we learn about society and ourselves ... can be formal or informal ... cultural transmission
- Institutions pass on expectations about appropriate social behavior.
- The amount of impact that each of the agents has on an individual will depend on the situation, the individual's experiences and the stage of life the individual is in.
- The importance of various agents change over the life course. New statuses and roles come with age and experience.



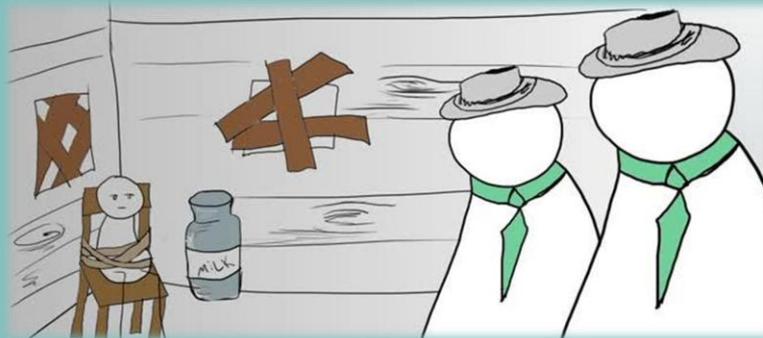
# Agents of Socialization





# Agents of Socialization: Family

- first emotional tie
- greatest impact on socialization process
- first place to learn language, norms and values of the culture
- may be problematic since parents/guardians may reproduce negative modeling that they experienced as a child



# Agents of Socialization: Family



- Families use positive and negative sanctions to help teach right from wrong.
- The amount and type of sanctions differ by family.
- Family socialization differs by culture.
- The number of children in a household and birth order can influence individual socialization.

**“Yes, you’re right! The mommy cooks a delicious dinner, and the daddy goes to work. That’s exactly right! And the little girl, what does she do?”**





# Agents of Socialization: Neighborhood

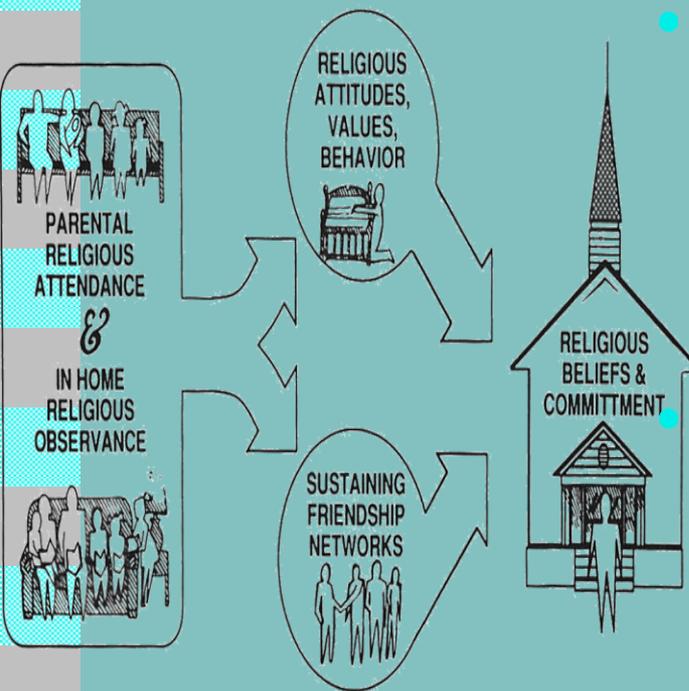
- ...geographically localized community within a larger unit
- Rural-to-urban migration contributed to neighborhood distinctiveness and social cohesion.
- Neighborhoods, especially ethnic neighborhoods, can be an important agent of socialization.
- **social capital**: a sense of connectedness due to the formation of social networks in a given community





# Agents of Socialization: Religion

- Children tend to develop the same religious beliefs as their parents.



- Very often those who disavow religion return to their original faith at some point in their life, especially if they have strong ties to their family of origin and after they form families of their own.

Religious socialization influences beliefs about sexuality and the likelihood of tolerance for gay and lesbian sexuality.



# 2017 Moments in America for Children

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- **Every 2 seconds** a public school student is suspended.
- **Every 9 seconds** a high school student drops out.
- **Every 20 seconds** a baby is born to an unmarried mother.
- **Every 31 seconds** a child is arrested.
- **Every 43 seconds** a public school student is corporally punished.
- **Every 47 seconds** a child is abused or neglected.
- **Every 49 seconds** a child is born into poverty.
- **Every 60 seconds** a baby is born without health insurance.
- **Every 2 minutes** a baby is born into extreme poverty.



# 2017 Moments in America for Children

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- **Every 2 minutes** a child is born at low birth weight.
- **Every 3 minutes** a baby is born to a teen mother.
- **Every 5 minutes** a child is arrested for drug abuse.
- **Every 9 minutes** a child is arrested for a violent crime.
- **Every 23 minutes** a baby dies before its first birthday.
- **Every 32 minutes** a child or teen is injured or killed by a gun.
- **Every 3 hours and 33 minutes** a child or teen commits suicide.
- **Every 5 hours and 33 minutes** a child is killed by abuse or neglect.
- **Every day** someone under 25 dies from HIV infection.



# Agents of Socialization: School



- opens the door to a new social world
- provides importance that society places on gender and race
- provides information to individuals on how to understand themselves and others
- provides skills to function as a citizen and a worker
- exposure to inequality



# Agents of Socialization: School

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- first experience of economics and social status
- reduces opportunities for control and makes children feel less competent
- Studies have shown that while bad day care can result in physical and emotional problems, good day care is not harmful to noninfants and may even lead to better outcomes.
- In school, teachers and other students are the source of expectations that encourage children to think and behave in particular ways.

# Agents of Socialization: School



- Research finds that teachers respond differently to boys and girls, with boys receiving more attention.
- **hidden curriculum**: informal and often subtle messages about social roles conveyed through classroom interaction and materials
- **corridor curriculum**: what students teach each other outside of the classroom
- **extent of education**: The higher the level of education, the wider the society into which the individual is socialized and, usually, the higher the social position.



# Agents of Socialization: Peer Groups

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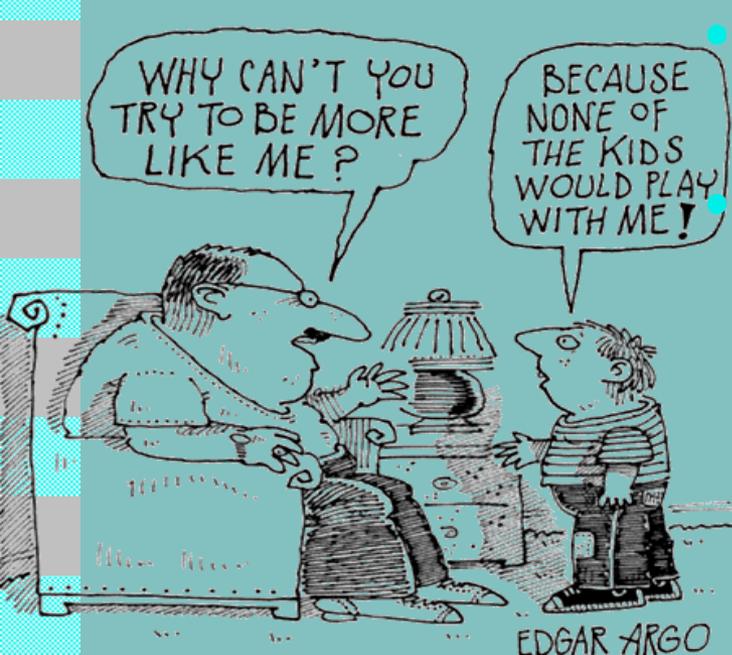


- influential from late childhood through adolescence and early adulthood
- learn how to form relationships without adult supervision
- allow children a source of resistance to parental and school socialization
- may encourage good and bad interests
- may guide short term choices
- change behavior and personality to be accepted



# Agents of Socialization: Peer Groups

- For children, peer culture is an important source of identity.
- Through interaction with peers, children learn concepts of self, gain social skills and form values and attitudes.



- girls' peer groups: tend to be closely knit and egalitarian
- boys' peer groups: tend to be more hierarchical, with evident status distinctions between members

# Agents of Socialization: Sports



- Through sports, males and females learn concepts of self.
- Males learn that being competitive in sports is considered a part of manhood.
- Current research finds that females in sports develop a strong sense of bodily competence, which is typically denied to them by the prevailing cultural images of women's bodies.





# Work and Play among Youth: Gender

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	<b>% work</b>	<b>% play</b>	<b>% both</b>	<b>% neither</b>
male	29.4	29.6	8.2	32.7
female	27.9	26.9	9.6	35.7

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# Work and Play among Youth: Race and Ethnicity

	<b>% work</b>	<b>% play</b>	<b>% both</b>	<b>% neither</b>
Asian	31.4	26.8	11.2	31.5
Hispanic	29.1	23.9	7.5	40.6
African American	29.3	22.8	7.5	38.4
White	27.9	30.9	10.0	31.9
Native American	23.9	29.9	10.8	35.4



# Agents of Socialization: Marriage and Parenthood



(c) Sarah Andersen

- **marriage:** Although marriage is a universal institution, the role of marriage in socialization varies from culture to culture.
- perpetuates the main agent of socialization, the family
- **parenthood:** Although parenthood is a universal institution, the role of parenthood in socialization varies from culture to culture.
- can bring young adults back to original family values



# Agents of Socialization: Military

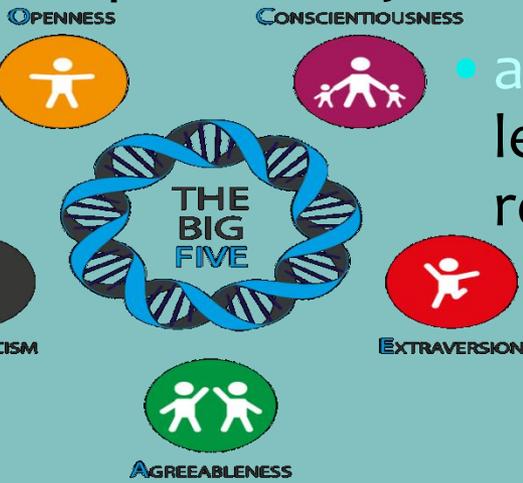
- Basic training is a period of rapid resocialization and enculturation, occurring under conditions of relative isolation and confinement.
- Individuals are expected to develop new behavior confined to a narrow range of acceptability as shaped by heavy doses of reward and punishment.
- Military experience is not as valued in the US today as it once was.





# Agents of Socialization: Workplace

- Employees are expected to learn the ropes by becoming sensitive to the formal and informal power structure and the explicit and implicit rules of behavior.
- Employees with certain personality traits and experiences adjust to an organization more quickly: employees with a proactive personality, Big Five personality traits, curiosity and greater experience levels.



- **anticipatory socialization**: process of learning in advance an anticipated future role or status



# Agents of Socialization: Workplace

- **onboarding**: process of bringing a new employee on board, incorporates training and orientation
- Employee experience levels affect the onboarding process. More experienced workers tend to adapt to a new organization differently from, for example, a new college graduate starting his/her first job.
- **networking**: the act of meeting new people in a business or social context

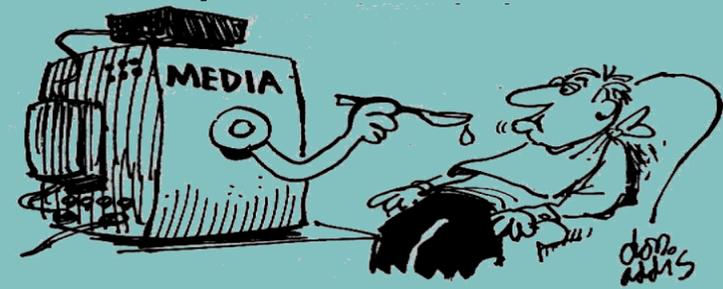


"It's not your work, Hannon - It's your attitude."



# Agents of Socialization: Media

- represents impersonal communication directed at a certain audience
- major type of secondary socialization
- influences people's behavior through modeling and imitation
- The mass media can create and influence/control perceptions of what is important in society selecting and stressing particular topics, views, interpretations and themes.





# Agents of Socialization: Media

- Advertising secretly manipulates the audience.
- The average young person (age 8–19) spends 6.75 hours per day immersed in media in various forms, often using multiple media forms simultaneously.
- Television is the dominant medium, although half of all youth use a computer daily.



- Analysts estimate that by age 18, the average child will have witnessed at least 18,000 simulated murders on television, although research is inconclusive as to what effect (if any) that has.

# Agents of Socialization: Resocialization



- ...process of abandoning one or more social positions in favor of others that are more suitable for a newly acquired status ... voluntary or involuntary ... mild: new boss ... intense: Alcoholics Anonymous
- **total institution**: setting in which people are isolated from the rest of society and manipulated by an administrative staff
  - radically altering personality through deliberate control of the environment
  - break down existing identity and build a new identity
  - prison, boot camp, cults, fraternities and sororities, etc



"And don't be Mr. Antisocial. At least make an effort to sniff some of the other guests."

continued in  
SOCIALIZATION PART III