




Introduction to sociology

Alaa Hamza Hermis, BSN, MSN , PhD



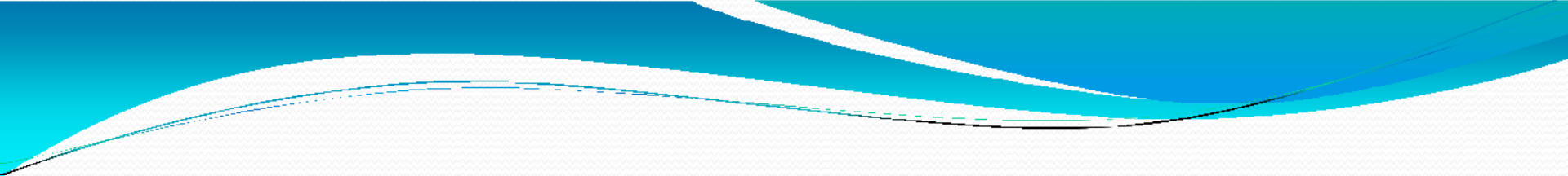
The word Sociology derived from Latin word “Societus” means “society”, the Greek word “logos” means “study or science” **Sociology is the “Science of Society”.**



Sociology can be defined as the study of relationships between human beings.

Sociology: is the scientific study of society, including patterns of social relationships, social interaction, and culture.

Society - is the aggregate of people living together in a more or less ordered community.



Culture التقاليد: The word cultured referred to people who knew about and took part in these activities. Also, culture refers to the norms, values, beliefs, behaviors, and meanings given to symbols in a society. Culture is distinct from society in that it adds meanings to relationships.

Socialization **التعاش**: is a life process, but is generally divided into two parts:

- **Primary socialization**: takes place early in life, as a child and adolescent.
- **Secondary socialization**: refers to the socialization that takes place throughout one's life, both as a child and as one encounters new groups that socialization additional require

يشير إلى التنشئة الاجتماعية التي تحدث طوال حياة الفرد، او
عندما يواجه مجموعات جديدة تتطلب التنشئة الاجتماعية
الاضافية




Subject matter of the sociology: sociology is....

1. Study of society.
2. The science of social life.
3. The study of social relationships.
4. The study of human behaviour in groups.
5. The study of forms of social relationships.
6. The study of social action.



Nature of sociology:

- 1. It studies social phenomenon:** It is known as, “Mother of all social sciences”. It uses scientific method. It is a systematic way of dealing with ideas, careful observation and recording of the factual data, and which is classified analyzed and organized in a systematic fashion by logical basis through which generalizations can be made.
- 2. Sociology is factual:** It deals with facts only, uses scientific principles to solve the problems.



3. Sociology frames laws and attempts to predict: Science can make prediction on the basis of universal and valued laws relating to the problem solving approach.

4. Principles of sociology are universal: The laws of sociology proved to be true at all times and places, as long as the conditions do not change. The laws are devoid of any exceptions.

5. It discovers the cause and effect relationship: It structures for the cause and effect relationship in its subject matter and in this connection, it provides universal and valid laws.

6. Sociological principles are veridical: The laws of sociology prove true at every verification and re-verification. Anyone can examine their validity.

The importance of sociology:

1. It is a scientific study of society.
2. It studies the role of institutions, through the knowledge of sociology the individual can understand and establish relationship with the social environment like family, religion, school, governmental policies and working situations.
3. The study of sociology is indispensable اساسي for understanding and planning of society.
4. It helps in solvation of social problems.
5. It draws our attention to the institutional worth and dignity of men.
6. It contributes to understand human culture, to make good citizens.
7. It keeps us update information on modern institutions.
8. It identifies good government with community.

The functions of sociology:

- 1. Technical function:** To construct society by observing existing problems, customs, traditions, institutions, etc. it can make the people to understand the changing situations.
- 2. Introductory function:** It supplies the information about the elements of social system to facilitate the introduction of any desirable changes. It explains different methods, which can introduce this change into various parts of it.
- 3. Informative function:** It possesses some important information based on the oretical knowledge with practical experience. It makes the individual to organize society by solving certain social problems. It provides guidance in practical reforms.
- 4. Tolerate function:** it have to understand all the social institutions to develop a feeling of universal brotherhood.
- 5. Democratic function:** To develop a selfless tendency and understands the society in a well-planned manner.

Medical Sociology

is one of the most important sub-disciplines in sociology due to the importance of its subjects and what it teaches. It is the science that deals with the active relation between the society and the social life with the diseases, their causes, and how transmitted. It also study the communication between the health organization and the society.

The Relationship of Sociology with Nursing:

1. Nursing plays a vital role in healthcare profession. Nurses are the key persons who have significant influence over the group members within the society.
2. To provide total patient care in a comprehensive manner and render tender loving care to meet the total needs of the clients either in the hospitals or in the community.
3. To understand and meet the needs of the individual, family and societal needs in a holistic manner thereby nation's development can be achieved.
4. To understand the cause and meaning of many kinds of patient behavior to make them comfortable and treat them all alike for improvement of client care.

The Relationship of Sociology with Nursing:

5. To broaden the view of nursing students to understand human behaviour in relation to the society. To understand the problems of clients.
6. To suggest the ways to work with families, community agencies and groups of persons to provide health counselling in planning for continuity of care.
7. To provide right motivation, treatment and physical, medical, vocational, psychosocial rehabilitation.
8. To understand the emotional reaction pattern, (e.g: Level of perception, attitudes of people towards medical care, barriers of communication, individual differences, social distance.....
9. To understand self and others and the nurse has to make more effective use of her professional skills.
10. The nurse is having close association and continuous contact with the clients than any other health team members, she has to understand the problems of clients in crucial way.
11. To gain greater insight into the human problems as related to the illness.
12. Good observation, communication, guidance skills are essential to understand clients' behavior



The goals of sociology in nursing:

1. Promotion of health.
2. Prevention of illness and injury.
3. Sociology plays, an important role in the area of health sciences.
4. Giving of caring.



Objectives of Medical Sociology:

- 1. Studying and examining the social and humanitarian bases of medical activity such as screening, diagnosis and identifying the causes of diseases.**
- 2. Identify social diseases and distinguish them from physical diseases.**
- 3. Study the social environment or social environment and its role in the emergence of social and psychological diseases.**
- 4. Identify the relationship between the natural and the environment in which man lives the natural and social environment and the impact of society and social life and the emergence of some diseases.**
- 5. Establish the idea of social clinics that are spreading in a number of communities**
- 6. Understand the nature of the social relationship that takes its place in health institutions.**
- 7. Identify the causes and how to strengthen their ties.**
- 8. Learn how to activate health institutions.**

Theories of Sociology

Sociology was developed as a way to study and try to understand the changes to society brought on by the Industrial Revolution in the 18th and 19th centuries. Some of the earliest sociologists thought that societies and individuals' roles in society could be studied using the same scientific methodologies that were used in the natural sciences, while others believed that it was impossible to predict human behavior scientifically, and still others debated the value of such predictions.

Those perspectives continue to be represented within sociology today.

1. Functionalism (Émile Durkheim)

Views society as a system of highly interrelated structures or parts that function or operate together harmoniously.

2. Conflict theories صراع (Karl Marx)

People are basic struggling battling over something. Karl Marx : Who believed that the history of society was one of class struggle . صراع

3. Theoretical Perspectives وجهات النظر

Sociologists develop theories to explain social events, interactions, and patterns. A theory is a proposed explanation of those patterns. Theories have different scales. Macro-level theories, such as structural functionalism and conflict theory, attempt to explain how societies operate as a whole. Microlevel theories, such as symbolic interactionism, focus on interactions between individuals.

4. Symbolic interactionism رموز (Herbert Blumer)

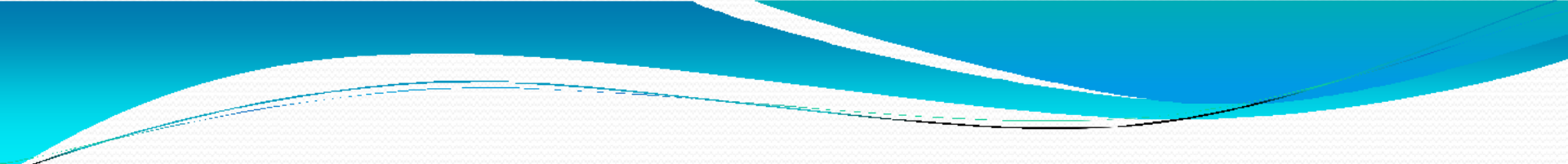
A theoretical perspective through which scholars examine the relationship of individuals within their society by studying their communication (language and symbols). Which research technique would most likely be used by a symbolic interactionist Participant observation.

5. Medical Sociology

Theoretical science consists of a system of hypotheses theories that form the backbone of science such as the theory of social class and disease. What is the relationship between social classes and disease. E.g. the size of the family and its relationship to health and disease family with a large number of children is different from the family with a small number of children in terms of attention and care reflected on health and reduces the likelihood of infection.

The main methods to test theories

1. Surveys: sometimes referred to public opinion poll, is the widely accepted ways of studying human behavior. Using variables, surveys measure peoples attitude towards different matters. Sociology often studies the relationship between a viewpoint and a subject while considering elements like education, age, and gender. Questionnaires are usually given to a controlled group where they will answer either worded or objective type questions. The survey questions also ask about their background and demographic information. Through this method of data gathering, information such as consumer habits, racial discrimination, and other human behavior and activity are provided. In addition, surveys answer issues in the society to have a clear understanding concerning the problems involved



2. Controlled experiments: some of the experiments are conducted in a laboratory and in small groups. In some cases, a two groups are studied for contrasting and comparing. They want to know the significant difference in the attitudes and behavior of certain groups.

Sociological research: Sociological research methods may be divided into two broad categories:

1. Quantitative designs: approach social phenomena through quantifiable evidence, and often rely on statistical analysis of many cases (or across intentionally designed treatments in an experiment) to create valid and reliable general claims.

2. Qualitative designs: emphasize understanding of social phenomena through direct observation, communication with participants, or analysis of texts, and may stress contextual and subjective accuracy over generality. A