

## Theories of socialization

Socialization is a term used by Sociologist and social psychologist, Socialization is the means by which human infants begin to acquire the skills necessary to perform as a functioning member of their society and is the most influential learning process one can experience. Humans need social experiences to learn their place and culture in order to survive in the real world, unlike other species who acts are biologically set in order to survive. Culture is a term which encompasses the social behavior and norms found in human societies, as well as the knowledge, beliefs, arts, laws, customs, capabilities, and habits of the individuals in these groups, I have also agreed with the Cooley's theory of the looking-glass self Like Mead, sociologist Charles Horton Cooley believed that we form our self-images through interaction with other people. In this essay I am going to discuss two of the 6 theories of socialization that interest me the most and the one that I mainly agree with, I am going to explain to you how this socialization theory helped me understand my own socialization process in the past and in the present.

George Herbert Mead developed a theory of social behaviorism to explain how social experience develops an individual's personality. Mead's central concept is "the self: the part of an individual's personality composed of self-awareness and self-image. Mead claimed that the self is not there at birth, rather, it is developed with social experience". After doing some research and learning about all the other theories of socialization this is the theory that I agree with the most simply because I feel that it is the most accurate and relatable thing that I have read so far. I believe that in life to find who you really are you have to experience a lot of things

in order to find out who you truly are resulting in your mentality growth and your growth as a person.

I can relate to the theory of “development of self” mainly because Growing up you have to learn the culture and develop with social experience with being in school almost your half of your life and coming in contact with many different people with different experiences. There are many learned behaviors, attitudes and expectation of people in society and there is also how you see yourself in the future with everything that you have experienced growing up so basically this is a runoff of social expectations.

Individuals can also play a big part in your social experience/ development. This is another theory known as Cooley's theory of the looking-glass self. I also agree with this because in a way it is very similar to George Herbert Mead's theory. This theory explains how humans form their self-image based on the interactions with other people. This is agreeable to me because people can have a big influence on each other depending on each other an example would be growing up with your siblings, best friend, and parents.

As the research has stated these theories of socialization, I have decided to talk about are very important in social development and they are the most accurate and relate to me the most. I believe that these theories have the biggest impact on people and their culture growing up and have the biggest impact in the long run.

## **Citations**

### **THEORIES OF SOCIALIZATION | BOUNDLESS SOCIOLOGY**

Courses.lumenlearning.com. 2020. *Theories Of Socialization | Boundless Sociology*. [online] Available at: <<https://courses.lumenlearning.com/boundless-sociology/chapter/theories-of-socialization/>> [Accessed 29 September 2020].

## **SOCIALIZATION: PRIMARY SOCIALIZATION | SPARKNOTES**

Sparknotes.com. 2020. *Socialization: Primary Socialization* | Sparknotes. [online] Available at: <<https://www.sparknotes.com/sociology/socialization/section1/>> [Accessed 29 September 2020].