

Framework

Lecture 1-2: Basic Concepts

Objective:

In this lecture, we will briefly look at some of the key concepts in Sociology. An understanding of these concepts is essential for an overall understanding of the social structure and process of social change in society. We will also try to understand the relationship between Sociology and Common-Sense.

Refer: Booklet P-I T-1 (Sociology – The Discipline)

Q. What is Sociology?

A. Sociology is the scientific study of society.

- What is Society?
- What is Scientific Study?

Society

- **Society: A Concept**

What is a Concept?

Precision and Generality

- **MacIver: “Web of Social Relationships”**

- **What is Social?**

Mutual Awareness (Psychic Condition of Social Relationships)

Reciprocity

- **Society is based on both Likeness and Difference**
 - F.H. Giddings: “Consciousness of Kind”
- **Society as a Structure**
 - Status and Role
 - At a Point of Time
- **Society as a Process**
 - Over a Period of Time

Community

- **Meaning**
- **Bases of Community**
 - Locality
 - Community Sentiment
- **Community may/ may not be self-sufficient**
- **Society and Community**

Association

- **Meaning**
- **Association and Community**
 - Voluntary Aspect
 - Specific and Shared Objective
 - Corporate Character (Formal)
 - Locality
- **Association within Community**
- **Community within Association**

Institution

- **Meaning**
- **Functions of Institutions**
 - Socialization
 - Social Control
- **Institution, Community and Association**
- **Social Norms, Customs and Institutions**
- **Types of Institutions (W.G. Sumner)**
 - Folkways and Mores
 - Crescive and Enacted Institutions

Culture

- **Meaning**
- **Material Culture and Non-Material Culture**
- **Ideal and Real Culture**
- **Related Terms:**
 - Diffusion
 - Acculturation
 - Cultural Shock

Ethnocentrism

Xenocentrism

Cultural Relativism

Subculture

Contraculture

Cultural Lag

Civilization

Sociology and Common-Sense

What is Sociology?

What is Common-Sense?

Difference between Sociology and Common-Sense

Similarities between Sociology and Common-Sense

Relationship between Sociology and Common-Sense

Theoretical Relevance of the Debate related to Sociology
and Common-Sense

Sociology is Simple

Sociology is Scoring

provided that you

Study Sociology Systematically

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