

Education, Socialisation and Identity

The relationship between primary and secondary socialisation

Name and date begun:

Time allocation:

4 lessons

Learning objectives:

- Students should understand that the education system is central to the way that we organise our society.
- Our education is central to the way that we see ourselves in society.
- The education system forms part of the way that we pass on social norms, morals, and values to children.
- It is possible that the education system can pass on ideologies

Key Concepts and vocabulary

See your lesson notes for a list of ideologies and philosophies. These must be learned in addition to the following:

- Functionalism and education
- Meritocracy
- Socialisation
- Primary socialisation
- Secondary socialisation
- Formal education
- Informal education
- Non-formal education
- Ideology
- Universal values

Additional reading and references

Haralambos and Holbourn (1995) *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives* p 725 - 729

Taylor *et al.* (1996) *Sociology in Focus* p 287 - 8

Jorgensen *et al.* (1997) *Sociology: An interactive approach* p 132 - 6

Browne (1998) *An Introduction to Sociology 2nd edition* p 309 - 14

Giddens (1997) *Sociology 3rd edition* p 413 - 419

Make a note of any additional sources that you have used below

Personal Development ideas

- Speak to people older than yourselves and ask them what they feel they gained from the education system.
- Speak to people older than yourself and ask what they want the education system to do for their children.
- See what you can discover about the New Labour Policy of 'lifelong learning'

Overview of the debate

- Why do we have an education system?
- What functions does the education system serve for society?
- What ideas do we gain from our schooling?
- What other forms of learning are there?

Revision tips

- Be sure that you fully understand functionalist theory as it applies to the education system.
- Be sure that you have some ideas with which to evaluate functionalism and functional theory.
- Have some ideas about why you think advanced western societies feel that they need to have complex education systems for their young.
- What other methods of educating children are there?
- Develop some thoughts in answer to the question as to whether socialisation into the norms of a culture is necessarily good for society or for the individual?

What you should have in your folder when this work has been completed correctly:

- A clear explanation of each of the glossary terms
- Acceptable lesson notes.
- Evidence that you have looked at least two textbooks and made notes on the functions of the education system.
- Evidence that you have conducted a simple interview with an adult to find out what that person feels are the main purposes of education.
- Rough notes on what you feel are the main purposes of the education system.
- Evidence that you have attempted to observe a lesson as a non-participant observer to see evidence of socialisation.