SOC 101 CH 5: SOCIALIZATION

Socialization is the process through which people are taught to be ________ of a society. It is how people come to understand ________ norms and expectations, to accept society’s beliefs, and to be ________ of societal values. (Socialization is not the same as socializing.)

5.1 Theories of Self Development
When we are born, our ________ give us our biological traits. However, who we are as human beings also develops through ________ interaction. Through socialization we develop what we call the “______.”

Psychological Perspectives on Self-Development
Psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud (1856–1939) was one of the ________ influential scientists to put forth a theory about how people develop a sense of ________. He divided the maturation process into psychosexual ________: oral, anal, phallic, latency, and genital.

Sociological Theories of Self-Development
Structural functionalists would say that socialization is ________ to society, both because it trains members to operate successfully within it and because it perpetuates culture by transmitting it to ________ generations. Without socialization, a society’s ________ would perish as members died off. A different perspective, ________, would say that socialization passes inequality from generation to generation by conveying different expectations and norms. For example, individuals are socialized differently by ________, social class, and race. This creates different (unequal) opportunities. An interactionist studying socialization is concerned with face-to-face exchanges and ________ communication. For example, dressing baby boys in blue and girls in pink is one small way we convey messages about ________ in gender roles.

Kohlberg’s Theory of Moral Development
Moral development is an important part of the ________ process. The term refers to the way people learn what society considered to be “good” and “bad,” which is important for a ________ functioning society.

Gilligan’s Theory of Moral Development and Gender
Gilligan’s research demonstrated that boys and girls do, in fact, have ________ understandings of morality. Boys tend to have a ________ perspective, by placing emphasis on rules and laws. Girls, on the other hand, have a care and responsibility perspective; they ________ people’s reasons behind behavior that seems morally wrong.

5.2 Why Socialization Matters
Socialization is critical both to ________ and to the societies in which they live. It illustrates how ________ intertwined human beings and their social worlds are. First, it is through teaching culture to new members that a society perpetuates ________. If new generations of a society don’t learn its way of life, it ________ to exist. Whatever is distinctive about a culture must be ________ to those who join it in order for a society to survive. We have a responsibility to pass on the ________ parts to those who follow after us! How does college fit into this picture?

Socialization is just as ________ to us as individuals. Through social interaction we gradually become able to see ourselves through the ________ of others, and how we learn who we are and how we fit into the world around us.

Nature versus Nurture
Some experts assert that ________ we are is a result of nurture—the relationships and caring that surround us. Others argue that who we are is ________ in genetics. According to the genetics belief, our temperaments, interests, and talents are set before birth. From this perspective, then, who we are depends on ________. One way researchers attempt to measure the impact of nature is by studying twins. Some studies have followed identical twins who were ________ separately.
The pairs shared the same _______ but in some cases were socialized in different ways. Instances of this type of situation are rare, but studying the degree to which __________ twins raised apart are the same and different can give researchers insight into the way our temperaments, preferences, and _________ are shaped by our genetic makeup versus our social environment. Though __________ and hormones play an important role in human behavior, sociology focuses more on the effect __________ has on human behavior, the “nurture” side of the nature versus nurture debate.

5.3 Agents of Socialization
Socialization helps people learn to _______ successfully in their social worlds. How does the _______ of socialization occur? Is it sudden or does it happen over an extended time? How do we learn to use the _______ of our society’s material culture? How do we come to adopt the beliefs, ____________, and norms that represent its nonmaterial culture?

Social Group Agents

Family Family is the first _______ of socialization. Mothers and fathers, siblings and grandparents, plus members of an extended family, all _________ a child what he or she needs to know. They show the child how to _______ objects, how to relate to others, and how the world _________ (what is “real” and what is “imagined. Families do not socialize children in a vacuum. Sociologists recognize that ___________, social class, religion, and other societal factors play an important role in socialization. For example, __________ families usually emphasize _________ and conformity when raising their children, while wealthy families emphasize judgment and ___________. This may occur because working-class parents have less education and task-type jobs for which it is helpful to be able to follow _________ and conform. Wealthy parents tend to have better educations and often work in managerial positions or careers that require _________ problem solving, so they teach their children behaviors that are _________ in these positions. This means children are effectively socialized and raised to take the types of jobs their parents _________ have, thus reproducing the class system.

Peer Groups Peer groups are important to adolescents in a _______ way, as they begin to develop an identity separate from their parents and exert independence. Additionally, peer groups provide their own _________ for socialization. Interestingly, studies have shown that although friendships’ influence ranks high, parental _________ remains very significant.

Institutional Agents The social institutions of our culture also significantly influence our socialization. _________- institutions—like schools, workplaces, and the government—teach people how to behave in and navigate these _____________.

School Students are _________ in school only to study math, reading, science, and other subjects—the manifest function of this system. Schools also serve a _________ function in society by socializing children into behaviors like practicing teamwork, following a schedule, and _________ textbooks. School and classroom rituals, led by teachers serving as _________ models and leaders, regularly reinforce what society _________ from children. Sociologists describe this aspect of schools as the hidden curriculum, the _________ teaching done by schools. The hidden curriculum prepares children for the adult world.

The Workplace Workers require _________ socialization into a workplace, in terms of both material culture and _________ culture (such as whether it’s okay to speak directly to the boss or not!)
Religion The United States is full of synagogues, churches, mosques, and similar religious communities where people gather to worship and learn. Like other institutions, _______________ teach participants how to interact with their material culture (like a mezuzah, a prayer rug, or a communion __________). For some people, important ceremonies related to family structure—like marriage and birth—are connected to religious _________________.

Government Although we do not think about it, many of the ______ of passage people go through today are based on age _________ established by the government—like getting your driver’s license. To be defined as an “_______” usually means being eighteen years old, the age at which a person becomes legally responsible for her- or himself. Each time we embark on one of these ______ categories—senior, adult, taxpayer—we must be socialized into our new ________.

Mass Media Mass media distribute impersonal information to a ________ audience, via television, newspapers, radio, and the Internet. With the average person spending over _________ hours a day in front of the television (and children averaging even more screen time), media greatly ________________ social norms. So, does the mass media ____________ in mostly positive ways or negative? What are some examples of each?

5.4 Socialization Across the Life Course
Socialization isn’t a one-time or even a short-term event. We aren’t “__________” by some socialization machine as we move along a conveyor belt and thereby socialized once and for all. In fact, socialization is a _________ process. Socialization throughout the life course is determined greatly by ________ norms and “time-related rules and regulations.” Responsibility and _______ are emphasized as pillars of adulthood, and men and women are expected to “settle down.” During this period, many people enter into marriage or a civil __________, bring children into their families, and focus on a __________ path. They become partners or parents instead of _______ or significant others.

Just as young children pretend to be __________ doctors or lawyers, play house, and dress up, __________ also engage in anticipatory socialization, the preparation for future life ________. How might a person who wants to be a __________ worker exhibit anticipatory socialization? Are you doing some anticipatory socialization right now?

Resocialization In the process of resocialization, old _________ that were helpful in a previous life role are removed because they are no longer of use. Resocialization is necessary when a person moves to a senior care center, goes away to ___________, or serves time in jail. In the new environment, the old _________ no longer apply. The most common way resocialization occurs is in a ________ institution where people are isolated from society and are __________ to follow someone else’s rules. The Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines are total institutions. Many individuals are resocialized into an institution through a _______ process. First, members entering an institution must leave behind their old __________ through what is known as a degradation ceremony. In a degradation ceremony members lose the aspects of their old __________ and are given new identities. In other situations, the degradation ceremony can be more extreme. New prisoners lose __________ rights (including the right to privacy), and personal belongings. After new members of an institution are stripped of their ________ identity, they build a new one that matches the new society. In the military, soldiers go through _________ training together, where they learn new rules and __________ with one another.