

MEGA
LECTURE

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* Introduction:-

Rousseau's book "Social Contract", first sentences, "Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains"; is true that man cannot be absolutely free in society. The collective life of man is possible only when he is under a social control.

Happiness is the main aim of social life. This happiness can be attained not with unbound freedom for action but with restrained behaviour. Man has given to society the power of exercising its control over his behaviour. This mechanism is referred to as social contract.

* Meaning of Social Contract:-

Harmony, social solidarity and social order are essential for smooth functioning of the society.

Members of society are able to bring about social harmony or order when they conform to certain accepted norms.

Group welfare or social welfare must take precedence over individual members. Thus, social control refers to the control of society over the individual.

E.A. Ross, in social control, first used the concept of social control. He has stressed upon roles of public opinion, law, belief, religion, ideas, ceremony etc in establishing social control.

Individuals due to presence of sentiments such as sympathy, sociality and sense of justice agree to cooperate with others to work for social welfare.

* Definitions:-

"Social control refers to the system of devices whereby society brings its members into conformity with the accepted standard behaviour?"

(E.A. Ross)

"Social control is the sum of those methods by which a society tries to influence the human behaviour to maintain a given order"

(Manheim)

"Social control refers to the patterns of pressure which a society exerts to maintain order and established rules"

(Ogburn & Nimkoff)

* Nature of Social Control:-

Social Control denotes some kind of influence. The influence is essentially exerted by the society or community. The influence is exerted for promoting the welfare of all the individuals or of the group as a whole. The influence of the society has been there since times immemorial. The influence is, indeed, universal.

* Purpose of Social Control:-

The purpose of Social Control is to exercise control over people in effective manner.

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Kimball Young has mentioned three purposes of the Social control.

(1) Conformity:-

Social control brings about social conformity which is the main purpose of social control.

Modern society is complex and different norms co-exist. As a result behavioural pattern of different groups differ significantly. To keep them in limits of tolerance and for the sake of security, they are obliged to accept conformity. Social control thus provides for conformity.

(2) Solidarity:-

Social control brings about solidarity. The main purpose of social control is to create in the minds of the people the feeling of identity and solidarity.

For the purpose of smooth functioning of society, the different organizations and institutions of social system must be integrated. This ensures protection of weaker from exploitation by big one. This, in turn ensures equilibrium in society.

As a result, peace and order in society would reposit confidence among people. This can be done through social control.

(3) Continuity of the group:-

Social control ^{ensures} the continuity of society. Society not only struggle for stability and solidarity but also for its survival.

Continuity is the www.megalecture.com bed-rock on which the future of society depends. Society maintains its continuity by controlling effectively its ~~purpose~~^{people} and their group. This again is purpose of social control.

TYPES OF SOCIAL CONTROL:-

There are two types of social control.

(1) Formal control:-

The formal means of social control represents those institutions that are structured to ensure regulation and control on human behaviour. The state makes use of law, legislations, military force, police force, administrative devices etc for the purpose of social control. Formal control is deliberately created.

Rules are clearly stated by institutions and associations. Violators of ^{formal} social control are given punishment depending upon type and nature of violation.

The organizations or institution that make use of formal control may even create a body of officials vested with power to enforce control. Police created by the state is an example of this case.

(2) Informal Control:-

The informal means of social control represents those primary institutions that ensures maintainance of behaviour at social level. They are norms, values, religion, morality, resentment, public

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opinion etc.

These are not purposefully created. They arise on their own way and in course of time gain popularity. They became deep-rooted with people in their practices.

No specific punishment is given to the violators of informal control. They do not require anybody to enforce but still they are effective than the formal control.

MECHANISM OF SOCIAL CONTROL:-

Different scholars have suggested various mechanisms.

(1) Karl Mannheim:-

He considers two mechanisms of social control. They are, direct social control and indirect social control.

(i) Direct Social Control:-

It is mostly maintained by primary groups like family, relatives, peer and teacher.

(ii) Indirect Social Control:-

It is maintained by secondary groups through traditions and customs.

(2) C. H. Cooley:-

He argued that social control operates at conscious level of individuals.

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- (i) At conscious level, social institutions such as law and education compel individual to act in accordance with the accepted rules of society.
- (ii) At unconscious level, social institutions such as religious control over human behaviour.

(3) KIMBALL YOUNG:

Kimball considers two mechanisms of social control.

- (i) Positive social control → In positive social control rewards and appreciations are used to regulate someone's behaviour.
- (ii) Negative social control → Punishment and fear of stigmatization by society helps regulate the behaviour of individuals in negative social control.

"AGENCIES OF SOCIAL CONTROL"

(1) Control by Law:-

It is most powerful means of formal social control. In modern society, law appears with political organizations.

Laws are form of social rule emanating from political agencies. Law as an instrument of control perform two functions; it eliminate and suppresses the homicidal activities of individuals and it also

persuades individuals to pay attention to the rights of others as well as to act in cooperation with others. Law has thus become a means of Social Control.

(2) Control by Education:-

Education is not only concerned with transmitting way of life but formal education can be viewed as a type of social control. It has contributed to the regulation of conduct in early socialization of the child. Education can be used for making a good society. One of the aims of education is to train people to think, to distinguish between truth and error to reach at reality. Thus education from infancy to adulthood is a vital means of social control.

Through education, new generations learn the new social norms and the penalties for violating them. It forms intellectual basis. It is also important for the harmony of the individual and society. In the absence of well organized educational system, social control would remain merely an arbitrary pressure.

(3) Control by Coercion:-

Use of physical force is one of the forms of social control. Physical force is used to control a work or an action. Whenever a limit is crossed they coerced the violator to stop that action. State is only authorized to use coercion in social control.

It becomes necessary for states to suppress anti-social trends [youtube.com/c/MegaLecture](https://www.youtube.com/c/MegaLecture) cannot protect the social order but without it order could never

be secure.

Force is necessary as the guarantee of political laws.

(4) Control by Customs:-

Customs represents informal social control. Many of our daily activities are regulated by customs. Our ways of dressing, speaking, eating, worshipping, celebrating festivals etc are all controlled by customs.

They are self-accepted rules of social life and no individual can extricate themselves from their hold. Customs are conformed mostly unconsciously. These are rarely opposed.

Customs are basic to our collective lives. They are more influential and dominant in the primitive society than the modern societies.

(5) Control by Folkways:-

Folkways refer to ways of the people, the repetitive petty acts of the people. Conformity to the folkways is neither required by law nor enforced by any agency of society, so violators are not punished.

The violators are not punished but are put to gossip, slander and ridicule. So people do not completely ignore the folkways. They contribute to the stability and order of social relations.

(6) Control by the Mores www.megalecture.com

Mores represents another category of norms. When folkways act as regulator of behaviour then they become mores. They are considered essential for group welfare. The positive mores prescribe behaviour pattern while negative mores or taboos prohibit behaviour pattern.

Example: Mores instruct people to love country, look after family, to tell the truth, to be helpful etc.

They contribute to the solidarity and harmony of the group. Laws are often called "codified mores".

(7) Religion:-

Religion refers to man's faith or belief in some Supernatural power or force.

Religions regulate the activities of people in its own way. It regulates human conduct through religious code. Man as a religious being tries to adjust or mend his behaviour to secure the blessings of the divinity. Religion has a supra-social sanctions to enforce obedience to the social code.

Religion conserves the norms and values of life. It has its own methods to deal with those individuals who violate religious norms. Mosques, temples, Churches created by religion helps to control the violations or disobedience.

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(8) Control by Sanctions:-

Sanctions are supporters of norms. Sanctions refer to the reward or punishment used to establish social control that is to enforce norms in society.

The basic purpose of sanctions is to bring conformity. They are used to force or persuade an individual or group to conform to the expectations.

Negatively, they may be anything from raising eyebrows to the death sentence.

Positively, they may range from a smile to an honorary degree.

Positive sanction - includes verbal method such as praise, flattery, suggestion, persuasion, slogans, giving rewards, badges, titles etc.

Negative sanctions - gossip, slander, laughing at others, name callings, censorship, death, pain etc.

ANOMIE:-

The concept of anomie was given in 1897 by Emile Durkheim. A state of anomie arises when there are contradictory set of norms and values in a society. Social anomie is the outcome of transition from mechanical solidarity to organic solidarity due to specialization and division of labour in modern societies. This leads to confusion with respect to norms and values through dysfunctional traits.

such as impersonality and disengagement which created anomie conditions.

* Definition:-

"Anomie is a condition of instability resulting from a breakdown of Standards and values."

"It is a social condition in which there is a disintegration or disappearance of norms and values that were previously common to the Society."

It is developed by Durkheim in 1897, published in his book "Suicide."

* Durkheim on Anomie:-

Although the concept of anomie is associated with Durkheim's study of suicide. In fact, he wrote about it in his 1893 book "the division of labour in Society"

* The division of Labour:-

In his book he wrote about division of labour in which some groups no longer fit in, though they did in past. He observed that this occurred during industrialization in Europe where the nature of work changed with the development of more complex division of labour.

He termed anomie division of labour a clash between the mechanical solidarity of traditional societies and organic solidarity of complex societies.

He further argued that anomie could not occur in the context of organic solidarity because this heterogeneous form of solidarity allows for the division of labour as needed, such that all become meaningful players.

★ In his book Suicide:-

He elaborated his concept of anomie in his book "Suicide" in 1897.

He identified anomic suicide as a form of taking one's life that is motivated by the experience of anomie.

Durkheim theorized that suicide rate was higher in Protestants because Protestant culture placed a higher value on individualism. This made Protestants less likely to develop close communal ties and emotional distress is high which in turn made them more susceptible to suicide.

Conversely, he reasons that belonging to Catholic faith provided greater social control and cohesion to a community, which would decrease the risk of anomie and of an anomic suicide.

⇒ Sociological implication is that strong social ties help groups survive periods of change and confusion in society.

⇒ It can be said that it was breakdown of ties that binds together people to make society functional.

★ ALIENATION:-

Alienation is a theoretical concept by Karl Marx that describes the isolating, dehumanizing and disenchanting effects of working within a capitalist system of production.

According to Marx, economic system itself is behind

alienation. Social alienation is used to describe the experiences of individuals or groups that feel disconnected from the values, norms, practices and social relations of their community or society for a variety of social structural reasons in addition to economy.

* Marx theory of Alienation:- (discussed above)
According to ~~Marx~~^{Melvin}, it is:

"A condition in social relations reflected by low degree of integration and high degree of isolation between individuals or between individual groups in a society"

* The Broader theory of Social Alienation:-

Socialist Melvin Seeman provided a robust definition of social alienation.

"A condition in social relations reflected by low degree of integration and high degree of isolation between individuals and/or between individual groups in a society"

⇒ He attributed five features to social alienation.

(i) Powerlessness:-

When individuals are alienated socially, they believe that their life is no more in their control and they lose their importance. They believe that they are powerless

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(ii) Meaningless:-

In alienation, individuals fail to derive meaning from the things in which they are engaged.

(iii) Social isolation:-

When a person feels that they are not meaningfully connected to their society through shared values, beliefs and practices or when they do not have meaningful social relationship with others, they feel socially isolated.

(iv) Self-Estrangement:-

When a person experiences social alienation, they may deny their own personal interest and desires to satisfy demands placed by social norms.

* CAUSES OF ALIENATION:-

Here are reasons of alienation.

- (1) Capitalist economic system
- (2) Anomie causes / fosters social alienation.
- (3) Demographic changes within a population can cause social isolation.
- (4) Racism
- (5) Poverty.

* SOCIAL INTEGRATION:-

Social integration is based on the idea that society is composed of different units that are to be brought in harmony for proper functioning of society.

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"Social integration is a process of creating a single unit by joining different parts"

(Ogburn & Nimkoff)

⇒ Integration appreciates heterogeneity, however, emphasis is laid on devising means so that people can co-exist together.

In social integration, minority groups came together or incorporated into mainstream society but not in a forceful way.

⇒ Social integration also refers to a process of largely agreeing on a shared system of meaning, language, culture and the like.

Durkheim believed that social integration or the strength of ties among the people of society was a key factor in social life.

⇒ One of the major issues faced by Pakistan is the lack of social integration as ours is a multicultural country.

⇒ It is thought that heterogeneity can lead towards social conflict or loss of integration. But, Talcott argues that heterogeneity is an essential element for social integration.

* Means of Social integration in Pakistan:-

Social integration in Pakistan can be achieved through following:

(i) Emphasizing shared identity.

(ii) Limiting ethnic politics

(iii) Limiting linguistic politics

- (iv) Ensuring interfaith harmony.
- (v) Ending sectarianism.
- (vi) Eradicating poverty.
- (vii) Equal opportunities.
- (viii) Ensuring human resources.

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