Sociology

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This article is about the broad discipline of sociology. For other uses, see Sociology (disambiguation).

Sociology is a social science that focuses on society, human social behavior, patterns of social relationships, social interaction, and aspects of culture associated with everyday life.[1][2][3][4] It uses various methods of empirical investigation and critical analysis to develop a body of knowledge about social institutions, which collectively define and organize the social life of those who live in a specific society, and about the consequences of the pursuit of the ideals and values, where these ideals prevailing or refining the theoretical understanding of social processes and institutions.[5] Sociology has been variously defined as the study of the social consequences of modernity, the study of institutions and patterns of social relations, and the study of social actions and social meanings.[6]

Traditional focuses of sociology include social stratification, social class, social mobility, religion, secularization, law, schools, the family, and various aspects of and institutions within capitalist societies, such as the interplay between culture and economic organization, sociology has gradually expanded its focus to other subjects and institutions, such as the health and the criticism of medicine, science, military, punishment and the economy. Recently, sociology has also expanded its focus on the social nature of everyday life, the ways in which the development of society constrains individuals, and the ways in which culture is created by individuals.[7]

There is evidence of sociology in medieval Arabic writings as well. Some sources attribute the Prolegomena of Ibn Khaldun, a work by Ibn Khaldun, which dates from Tunisia,[8][9] to have been the father of sociology, although there is no reference to the term in the work.[10] Ibn Khaldun's Muqaddimah, which was translated into Latin in the 17th century, was influential in the development of another scholarly tradition, the study of history, and had a strong influence on the development of sociology.[11]

Etymology

The word sociology can seemingly derive part of its name from the Latin word socius ("companion" or "fellow"),[12] and the suffix -logy, the study of, comes from the Greek λόγος, derived from λέγειν, "speak".[13] Sociology is a hybrid word.

The term sociology was first coined in 1780 by French philosopher Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès in an unpublished manuscript.[14][15] It was later used in the semi-analytic phrase, but it had been subsequently appropriated by others, most notably the Belgian statistician Adolphe Quetelet, who used it to describe a "social physics", which was also the name he gave to his 1835 book.[16] The term was then used by the Scottish philosopher Dugald Stewart, in his published lectures from 1792–1815, to describe the "science of human life" that was discussed in the eighth lecture of his Lectures on Philosophy (1840). Later, Stewart used it in Elements of Mind (1854). Comte believed a positivist stage would follow that was dominated by sociology, which would unify the other sciences.[17] Comte's positivism, which he also called "sociology", was an attempt to establish the foundation for a science of society. Comte may be regarded as the "father of sociology" in the modern sense of the term.[18]

Sociology
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Sociology

Sociology (/sɒsiˈɒləʤi/) is the study of human social life, groups, and institutions, using various methods of empirical investigation and critical analysis. It has traditionally been defined as the study of society, but it also includes the study of social relationships and the ways in which people live in groups. Most of the subjects of study in sociology are the human institutions of the modern world, such as science, medicine, and the family. The focus of the discipline is on the social causes and consequences of these institutions and behaviors, and on the ways in which they change over time.

Work, (/wɜrk/) verb: to exert oneself for a purpose; noun: a place where something is being made, done, or repaired; a place where people are employed; the place one goes to earn a living; something one has to do; something that has been made or is being made; a piece of writing, music, or other form of art; the act of making something; the act of using one's muscles or mind to do something; the act of using something to do something else; the act of using something; the act of using something to do something; the act of using something to do something; the act of using something to do

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- French Sociological Association
- German Sociological Association (DGS)
- Guide to the University of Chicago Department of Sociology Interviews 1972 at the University of Chicago Special Collections Research Center
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- International Institute of Sociology (IIS)
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- Observatory of International Research (OOIR): Latest Papers and Trends in Sociology
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