



THE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

SOCIOLOGICAL PARADIGMS AND THEIR USES



How Research Filters Perception



THE FIVE SOCIOLOGICAL PARADIGMS

- STRUCTURAL FUNCTIONALISM
- SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONISM
- CONFLICT THEORY
- FEMINISM
- POST MODERNISM



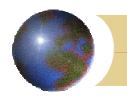
THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM

EXTREMES=TOTALITARIANISM OR TRUE COMMUNISM

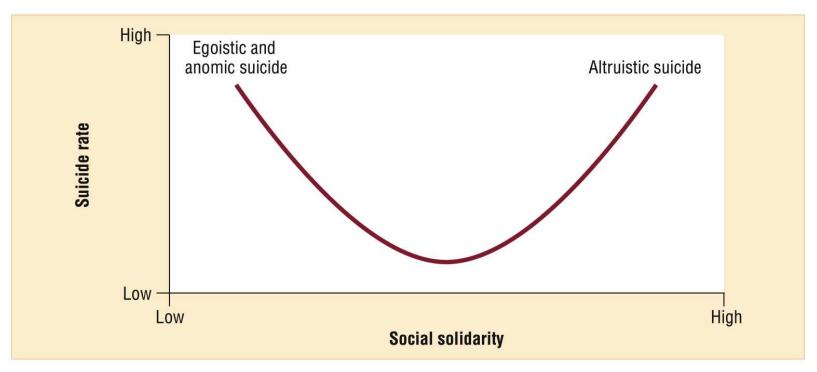
CONSERVATIVE-RIGHT WING

LIBERAL –MIDDLE

RADICAL-LEFT WING



Durkheim's Theory of Suicide





SOCIAL CAUSES OF SUICIDE

- SOCIAL INTEGRATION or not
- RELIGION or not
- MILITARY INVOLVEMENT or not
- MARRIAGE or not



DURKHEIM's METHOD

- Existing social statistics
- Quantitative measurement-percentage



- SURVEYS
- QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS
- EXPERIMENTS
- QUALITATIVE PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION



- CONCEPTS=
- order,
- stability,
- equilibrium
- adaptation,
- social solidarity



- CONCEPTS=
- ALIENATION
- OPPRESSION
- CLASS CONFLICT
- FALSE CONSCIOUSNESS
- IDEOLOGY



- 1.TRIBAL
- 2.ANCIENT COMMUNAL
- 3.FEUDAL
- 4.CAPITALISTIC
- 5.SOCIALISTIC

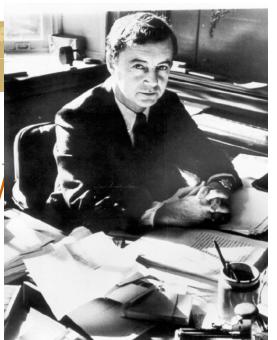


- CRITICAL THEORY
- DIALECTICAL
- MACRO or MICRO APPROACH
- USE STATISTIC TO DISCLOSE CLASS INEQUALITY
- CASE STUDIES OF OPPRESSION



SYMBOLIC INTERACTION

- Focuses on interpersonal communication in microlevel social settings
- Emphasizes social life is possible only because people attach meanings to things
- Stresses people help to create their social circumstances, not merely react to them





WEBER's VIEW OF

CAPITALISM

- CAPITALISM WILL NOT BE DESTROYED without "the Charismatic Rebirth of new GODs
- CAPITALISM is a value orientation originally the product of the `Protestant Ethic'
- SOCIAL CLASS less important than status groups



- Verstehen
- VALUE ORIENTATION
- FORMAL RATIONALITY
- BUREACRACY



- SYMBOLS
- CUES AND GESTURE
- INTERPRETATIVE UNDERSTAND
- SOCIAL SELF
- LOOKING GLASS SELF

SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONIST METHODS

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

OPEN ENDED ETHNOGRAPY

PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION

FIELD METHODS



FEMINIST THEORY

- Focuses on various aspects of <u>patriarchy</u> (system of male domination in society)
- Suggests <u>male domination</u> is determined by structures of power
- Examines operation of patriarchy in both <u>microlevel and</u>
 <u>macrolevel</u> social settings
- Recommends eliminating patterns of <u>gender inequality</u>





FEMINIST METHODS

- STATISTICS THAT POINT TO GENDER INEQUALITY
- CASE STUDIES
- QUANTITIVE AND QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS



FEMINIST THEORY

- Focuses on various aspects of <u>patriarchy</u> (system of male domination in society)
- Suggests <u>male domination</u> is determined by structures of power
- Examines operation of patriarchy in both <u>microlevel and</u>
 <u>macrolevel</u> social settings
- Recommends eliminating patterns of <u>gender inequality</u>





Postmodernism

- Postmodernism was originally <u>a reaction</u> to modernism.
- Influenced by the Western European <u>disillusionmen</u>t induced by World War II,
- Postmodernism tends to refer to a cultural, intellectual, or artistic state lacking a clear central hierarchy or organizing principle.



Postmodernism

- Postmodernism
- Sees social reality as embodying <u>extreme</u>
 <u>complexity</u>, contradiction, ambiguity, diversity, or interreferentiality



POST MODERNIST METHODS

- DECONSTRUCT GRAND NARRATIVES
- CASE STUDIES
- CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPTY CONCEPTS



CONCLUSION

- THE <u>SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE</u>-social forces influence individual behaviour
- **PARADIGMS**-SF, CONFLICT, SI, FEMINISM..
- Paradigms differ on the impact of society on the individual.
- Paradigms are key to unlocking parochial and provincial tunnel vision

