

Online Classroom<sup>tv</sup>

## 2. Socialisation

**Socialisation**

- The **process** whereby people learn:
  - How to be human...
  - How to become members of the society in which they live.
  - The **norms** (rules, regulations, customs...) and **values** of that society.
- Explains why we behave the way we do...

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## 2. Socialisation

**Feral Children**

- Children isolated from human contact from a very young age.
- Illustrates importance of **socialisation**.
- **Unsocialised children** do not:
  - Develop human speech;
  - Understand language;
  - Walk on two legs;
  - Eat with tools (such as a knife and fork...).

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## 2. Socialisation

- **Primary Socialisation** - begins from the moment we're born...
- **Close, personal and face-to-face** interaction
- **Family** is a major **agency** of primary socialisation:
  - **Skills:** How to walk, talk, use tools...
  - **Norms:** How to relate to family members.
  - **Values:** The difference between right and wrong behaviour.

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## 2. Socialisation

- **Secondary Socialisation** – learning to live in wider society...
- **School** is an **agency** of secondary socialisation:
- Introduces young people to:
  - **Knowledge and skills;**
  - **Peer group** interaction and relationships;
  - **Relationships** with **non-family** adults;
  - **Authority** and **status** differences.

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- **Other agencies** of secondary socialisation:
  - **The Media.**
  - **The Workplace.**
  - **Religion.**
- Provide us with things like:
  - **Moral instruction.**
  - **Role models.**

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### Scripting

- Societies give people **scripts** to follow.
  - Like actors on a stage, people given scripts for:
    - **Gender.**
    - **Nationality.**
    - **Class.**
    - **Age.**
    - **Ethnicity.**
- ➔ We are socialised into the appropriate norms and values for these statuses.

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### Choice

- Easy to exaggerate role of socialisation.
- Like actors we can:
  - **Interpret** the scripts we're given in our own way.
  - **Change** our scripts.
  - **Refuse** to follow them.
  - **Tear** them up and walk away.

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