

## **Socialization, Sociology of**

Socialization refers to all processes by which an individual learns the ways, ideas, beliefs, values, and norms of his particular culture and adapts them as part of his own personality in order to function in his given culture. Socialization generally refers to the process of social influence through which a person acquires the culture or subculture of his or her group, and in the course of acquiring these cultural elements the individual's self and personality are shaped. Socialization, therefore, addresses two important problems of social life: the problem of societal continuity and the problem of human development. Because of its broad scope and importance, socialization is claimed as a major process by most social science disciplines. Different disciplines, however, have emphasized different aspects of this process. Anthropology tends to view socialization primarily as cultural transmission from one generation to the next. Anthropological interest in socialization coincides with the emergence of the culture and personality orientation in the late 1920s and 1930s.