

# Lecture 13: What is a Society?

## Notes

**Essential Question: What do sociologists mean when they talk about society?**

**What are some different definitions of Society :**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**What are some conditions in which we become aware of being in a society?**

- 1.
- 2.

**What are some commonly understood elements of society?**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

**What is meant by "Imagined Communities"**

**What is a "Consensus"?**

**What happens when there is not Consensus in how we define society?**

How do we restore a consensus during conflict

Political

Cultural

What is polarization?

What happens if a compromise cannot be reached

**Describe society as a negotiation**

**What is a Social Structure:**

Norms

Formal

Informal

Roles

Status

**What are the perspectives on social structures**

Functionalist

Conflict

Karl Marx: Superstructure

Interactionist

Anthony Giddens: Structuration

What is a structure

What is meant by a Dual Nature

Feminist

Patriarchy

Postmodernist

Metanarratives

**What are Institutions:**

**What are the major Institutions**

Talcott Parsons: Social Prerequisites

A

G

I

L

**Social Groups**

What are informal social groups?

Georg Simmel

Dyads:

1.

2.

Triads:

1.

2. Coalition

Primary Groups

Secondary Groups

What are Formal Groups?

Organizations

1.

2.

3.

4. Bureaucracy:

**Individuals**

What is the relation between individuals and social groups

How many social groups do you belong to?

**Networks:**

Social Networks/Internet:

**Communities:**

1.

2.

**What the final definition of society?**

**Write a summary of your notes by answering the Essential Question**