The Sociological Imagination

Aug. 25, 2006

http://www.iastate.edu/~soc.134
Individuals and society

Society

Everyday interactions

Social movements

Socialization

Social Control

Stratification

Ideology

Individuals

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Individuals and society

- Socialization: process through which one learns how to act according to the rules and expectations of a particular culture (p. 135)
- Social control: various means by which a society encourages conformity to its rules and expectations
- Stratification: ranking system for groups of people that perpetuates unequal rewards and life chances in society (p. 327)
- Ideology: coherent system of beliefs, values and ideas (p. 515)
- Social movement: continuous, large-scale, organized collective action motivated by the desire to enact, stop, or reverse change in some area of society (p. 512)

Definitions from Newman’s Sociology (2004)
Two insights of sociology

The social construction of reality: process through which members of a society discover, make known, reaffirm, and alter a collective version of facts, knowledge and “truth” (chapter 3)

The sociological imagination: the ability to see the impact of social forces on our private lives (p. 8)