The Sociological Imagination

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http://www.iastate.edu/~soc.134

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)

Two insights of sociology

- The social construction of reality: process through which members of a society discover, make known, reconfirm, 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)