

Summary of excerpt from Berger & Luckmann's *The Social Construction of Reality*

- The reality of everyday life has a privileged position among different realities (e.g., dreams, speculation, religious ecstasy). It appears ordered and independent of my apprehension.
- Language provides the order for making sense of everyday life.
- The reality of everyday life presents itself as an intersubjective world (a world I share with others).
- The reality of everyday life takes place in time (in a “coercive temporal structure”).
- The reality of everyday life is shared with others. The most basic and “fully real” form of this is the face-to-face conversation.
- Interaction with other people is shaped by “typifications” (standard schemes of meaning). These typifications become more anonymous the further a person is from face-to-face interaction.
- “Social structure is the sum total of these typifications and of the recurrent patterns of interaction established by means of them. As such, social structure is an essential element of the reality of everyday life.”