

Schools of Thought in Sociology

Name	Description	<u>Sociologists</u>
Structural-	- Each society should provide its members with the fundamental requirements for	Emile Durkheim
Functionalism	- A system must have a way of fulfilling material, a system for and	Taicott Parsons
	the young, a way of regulating human reproduction (usually marriage)	
	- Believe their role it to try to the role of society's systems in enabling human society to	
Neo-Marxism	- Marx believed that economic led to political power. This is the key to understanding	Karl Marx
	- The struggle for economic power means that society is not static but ever	
	- Social change is the of a change made to the economic system	
	- Therefore, if we want to understand we must understand the economic system in	
	- Believe that social (churches, schools, prisons, etc.) have been created to	
	perpetuate the between the powerful	
	and the powerless	

Symbolic	- Believe that humans have complex and little behavior	Charles Cooley
Interactionism	- Focus their on the human mind rather than on structures in society	
	- E.g. one person might pursue and fortune while someone else might dedicate his or her life to	George Mead
	work very different of success	
Feminist Theory	- Focuses on and issues, believing that women have traditionally been	Dorothy Smith
	against by men	
	- Believe that men have made the in society and that these decisions in society and that	
	those decisions tend to favour	
Inclusionism	- Recognize that can take place in a society between ethnic, and religious	
	groups as well as between classes	
	-Before WWII, most sociologists took an view of race believing the cultural	
	would eventually the minority (melting pot)	
	-In the late 1960s however, changing policies changed all this as large numbers of	
	immigrants moved to places like to live	
Conflict Theory	- Focuses on how maintain equilibrium	Karl Marx
	- Studies between groups for	
	- Accounts for in economy and can track change based on	
	economical research	