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Nursing Q-Bank Series

*For BSc Nursing Students*

# Applied Sociology & Psychology

*As per the Revised INC Syllabus*



***HIGHLIGHTS***

- University Examination Question Papers
- Learning Pearls

Monika Dean
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*Semester-I*

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UNIT 2

# SOCIAL STRUCTURE

## LONG QUESTIONS

**Q1 Define society. Describe characteristics and type of society.**

**Ans:**

**Definition**

- Society is a web of social relationship. **—Maclver**
- Society is an organization of people whose associations are with one another. **—Horton and Hunt**

**Meaning and Definition of Society**

- The word society is most fundamental to sociology. It is derived from the ***Latin*** word "***socius***" meaning companionship or fellowship. Society is a network based on social relationships between people.
- Society is the aggregate of people living together in a more or less ordered community.
- Society is the group of people living in a particular region and having shared customs, laws and organizations.
- A society is a group of people participating in continuous social connection, or a broad social group occupying the same social or spatial territory, normally exposed to the same political power and cultural standards that are dominant.

**Characteristics of Society**

- **Group of people**: It is composed of group of people.
- **Mutual awareness and interaction:** People in the society have mutual awareness, continuous reciprocal interaction and inter relationship among societal members.
- **Likeness:** Society has likeness and differences too, e.g., similarities like needs, activities, occupation, aims, ideals and values, etc.
- **Differences:** Differences among the people will exhibit vivid interests, wants to enjoy enthusiastic life. People differ in their looks, personality, ability, talents, attitudes, tastes, intelligence and faith, etc.
- **Cooperation and common interests**: People have cooperation and common interests, holds responsibilities by means of division of labor and delegation of authority. Division of labor is based on speciality. An individual satisfies his desires and fulfil his interests with joined or continued efforts and it promotes social solidarity and social cohesion.
- **Interdependence**: Interdependence is observed among the groups, communities, societies and also nations and it is essential to meet the societal needs.

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- **Dynamic**: Society is dynamic; changes may take place abruptly, slowly, gradually or suddenly.
- **Social control:** Society has its own ways and means of social control. In society we will observe existence of all types of social processes, i.e., cooperation, conflict, accommodation and assimilation. The behavior and activities of the people will be controlled through formal and informal means of social control, e.g., customs, traditions, folkways, mores, manner etiquettes (informal means) and laws, rules, regulations, standards, constitution, legislation, police (formal means).
- **Culture**: Each society has its own distinct culture; it is the expression of human behavior, e.g., attitudes, judgments, morals, values, etc. Both society and culture goes together.
- Man has gregarious nature (tendency to live in group).
- Society controls individual's talents, and capacities.

### Type of Society

1. **Hunting and gathering society:** These are the oldest societies of which few are remaining today. People in these societies are hunting for food and gathering plants and other vegetation. These are small and temporary.
2. **Pastoral societies:** In this society, animals were their major source of food and also a means of transport. Example: Traders, craft people, etc.
3. **Horticultural societies:** These societies relied on fruits, plants and vegetables.
4. **Agricultural societies:** These societies use technology to cultivate crops over a large area. This period is called agricultural revolution.
5. **Industrial societies:** These societies use factories and machines to produce goods. This period is called industrial period.
6. **Posy-industrial societies:** These societies emerged in the 19th century with a greater emphasis on information technology and service jobs. This period replaced industrial revolution with information revolution (information society).

**Q2 What is social change? Enumerate process of social change with steps. Discuss the role of nurse in social change.**

**Ans:**

### Definition

Social change is a term, used to describe variations or modifications of any aspect of social processes, social pattern, social interaction or social organization. **—ME Jones**

Or

Social change refers to an alteration in the social order of a society. **—JJ Macionis**

**The process of social change involves:**

- **Invention:** An invention is the new application of knowledge which occurs due to mental ability, demand, and existence of cultural elements.
- **Accumulation:** More and more new elements are added to a culture. These cultural elements combine with the old elements and results in the process of accumulation.
- **Adjustment:** All cultural elements are interrelated with one another. When a material change occurs in a culture it brings slow change in material culture.
- **Diffusion:** Process starts when an invention or cultural elements spread more from one culture to another.

Quick means of communication and transportation made possible an invention or to diffuse a cultural element to another culture.

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### Steps in Process of Social Change

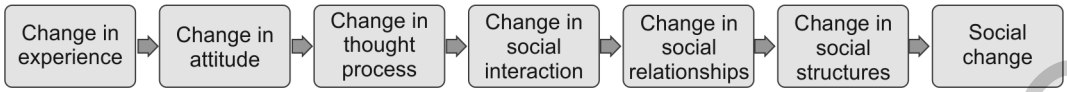


**Fig. 2.1:** Steps in process of social change.

1. **Change in experience of the individual:** People frequently become more conscious and empathetic when they go through events that alter their viewpoints or bring attention to social injustices. As they attempt to address the issues they have been sensitive to, this may result in advocacy for change. People who have gone through comparable things together create movements for change as a whole.
2. **Change in attitude of the individual:** People who experience a shift in their opinions frequently go on to change the attitude and further advocate for their views, sharing them with others through activism, social media, and conversations. This thought sharing has the potential to influence societal change by reaching a larger audience and igniting debates that question accepted wisdom.
3. **Change in thought process of the individual:** Through promoting creativity, critical awareness, empowerment, cultural transformations, interdisciplinary collaboration, policy reform, and grassroots action, changes in cognitive processes are crucial in bringing about social change. People have the power to spark revolutionary changes that will influence how society develops in the future by questioning accepted wisdom and exploring novel ideas.
4. **Change in social interactions:** The dynamics of social change are shaped by shifts in social relationships, which also have an impact on collective action, habits, and society norms. Social interactions are a key factor in how societies change over time, whether through normative influence, social learning, network effects, collective action, cultural exchange, technical advancements, or the development of social capital.
5. **Change in social relationships:** Interpersonal communication is facilitated by social interactions, which allows sharing of concepts, knowledge, and life experiences. People are exposed to a variety of viewpoints, challenges to preconceived notions, and chances for learning and development through talks, debates, and encounters with other people. Social change can be facilitated by this interpersonal communication process, which can promote empathy, understanding, and solidarity.
6. **Change in social structures:** Institutions are formal frameworks that control social relationships and conduct. Government, education, religion, and the economy are a few of them. Institutional changes can spur more significant social shifts. Examples of these changes include the establishment of new organizations or the adoption of new regulations.

### Role of Nurse in Social Change

- As an ***advocate*****:** Advocating for health promotion.
- As ***health educator*****:** Educating the public and patients on preventing injury and illnesses.
- As a ***rehabilitator*****:** Participating in rehabilitation.
- As a ***care provider*****:** Providing care and support.
- As a ***contributor*****:** Contributing to schools, libraries, municipal councils and urban development boards.
- As a ***social worker*****:** Calling for community health needs assessments that collect data and identify health disparities. Nurses helps in solving social problems and helping the community people to achieve their purposeful goals.
- As a ***researcher*****:** Building a research center in the community.

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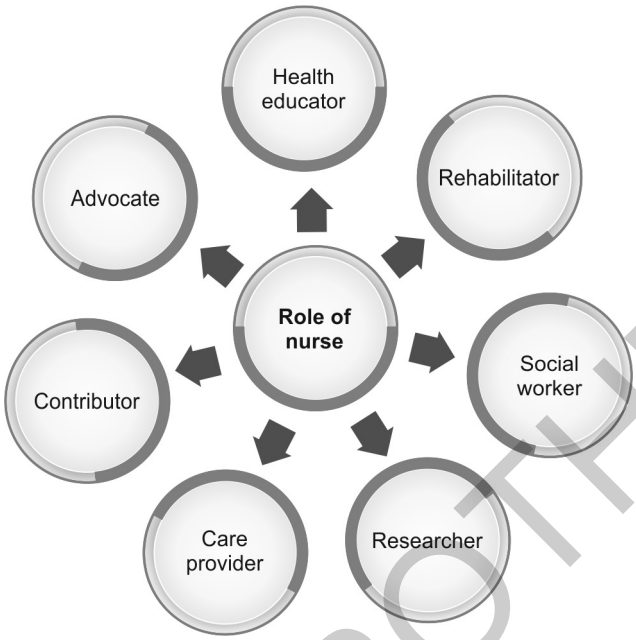


**Fig. 2.2:** Role of nurse in social change.

**Q3 Define conflict. List the characteristics of conflict. Explain various types of conflict.**

**Ans:**

**Conflict**

Conflict is a form of ***dissociative process***. It is present in most human relations. Conflict is a form of struggle between individuals and groups. It takes place whenever a person or a group seeks to gain a reward not by surpassing other competitors but by preventing them from effectively competing.

***Definition***

- Conflict is a social process in which individuals or groups seek their ends by directly challenging the antagonist by violence or threat of violence.

**—Gillin and Gillin**

- Conflicts and norms: Norms are the social controls of the society. These norms affect the conflicts in the society.
- Conflict may be personal or impersonal: Conflicts may take different forms. It may be at personal levels or at impersonal levels.
- Ways of resolving conflicts: Conflicts can be resolved through the process of accommodation and assimilation.
- Frustration and insecurity promote conflicts: Frustrations and insecurity lead to conflicts in the society. Individuals feel frustrated when they are not able to reach their goals.

***Characteristics of Conflict***

- **Universal:** It is a universal process which is present in every human society.

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- **Conscious activity:** It is a result of deliberate and conscious efforts of individuals or groups.
- **Personal:** The nature of conflict is personal and direct, i.e., the conflicting parties know each other personally.
- **Temporary and brief duration:** It is of brief duration, temporary and intermittent in character. Conflict occurs all of a sudden and occurs for a short duration. It tends to grow more and bitterer as it proceeds.
- **Emotions:** Conflict is loaded with impulsiveness of human emotions and violent passions.
- **Latent:** Latent in the form of tension, dissatisfaction, contravention and rivalry.
- **Violent:** Its nature is violent and creates rivalry, party politics and disputes.

*Forms or Types of Conflicts*

**A. Dollar and Miller gave four types of conflicts that are as follows:**

1. *Approach-approach:* A choice between two things someone like is the first of the four types of conflict. For instance, imagine you visit your favorite ice cream shop and find chocolate and cookie crumble, your two favorite flavors. It is highly probable that you would want to sample both and feel as though you must decide between them. This is called "approach-approach conflict".
2. *Avoidance-avoidance:* An option between two undesirable things. You are unable to make a choice in this situation because neither of your options is desirable. For instance, a person might object to lectures because they are dull, but they might also object to being included to the list of defaulters. This is called "conflict between avoidance."
3. *Approach-avoidance:* A scenario when the objective has both good and negative aspects. Thus, there is both avoidance and attraction to the goal. For instance: You appreciate your co-workers' company at work, but you're not sure you should go because there's no job security. This is called "approach-avoidance conflict".
4. *Double approach-avoidance:* A decision between two options or objectives, each having advantages and disadvantages. In this situation, a person must select one aim, give up the other, and accept the chosen goal's drawbacks. For instance: You wish to become a doctor, but the cost prevents you from doing so. Therefore, even though it's not what you've always wanted to do, you decide to pursue your studies in a paramedical profession because it's also a part of healthcare. This is called "Dual approach-avoidance conflict".

B. **Gillin and Gillin** have mentioned the following types of conflicts.

1. *Personal conflict*: Personal conflict is a conflict between two persons in the same group. For example, conflict between two students.
2. *Racial conflict*: Racial conflict is conflict between two races as in the case of the whites and the Negroes in the USA.

## Q4 Socialization.

**Ans:**

**Definitions**

- Socialization is the process by which an individual learns to conform to the norms of the group. **—WF Ogburn**
- Socialization consists of complex processes of interaction through which an individual learns habits, beliefs, skills and standards of judgment that are necessary for his effective participation in social groups and communities. **—Lundberg**

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- Socialization is a process whereby original nature is transformed into human nature and an individual into a person. **—HT Majumdar**

### Importance of Socialization

- Socialization converts ***man***, the biological being into man, the ***social being***.
- Socialization contributes to the ***development of personality***.
- Helps to become ***disciplined***.
- Helps to enact ***different roles***.
- Provides the ***knowledge of skills***.
- Helps to develop right aspirations in life.
- Contributes to the ***stability of the social order***.
- Helps to ***reduce social distance.***
- Helps in the ***transmission of culture***.
- Provides ***scope for building a bright future***.

### Characteristics of Socialization

- Inculcates basic discipline.
- Helps to control human behavior.
- It takes place formally and informally.
- It is a continuous process.

### Stages of Socialization Process

- Infant stage
- Child socialization
- Adolescent socialization
- Adult socialization

### Agencies of Socialization

#### *1. Family*

- The family plays an important role in the socialization process.
- A child first interacts with his family and first learning starts from family itself.
- Children can learn various things mainly through observation of their parents.
- Family is a type of mini society and it acts as a transmission between the individual and society.
- Family plays an important role in the formation of personality of a child.
- Learning from family is an informal type of learning.

#### *2. School*

- It is the second most agency of socialization.
- School uses rewards and punishment methods to mould the characters.
- School provides healthy atmosphere, well planned system and adequate infrastructure which plays an important role in shaping the behavior of child.

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***3. Peer Group***

- A peer group is a social of friends and association who are of same age and social status.
- A child learns some very important lessons of life from his peer group. A child freely and spontaneously interact with each other.

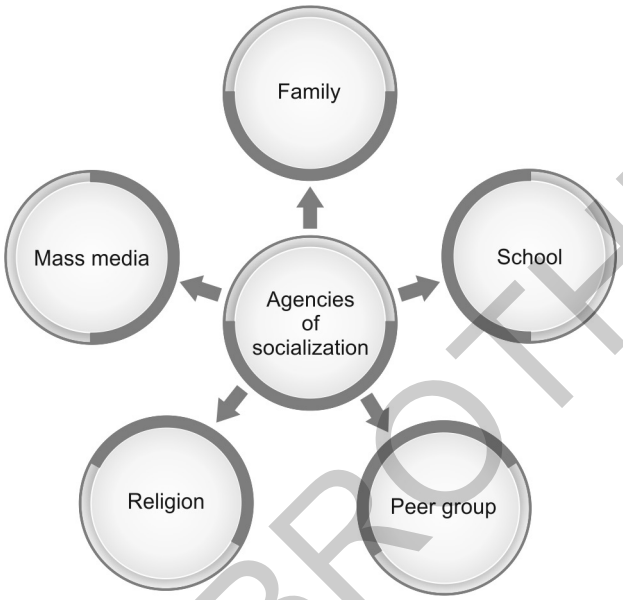


**Fig. 2.3:** Peer group.

***4. Mass Media***

- It includes TV, radio, films, newspaper, magazines, books, etc.
- The mass media transmit information's and message which influence the personality of an individual to a great extent.

***5. Religion***

- It is an authoritative agency of socialization.
- Religion is a collection of cultural systems, belief systems, and worldviews that relate humanity to spirituality and moral values.
  *For example*: If a child sees his parents going to a temple or church and becomes a part of religious ceremony.

***6. Neighborhood***

- Every family lives in a community.
- This provides the base for an individual to extend social relations and interactions beyond the narrow limits of the home.

**Role of Socialization**

- Socialization is an important factor in total personality development.
- The human behavior and mentality will be developed through the process of socialization, e.g., a child who is kept all alone in an isolated room and brought out after few years, the

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child cannot talk, walk or do anything. He was expressionless and indifferent to everything and cannot move on his own. The child is unaware of social relationship.
- The absence of socialization will affect the communication and contact.
- Later, efforts were made to teach the child, first the response was less; later responded, ultimately reached to the normal level of development. Isolation, deprivation of communication affected the child's behavior.

## SHORT QUESTIONS

**Q1 Differentiate between society and community.**

**Ans:**

| | Society | Community |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Society is a web of social relationships | Community consists of group of individuals |
| 2. | A definite geographic area is not an essential aspect of society | Community always denotes a definite locality or geographic area |
| 3. | Society is a wider. There can be more than one community in a society | Community is smaller than society |
| 4. | High diversity among members | Minimum diversity |
| 5. | Society involved both likeness and difference | Likeness is more important than difference in community |
| 6. | Society is heterogenous | Community is homogenous |
| 7. | Society is an abstract | Community is a concrete |
| 8. | The objectives and interest of society are more extensive and varied | The objective and interest of a community are comparatively less extensive and varied |

**Q2 Define competition. What are the forms of competition and its functions?**

**Ans:**

**Definition**

- Competition occurs when demand out turns supply. **—Ogburn and Nimkoff**

Or

- Competition is a contest to obtain something which does not exist in quantity sufficient to meet the demand. **—ES Bogardus**

**Forms of Competition**

1. **Economic competition:** Competition for economic benefit refers to competition for a job, promotion or salary. It also includes competition in market among producers, sellers and consumers.
2. **Culture competition:** This form of competition occurs when two or more cultures try to establish their superiority over another culture. For example, religious competition between Hindus and Muslims.
3. **Social competition:** It is a competition to improve one's social status. It can be done to achieve educational status, a well-paid job or high status in the society.
4. **Political competition:** It is the competition for greater political power. Political parties compete among themselves to form the government.
5. **Racial competition:** It occurs when one race tries to establish its superiority over the others. For example, the competition between the white and black races.

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### Functions of Competition

*Positive Functions*

- Assigning right individual to the right place.
- Source of motivation.
- Conducive to progress.

*Negative Functions*

- Unfair competition creates emotional distress.
- It creates conflict and frustration.
- Competition gives rise to monopoly.

## Q3 Differentiate between primary and secondary group.

**Ans:**

### Types of Groups

1. **Primary groups:** These are people who are emotionally close to each other, know them very well, and actively seek their company. For example, family
2. **Secondary groups**: These are the people who know each other from formal organizations and who only share one facet of their lives with while collaborating on a common goal. For example, boss, coworkers, professors.

| | Primary group | Secondary group |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Intimate and face-to-face interaction | More formal and impersonal interaction |
| 2. | Long term relationships | Short term relationships |
| 3. | Crucial role in forming personal affection and mutual support | Role in achieving collective goals and fulfilling societal functions |
| 4. | One responds to the whole person | One who response to a fragment of the person. |
| 5. | Relationships are non-transferable | Relationships are transferable |
| 6. | Informal and unstructured relationship | Formal and structured relationship |
| 7. | Interactions values for itself | Interactions valued because it is a mean to an end |
| 8. | Share common valued and norms | May or may not share |
| 9. | Provides emotional support | May not provide emotional support |
| 10. | Examples are family, close friends and small peer groups | Examples are clubs, workplaces and professional institutions |

## Q4 Tribal community.

**Ans:**

### Tribal Community

A tribe is a group of people usually living in a hilly forest or well demarcated areas. They are absolutely illiterate, usually dark and weak, engage in hunting, occupy a common general territory, whose marriages always take place among themselves, speak a common language and practice a common culture as a tribe.

A tribe is a group people in a primitive or barbarous stage of development acknowledging the authority of a chief and usually regarding themselves as having a common ancestor.

**—Oxford Dictionary**

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*Characteristics*

- **Locality:** Common geographical area, live in forest and hilly areas.
- **Occupation:** Hunting animals and agriculture and forest productions.
- **Culture:** Unique culture, folklore, cosmology, belief system
- **Religion:** Having their own unique religion and tradition.
- **Economy:** Tribal people live within nature and absolutely clean environment
- **Political system:** Having their own political system. They have councils of elders which control members.
- **Relationship:** Mutual unity

*Major Problem among Tribal Community*

- Diseases
- Noncommunicable diseases
- Genetic disorders live in unhygienic condition
- Lack of health facility
- Faulty health
- Other causes
- Causes for maternal mortality
- Communication

**Q5 Social isolation.**

**Ans:** It is a state or process in which person, group or culture lose or do not have communication or co-operation with one another often resulting in an open conflict. Social isolation describes the absence of social contact and cutoff from normal social networks.

**Meaning**

Social isolation is characterized by an absence of social interactions, communication, social support and engagement with wider community activities or structures.

**Characteristics**

It is characterized by loss of mobility, staying at home for lengthy periods of time, absence of social support and community involvement, little or no communication with family members and friends.

Isolation can be voluntary or involuntary. An individual isolates voluntarily due to illness or disability. Isolation can also be involuntary when imposed through marginalization or discrimination by families or communities.

Isolation can manifest over short periods or extended periods of time linked to a triggering event, disease or behavior.

**Causes for Social Isolation**

- Long-term illness
- Unemployment
- Disability
- Health issues
- Transformation issues

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- Economic struggles
- Domestic violence
- Bereavement

**Effects of Isolation**

- Poor mental health
- Negative health outcomes
- Poor quality of life
- Alcoholism
- Suicide

Socially isolated people may lack friends and often feel lonely or depressed.

## Q6 Differentiate between society and association.

**Ans:**

| Society | Association |
|---|---|
| • Society is a natural and spontaneously created social group | • Association is artificial and deliberately formed for a particular purpose |
| • Society is much older than an association and existed since man appeared on earth | • Association ascended at a later stage when man learnt to organize himself for the pursuit of some purpose |
| • Man cannot live in the absence of a society. Society will exist as long as man exists. Membership of a society is compulsory | • A man may live without being the member of any association at all |
| • Aim of a society is general in nature. It exists for the general well-being of the individual | • Aim of an association is specific in nature. It is formed for the pursuit of some particular purposes |
| • Society may be organized or unorganized | • Association is well organized |
| • Society is marked by both co-operation and conflict | • Association is based on co-operation alone |
| • Society is a system of social relationship. It emphasizes on social relationships | • Association is a group of people. It emphasizes on grouping |
| • Society has greater endurance, continuity and a long past | • Association may be short lived |
| • Society functions through customs, traditions and unwritten laws | • It functions through rules and regulations |
| • Society can exist as a system of social relationships | • Association exists to carry out activities for attaining certain specific goals |

## Q7 Differentiate between community and association.

**Ans:**

| Community | Association |
|---|---|
| • Community is a group of people living together in a particular locality. It arises spontaneously or naturally | • Association is thoughtfully formed and artificially created by people |
| • Community is organic, spontaneous and creative | • Association is mechanical, artificial and held together by ties |
| • Community is regarded as a whole because it fulfills all need of its members | • An association is regarded as partial because it is formed for the achievement of specific purposes |
| • There are a number of associations within a community | • Association is an organization within a community |

*Contd…*

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*Contd…*

| Community | Association |
|---|---|
| • Community membership is compulsory and has a wider significance. People are born in a community | • Membership is voluntary and they can withdraw their membership when they lose interest in it. People choose their association |
| • Community sentiment is an essential feature without which existence of a community cannot be imagined | • Community sentiment is not a basic factor to form an association |
| • It works through customs and traditions. Office is not necessary to constitute a community | • It works through a written code of conduct. Office bearers manage its affairs |

**Q8 Differentiate between institution and association.**

**Ans:**

| Institution | Association |
|---|---|
| • Institution has a set of rules and procedures.<br>• Example: Marriage, political party | • Association is a group of people organized for a specific purpose.<br>• Example: Family, state |
| • It is an abstract concept of organized habits and a standardized way of doing things. It has no form and as such cannot be seen | • It is a group of people organized for the purpose of fulfilling a need. It has form and is concrete |
| • Institution evolves primarily and grows naturally | • Associations are form deliberately out of necessity |
| • Institution indicates procedure of work | • Association indicates membership |
| • Every institution is based on a cultural symbol | • Every association has a particular name |
| • Institutions fulfills all the primary and basic needs of an individual | • Association is a group of people organized for a specific purpose |
| • Institutions are relatively more permanent | • It has voluntary membership |
| • Rules of an institutions are based on Informal means of social control such as customs, traditions | • Laws of association are formed on the basis of formal means of social control |

**Q9 Define personal disorganization. What are the causes and forms of personal disorganization? What are the stages of personal disorganization?**

**Ans:**

**Definition**

- Personal disorganization refers to breakdown in institutional control and group agreement.

Or

- Personal disorganization is a condition or process in which the person has not stabilized his behavior around major roles. Such disorganization may be transitional or continuous.

**—EM Lemert**

**Causes of Personal Disorganization**

| Individual factors | Societal factors |
|---|---|
| • Physical disorders<br>• Personality disorders<br>• Physical disabilities<br>• Increased personal desires | • Environmental factors<br>• Insecurity of status and role<br>• Social crisis<br>• Conflict between personal interest and social norms<br>• Rapid changes in the society<br>• Demand from society |

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