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SOCIALIZATION

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI SYLLABUS
FOR
FYBA SOCIOLOGY PAPER I

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March 2010

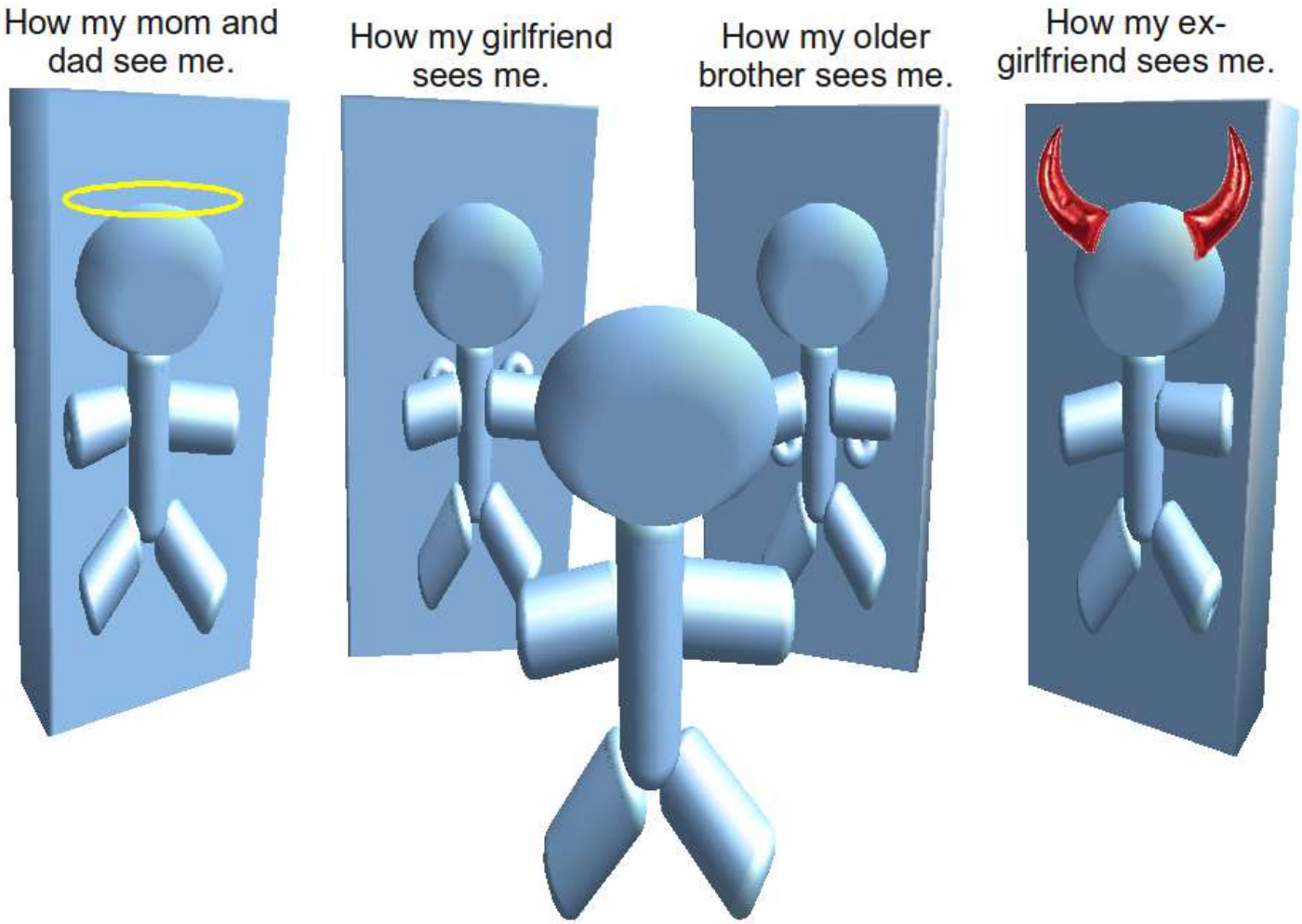
Definition

- Socialization = process through which people learn the expectations of a society.
- A lifelong process of learning all the knowledge, skills and attitudes we need to know to function

The Looking-Glass Self

- According to Cooley, the looking-glass self is a 3 step process that constantly takes place
  1. We imagine how we appear to others (our perception of how others see us)
  2. We imagine the reaction of others to our (imagined) appearance
  3. We evaluate ourselves according to how we imagine others have judged us
- This process is not a conscious process and the stages can occur quickly. The results can be positive or negative self-evaluation

The Looking Glass Self



Mead's Stages of Development

The self develops in three stages:

1. **Preparatory stage -** The child imitates the behavior of others.
2. **Play stage -** The child begins to formulate role expectations: playing house, cops and robbers, etc.
3. **Game stage -** The child learns there are rules that specify the proper and correct relationship among the players.

Agents of Socialization

- **Agents of Socialization** – the specific individuals, groups, and institutions that enable socialization to take place

Family

Peer Group

Media

School

Socialization
T.V.
School
Parents
Religion

Family, schools, peers and the mass media

- The family is the single most significant agent of socialization in and teaches us the basic values and norms that shape our identity.
- Schools provide education and socialize us through a direct as well as a hidden curriculum (a set of behavioral traits such as punctuality, neatness, discipline, hard work, competition, and obedience) that teaches many of the behaviors that will be important later in life.
- Peers provide very different social skills and can become more immediately significant than the family, especially as children move through adolescence.
- The media has become an important agent of socialization, often overriding the family and other institutions in instilling values and norms.

Family

Family is considered the most important agent of socialization. The family teaches us how to function and care for ourselves. They also teach us close relationships and group life. They provide us with our first system of values, norms and beliefs

Schools as Agents of Socialization

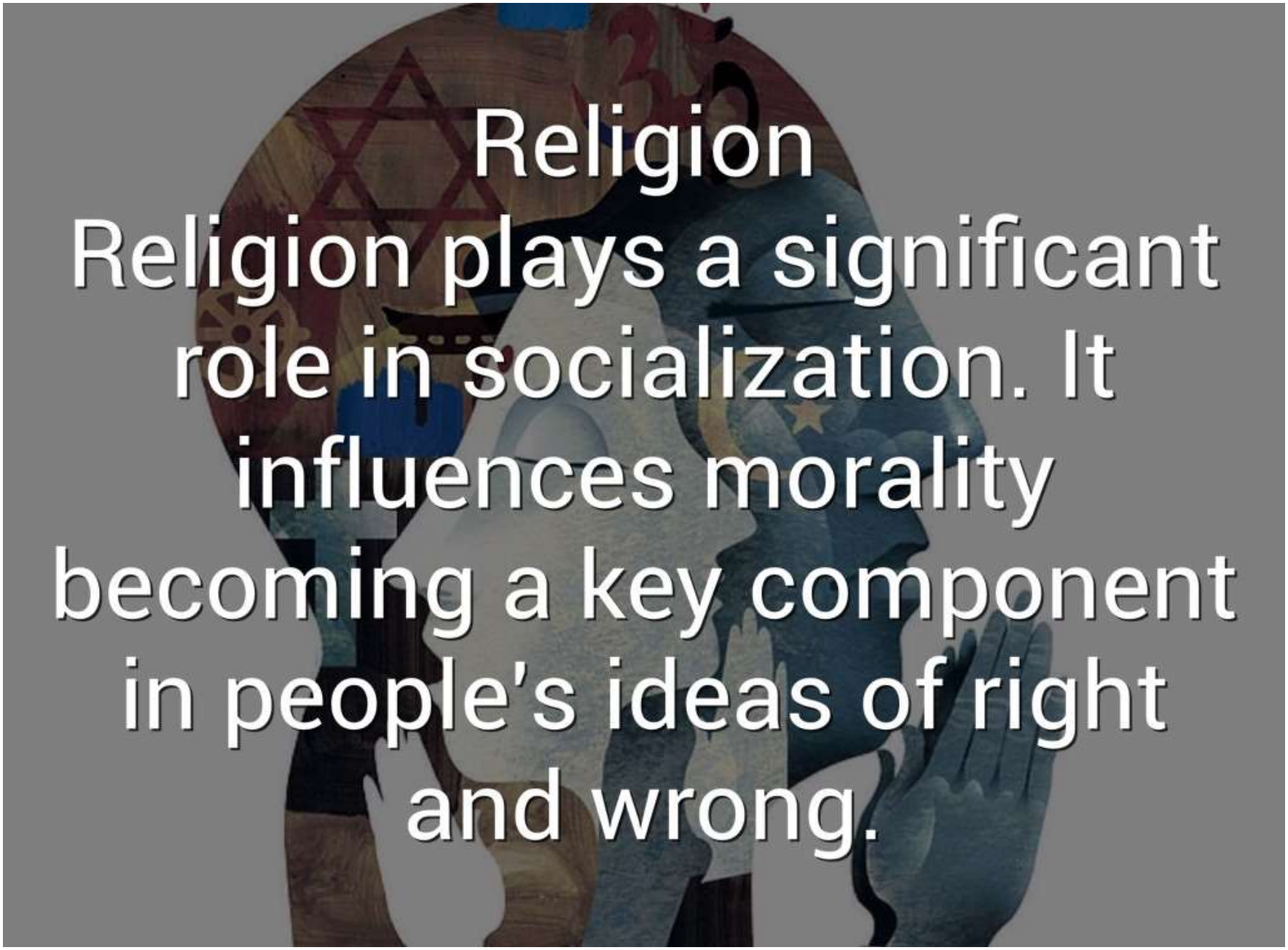
- Schools have played an increasingly important role in the socialization process as the amount of specialized technical and scientific knowledge has expanded rapidly
  - Schools teach specific knowledge and skills and they also have a profound effect on a child's self-image, beliefs and values

The Peer Group

The family provides many, if not most, of the socialization experiences of early childhood. As children grow older, forces outside of the family increasingly influence them. In particular, children begin to relate more and more to their peer groups. A **peer group** is a primary group composed of individuals of roughly equal age and similar social characteristics.

Mass Media as an Agent of Socialization

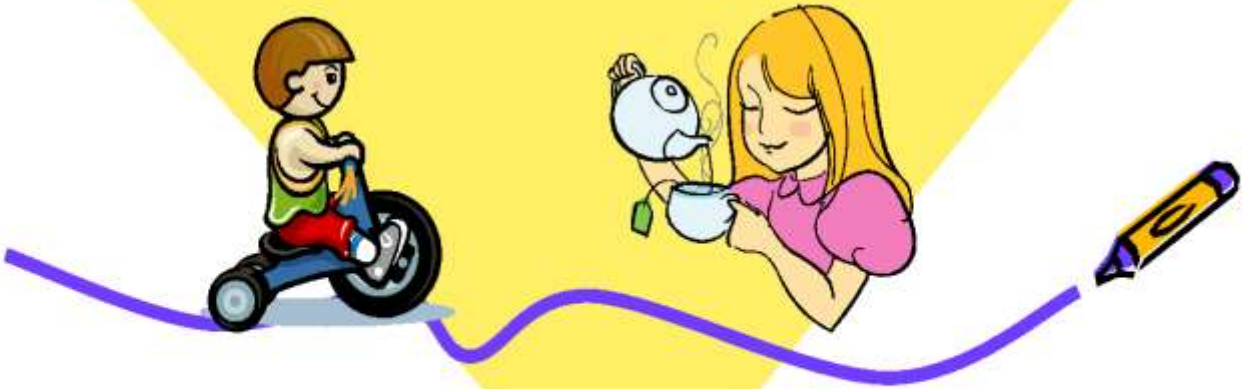
- The mass media function as socialization agents for children and adults in several ways:
  - They inform us about events
  - They introduce us to a wide variety of people
  - They provide an array of viewpoints on current issues
  - They make us aware of products and services that if we purchase them, supposedly will help us to be accepted by others
  - They entertain us by providing the opportunity to live vicariously

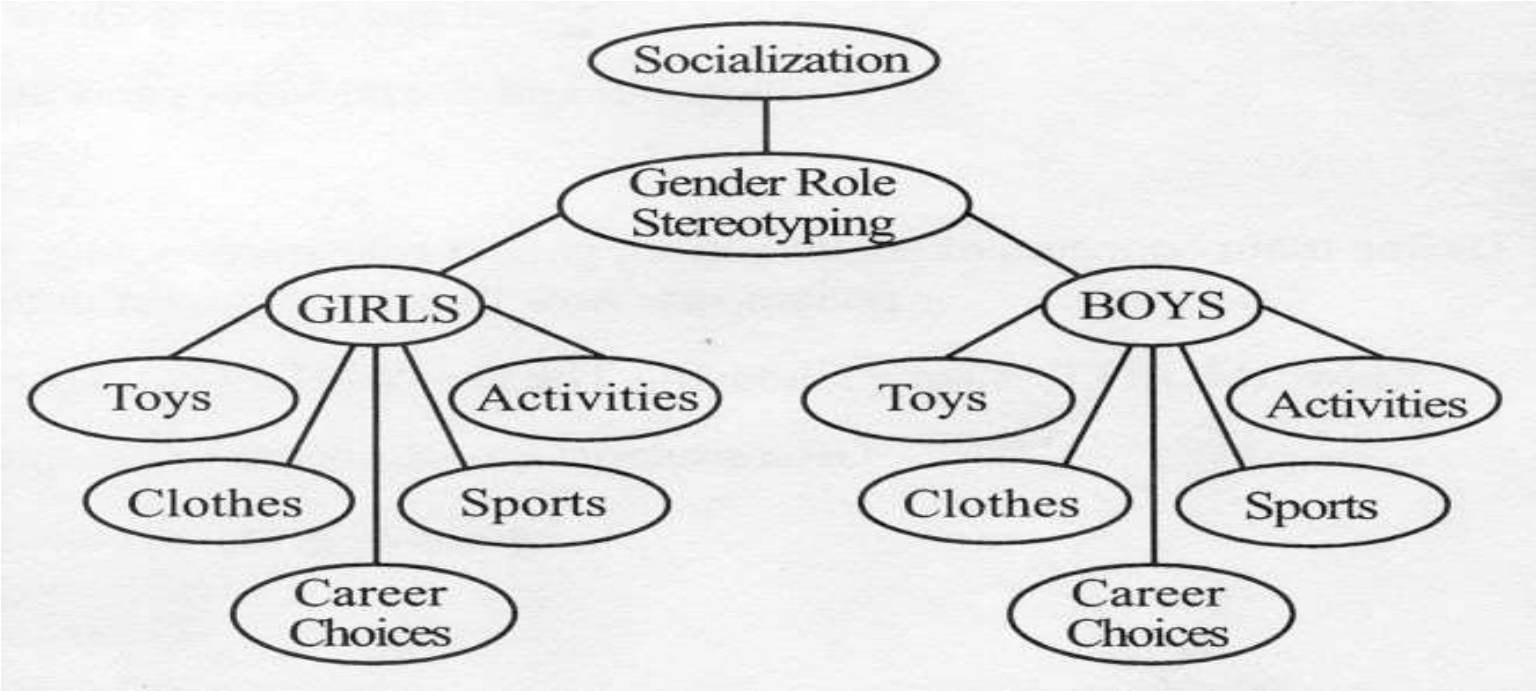


Religion

Religion plays a significant role in socialization. It influences morality becoming a key component in people's ideas of right and wrong.

Socialization & Gender Differences




Socialization
Gender Role Stereotyping
GIRLS
BOYS
Toys
Activities
Clothes
Sports
Career Choices
Toys
Activities
Clothes
Sports
Career Choices

Political Socialization

Political Socialization: Process of shaping one's ideas and attitudes about government

Factors that Affect Political Views:

- Family
- Schools
- Peers
- Media

Socialization and the Life Course

Anticipatory Socialization and Resocialization

Two types of socialization occur throughout the life course

1. *Anticipatory Socialization* - The processes of socialization in which a person "rehearses" for future occupations and social relationships
2. *Resocialization:* The process of discarding former behavior patterns and accepting new ones as part of a transition in one's life

RESOCIALIZATION

- Total Institution – A setting in which people are isolated from the rest of society for a set period of time and are subject to tight control
- Examples of total institutions:
- Prisons
- Military Boot Camp
- Monasteries
- Psychiatric Hospitals

Thank You