

Study Questions, Week 6

(1) What might happen to a child that lacks contact with other humans at early ages? Can such children be considered “human?”

(2) What is meant by the term *socialization*?

(3) Identify the contributions of the following theorists to our understanding of processes of socialization:

Charles Horton Cooley
George Herbert Mead
Erving Goffman

Sigmund Freud
Jean Piaget

(4) Explain how each of the following might contribute to Bill’s socialization:

Bill’s parents

Bill’s university professors

Bill’s elementary school teachers

The mass media

Bill’s childhood friends

(5) Are the effects of our childhood (primary) socialization locked in? What evidence can you cite to support your response?

(6) What is a *total institution*? Do you believe total institutions can be effective agents of resocialization? Why or why not? Support your response with evidence.

(7) What is an *agent of socialization*? Identify six agents of socialization and explain how they contribute to making an individual a social being.

(8) What is the product of socialization, for individuals and for society?

(9) Define the following terms:

Significant Other

Dramaturgical Approach

Generalized Other

Anticipatory Socialization

Looking-Glass Self

Resocialization

Impression Management

Personality

(10) Identify an important *rite of passage* in your life. How did this rite change you? What was the social significance of this rite?