

## **Outline of History of Sociological Theory**

### **January 2, 2012**

#### **SOCI>Sociology>History>Sociological Theory**

##### **Ferdinand Tonnies [Tonnies, Ferdinand]**

sociologist

Germany

1887

Community and Society [1887]

He lived 1855 to 1936. Human will depends on either instinctive force {essential will} or reasoned purpose or goal {arbitrary will}. Communities {Gemeinschaft}, such as cities and states, can depend on essential will, to gain essential needs. Societies {Gesellschaft}, such as families and neighborhoods, can form to reach goals.

##### **Émile Durkheim [Durkheim, Émile]**

sociologist

Paris, France

1893 to 1917

Division of Labor in Society [1893]; Rules of Sociological Method [1895]; Suicide: a Study in Sociology [1897]; Primitive Classification [1903]; Elementary Forms of Religious Life [1912]; Professional Ethics and Civic Morals [1917]

He lived 1858 to 1917.

Suicide happens in individuals dissociated from their groups {anomie, Durkheim}, who lose social rules or have social-rule conflicts. Social cohesion minimizes suicide risk {social cohesion theory}, but communities do not always have values and beliefs adequate to current social problems.

Societies have behavior norms. Social institutions and relations, such as language, law, customs, values, traditions, inventions, family, religion, and work, shape individual behavior and beliefs.

Religion and morals are main society parts, and all change together.

Religion is about the sacred, not magic, supernatural, or spirits. Community shares the sacred. Taboos separate sacred from profane, by special places and days.

However, primitive peoples do separate natural and supernatural, and some do not have sacred things.

Totem is sacred, has totem symbol, and represents clan. Clans have larger groups {phratry, Durkheim}, and their totems have groups. All things in life have categories, and categories have totems, so all things link to form unity.

Totemism is thus the first religion.

People feel power in totem {totemic principle}. The power is mana in Melanesia, manitou in North America, orenda, or wakan. The power is not spirit or person. Soul is part of totemic principle and is conscience. Sacrifices are to share in power.

Social events and ceremonies concentrate on totem but actually unify clan in shared excitement and joy. Rituals reinforce idea of community. Rituals can be about death {piacular ritual} and allow society to heal.

Ancestor worship is about past souls and clans and leads to the idea of gods, which are for and about tribes, not clans.

Tribes often have supreme god.

Societies have principles not derivable from biology or psychology. Society is a collective of norms and is more than sum of individual effects.

##### **Gabriel Tarde [Tarde, Gabriel]**

sociologist

Paris, France

1898 to 1904

Social Laws [1898]; Outline of Sociology [1904]

He lived 1843 to 1904.

##### **Charles Horton Cooley [Cooley, Charles Horton]**

sociologist

USA

1902 to 1927

Human Nature and the Social Order [1902]; Social Organization [1909]; Social Process [1918]; Life and the Student [1927]

He lived 1864 to 1929 and studied primary groups and how self relates to groups.

**Max Weber [Weber, Max]**

sociologist

Germany

1905 to 1914

Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism [1905]; Theory of Social and Economic Organizations [1912]; Economy and Society [1914]

He lived 1864 to 1920. Social norms reflect meanings in human actions. Social actions reflect ethics, not economics.

**Ethics**

Ethics depends on responsibility. People want to have higher status.

**Politics**

Stabilizing factors for society are group traditions, common laws, constitutional law, and absolute value standard. Real or supposed personal qualities, such as sanctity, courage, heroism, character, savior, wisdom, and insight are destabilizing factors. Primitive societies have traditional religion, and societies that had crisis have rationalized religion. Protestant ethics underlie capitalism. Authority types are traditional, charismatic, and bureaucratic-rational-legal. Authority is attitude or norm. Authority does not necessarily have power to cause behavior in others. Legitimate power depends on tradition, person's charisma, or law and reason.

**William Graham Sumner [Sumner, William Graham]**

sociologist

USA

1907 to 1910

Science of Society [1910: with Albert G. Keller, published in 1927]; Folkways [1907]

He lived 1840 to 1910 and studied customs and mores.

**Edward Alsworth Ross [Ross, Edward Alsworth]**

sociologist

USA

1907 to 1919

Sin and Society: An Analysis of Latter-Day Iniquity [1907]; Social Psychology: An outline and source book [1919]

He lived 1866 to 1951.

**George Herbert Mead [Mead, George Herbert]**

sociologist

USA

1920 to 1931

Mind, Self, and Society [1934]

He lived 1863 to 1931 and was of Chicago School. He developed symbolic interactionism. People and things have several roles and functions simultaneously in society {sociality} [Mead, 1934].

**Walter Lippman [Lippman, Walter]**

sociologist/essayist/journalist

USA

1922 to 1947

Public Opinion [1922]; Cold War [1947]

He lived 1889 to 1974.

**Ellsworth Faris [Faris, Ellsworth]**

sociologist

USA

1925 to 1937

Psychology of Human Society [1925]; Nature of Human Nature, and Other Essays in Social Psychology [1937]

He lived 1874 to 1953.

**Gordon Childe [Childe, Gordon]**

sociologist

England

1936

Man Makes Himself [1936]

He lived 1892 to 1957 and studied technological stages and social stages.

**Ralph Linton [Linton, Ralph]**

sociologist

USA

1936

Study of Man [1936]

He lived 1893 to 1953.

**C. Wright Mills [Mills, C. Wright]**

sociologist

USA

1939 to 1956

Language, Logic and Culture [1939]; Power Elite [1956]

He lived 1916 to 1962.

**Everett C. Hughes [Hughes, Everett C.]**

sociologist

Chicago, Illinois

1942 to 1971

Study of Institutions [1942]; Sociological Eye [1971]

He lived 1897 to 1983 and created symbolic interactionism [1937], with Herbert Blumer at University of Chicago (Second Chicago School), and their predecessors W. I. Thomas and Robert Park (First Chicago School).

**Gunnar Myrdal [Myrdal, Gunnar]**

sociologist

Sweden/USA

1944

American Dilemma [1944]

He lived 1898 to 1987.

**Ernest Burgess [Burgess, Ernest]**

sociologist

USA

1945

Family From Institution to Companionship [1945: with Harvey J. Locke]

He lived 1911 to 2000.

**Manford H. Kuhn [Kuhn, Manford H.]**

sociologist

Iowa

1946 to 1963

Major Trends in Symbolic Interaction Theory in the Past Twenty-five Years [1963]

He lived ? to 1963, emphasized symbolic interactionism at Iowa School [1946 to 1973], and developed Twenty Statements Test (TST).

**Leslie White [White, Leslie]**

sociologist

USA

1949

Science of Culture [1949]  
He lived 1900 to 1975.

**Max Lerner [Lerner, Max]**

sociologist

USA

1950 to 1990

Unfinished Country [1950]; America as a Civilization [1957]; Wrestling with the Angel [1990]

He lived 1902 to 1992.

**Eric Hoffer [Hoffer, Eric]**

sociologist

USA

1951 to 1963

True Believer [1951]; Ordeal of Change [1963]

He lived 1902 to 1983.

**Stephen Potter [Potter, Stephen]**

sociologist

USA

1952

Theory and Practice of Gamesmanship [1947]; Lifemanship [1950]; One-upmanship [1952]

He lived 1900 to 1969.

**Ashley Montagu [Montagu, Ashley]**

sociologist

USA

1953

Natural Superiority of Women [1953]

He lived 1905 to 1999.

**Erving Goffman [Goffman, Erving]**

sociologist

Canada/USA

1956 to 1967

Presentation of Self in Everyday Life [1956]; Interaction Ritual [1967]

He lived 1922 to 1982.

**Seymour Lipset [Lipset, Seymour]**

sociologist

USA

1958

Political Man [1958]

He lived 1922 to ?.

**Hannah Arendt [Arendt, Hannah]**

sociologist

USA

1958 to 1978

Human Condition [1958]; Life of the Mind [1975 to 1978]

She lived 1906 to 1975 and studied under Jaspers and Heidegger. Human activity is labor to stay alive, work to make things for society, and action to create new things and work with others. Action is more important than thought.

**J. Lloyd Trump [Trump, J. Lloyd]**

sociologist

USA

1959  
Images of the Future [1959]

**Herman Kahn [Kahn, Herman]**

physicist  
USA  
1961 to 1967  
On Thermonuclear War [1961]; Year 2000 [1967]  
He lived 1922 to 1983.

**William Lloyd Warner [Warner, William Lloyd]**

sociologist  
USA  
1962  
American Life: Dream and Reality [1962]  
He lived 1898 to 1970.

**John W. Gardner [Gardner, John W.]**

sociologist  
USA  
1963 to 1993  
Self Renewal: The Individual and the Innovative Society [1963]; On Leadership [1993]  
He lived 1912 to 2002 and founded Common Cause [1970].

**Raymond Aron [Aron, Raymond]**

sociologist  
France  
1966  
Peace and War: A Theory of International Relations [1966]  
He lived 1905 to 1983.

**Rom Harré [Harré, Rom] or Horace Romano Harré [Harré, Horace Romano]**

sociologist  
France/England/Sweden  
1970 to 1993  
Principles of Scientific Thinking [1970]; Personal Being [1983]; Physical Being: A Theory for a Corporal Psychology [1991]; Social Being: A Theory for a Social Psychology [1993]  
He lived 1927 to ?.

**Paul R. Ehrlich [Ehrlich, Paul R.]**

sociologist  
USA  
1971 to 2000  
Population Bomb [1971]; Human Natures [2000]  
He lived 1932 to ?.

**Serge Moscovici [Moscovici, Serge]**

sociologist  
USA  
1976 to 2000  
Social Influence and Social Change [1976]; Conflict and Consensus: A General Theory of Collective Decisions [1994: with Willem Doise]; Social Representations: Explorations in Social Constructionism [2000]  
He lived 1925 to ?.

**Jared Diamond [Diamond, Jared]**

sociologist

USA

1992 to 1997

Third Chimpanzee: the Evolution and Future of the Human Animal [1992]; Guns, Germs, and Steel [1997]