

Introduction to Sociology

Chapter 4: Socialization

Study Guide

1. Do you think that the results of Harry Harlow's research on monkeys can be applied to humans? Why or why not?
2. This chapter discussed three girls who had been denied normal social contact when they were young. What single factor seemed to have the greatest effect on the long-term impact of this isolation?
3. Do you think the game stage is important in young children? Why or why not?
4. Children frequently play card games such as "Go Fish." What social skills are learned from such a game?
5. Is school a total institution? Why or why not?
6. Your friend's family has decided to adopt a five-year-old boy who was neglected by his parents and left alone most of the time with nothing to do. What facts from this chapter might help the family to help the boy?
7. According to Mead, how are the "I" and the "me" interrelated?
8. Forty or fifty years ago, it was not uncommon for homeless children to be placed in large institutions called orphanages. In more recent times, the trend has been to place them in foster homes. Why do you think these changes have taken place?
9. Define socialization. Include and discuss examples of its significance and importance to American culture.
10. Using the concept of hidden curriculum, describe the socialization process of American students in public and/or private schools.
11. Identify and clarify the socialization processes available to prepare people of any age for new learning.