

Theory:	FUNCTIONALISM	CONFLICT THEORY	SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONISM
	<u>View of Society</u>		
	Objective; stable; cohesive	Objective; hierarchical; fragmented	Subjective; perceived in the minds of people
	<u>Basic Questions</u>		
Relationship of Individual to Society:	Individuals occupy fixed social roles	Individuals subordinated to society	Individual and society are interdependent
View of Inequality:	Inevitable; functional for society	Result of struggle over scarce resources	Inequality demonstrated through meaning of status symbols
Basis of Social Order:	Consensus Among public on common values	Power; coercion	Collective meaning systems; society created through social interaction
Source of Social Change:	Social disorganization and adjustment to achieve equilibrium; change is gradual	Struggle; competition	Ever-changing web of interpersonal relationships and changing meaning of things
	<u>Major Criticisms</u>		
	A conservative view of society that underplays power differences among and between groups	Understates the degree of cohesion and stability in society	Has a weak analysis of inequality and tends to ignore material differences between groups in society; overstates the subjective basis of society