



**Sociology Virtual Learning**

# **High School/Lesson 19**

## **Agents of Socialization: Schools & Peers**

**April 15, 2020**



## Sociology

Lesson: April 15, 2020

### **Objective/Learning Target:**

Explain the important roles played by schools and peers in the socialization process.

## Bell Ringer:

On a separate piece of paper answer the following question:  
What are some examples of how your life, and you yourself, would be different without your school and your peer group?

## Lesson Activity:

In school, children are under the care and supervision of adults who are not relatives. For the first time many of the child's relationships with other people are impersonal.

Rewards and punishments are based on performance rather than affection. Slowly, children are taught to be less dependent emotionally on their parents. School also creates feelings of loyalty and allegiance to something beyond the family.

## Activity:

The socialization process in school involves more than reading, writing, and arithmetic. Underlying the formal goals of the school is the “hidden curriculum”. The hidden curriculum is the informal and unofficial aspects of culture that children are taught in preparation for life. It teaches, through the institution of the school, things like discipline, order, cooperation, communication, conformity, and a sense of timeliness. Though teachers do not actively include these things in their lesson plans, they are a result of the socialization process provided by the school.

## Activity:

The peer group is the only agent of socialization not primarily controlled by adults. A child may belong to several peer groups including but not limited to neighborhood friends, a clique at school, an after school club, or a sports team.

## Activity:

In the peer group, young people have the opportunity to engage in give-and-take relationships, and experience things like conflict, competition, and cooperation. The peer group also gives children experience in self direction. They can begin to make their own decisions; experiment with new ways of thinking, feeling, and behaving; and engage in activities that involve self expression.

## Practice:

Watch the clip and answer the following question on the paper you used for your bellwork in a complete sentence.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7OE6bDfM2M>

How did the school, in this case the instructor, influence or socialize the students?

(Answers will vary based on the opinion of the student)



## Practice:

Watch the clip and answer the following question on the paper you used for your bellwork in a complete sentence.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGaaW\\_eaOI8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGaaW_eaOI8)

How did the peer group, in this case the neighborhood friends, influence or socialize the boys?

(Answers will vary based on the opinions of the student)

## Additional Resources:

The movies I took these clips from are “The Dead Poets Society” and “The Sandlot”. Both of these films are excellent examples of how the four agents of socialization influence people. If you get a chance, enjoy them at your leisure.