



Unit 7: Social Structure and Institutions

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Roles

Role is an expected behavior associated with a particular status.

Example: A policeman's job (role) is to catch criminals.



Obligations

Obligations are behaviors that individuals are expected to perform toward other.

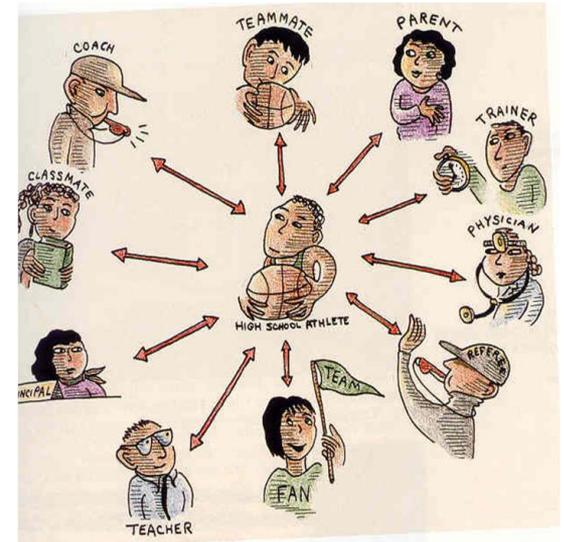
Example: A friend is obligated to provide support.



Role Strain

Role strain occurs when a person has trouble meeting the many roles connected with a single status.

Example: A teen athlete has a difficult time adjusting; This teen needs to manage his time for school and listen to every authority figure. He is expected to manage every authority figure in his life.



Role Performance

Role performance is the actual conduct, or behavior involved in carrying out role; most involves social interaction.

Example: The principal is handing the diploma to the senior who graduated.



Role Conflict

Role conflict exists when the performance of a role in one status clashes with the performance of another.

Example: A mother, who is also working at IBM, needs to take care of her son and work in her office. Sometimes when her baby becomes sick, she has to manage her work at office and take care of him which will become a conflict.



Master statuses

A position that strongly affects most other aspects of a person's life.

Example: A woman who got married and also working at a job has a master status of being a wife.



Achieved status

A position that is earned or chosen.

Example: Becoming a doctor



Ascribed status

A position that is neither earned nor chosen but assigned.

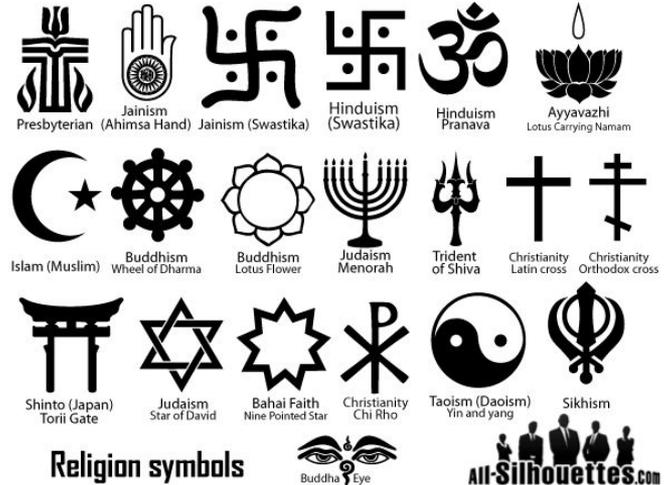
Example: A son



Religion

Religion is a unified set of beliefs and practices relative to sacred things.

Example: Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism etc.



School

It is a social institution which enforces norms and values held by the majority.

Example: Panther Creek has a set of rules that are followed by students who study there. For example, the students should not use their phone during class.



Government

The body with the power to make and/or enforce law to control a country, land area, people or organization.

Example: American government punishes people who do drunk and drive severely so that they won't repeat it again.



Family

Family is a group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Example: Mother teaching her son how to eat.





Video

