

ECONOMIES & SOCIAL ORGANIZATION
Subsisting & Making A Living Providing for Oneself & One's Family

Definitions

- ∅ Subsistence
 - ∅ Act or state of remaining or continuing in existence
- ∅ Economy
 - ∅ the system of production, distribution and consumption

Modes of Subsistence and Production

- ∅ Foraging
 - ∅ Hunting-gathering
- ∅ Horticulture
- ∅ Nomadic Pastoralism
- ∅ Agriculture
- ∅ Industrialism
- ∅ Post-industrialism

Distribution:

- ◊ How are Goods and Services Distributed in Society?
 - ◊ Reciprocal Exchange
 - ◊ Redistribution
 - ◊ Market or Commercial Exchange

Reciprocal Exchange

- ◊ Giving & taking without the use of money.
- ◊ Exchange (trade) of equal value
 - ◊ balanced reciprocity
- ◊ Gift giving
 - ◊ generalized reciprocity.

Balanced Reciprocity

- ◊ Explicit terms and expectations of return.
- ◊ Involves either an immediate exchange of goods or services or an agreed-upon exchange over a limited period of time.

Generalized Reciprocity

- Goods or services are given to another with no apparent expectation of a return gift;
- a one-way transfer

Gifts

- Is a gift really a one-way exchange?
- The gift is "social glue".

Redistribution

- Accumulation of goods or labor by a particular person or in a particular place for the purpose of subsequent redistribution.
- Classic examples:
 - Northwest Coast Native American Potlatch
 - Trobriand Islander Kula exchange

Market or Commercial Exchange

- o Exchanges or transactions
 - o buying and selling
 - o involving money in which the prices are subject to supply and demand.
- o Involves the exchange of goods as well as transactions of labor, land, rentals, and credit.

Money

- o Accepted medium of exchange
- o Standard of value
- o Store of wealth.
- o Allows all goods and services to be valued in the same objective way, i.e. in relation to a monetary value.

Relationship Between Economy & Politics

- o Economy
 - o the system of production, distribution and consumption
- o Politics
 - o Social relations involving power and authority
- o Political Economy
 - o Holds that the relations of economic production structure social relations.

Economic Roles

- ◊ Slave
 - ◊ one bound in servitude as the property of a slaveholder or household
- ◊ Peasant
 - ◊ small farmers and tenants, sharecroppers, and laborers who form the main labor force in agriculture.
- ◊ Tenant farmer
 - ◊ One who farms land owned by another and pays rent in cash or in kind.
- ◊ Sharecropper
 - ◊ Tenant farmer who gives a share of the crops raised to the landlord in lieu of rent.
- ◊ Debt-peonage
 - ◊ laborers are bound in servitude until their debts are paid in full.
- ◊ Wage earner
 - ◊ one's labor or services are hired and paid for
 - ◊ Employee
 - ◊ self-employed

Political and Economic Systems

- ◊ Feudalism
 - ◊ Political and Economic
- ◊ Capitalism
 - ◊ Economic
- ◊ Industrialism
 - ◊ Social and Economic
- ◊ Socialism
 - ◊ Political and Economic
- ◊ Communism
 - ◊ Political and Economic

Feudalism

- ◊ political and economic system of Europe from the 9th century to about the 15th century, based on the holding of all land in fiefdoms and the resulting relation of lord to vassal (vassal is the person who holds the land belonging to a lord)
- ◊ characterized by homage, legal and military service of tenants; and forfeiture of access to land and its products if vassal did not adhere to system.



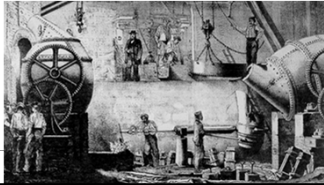
Capitalism

o Economic system based on private ownership of the means of production, in which personal profit can be acquired through investment of capital and employment of labor



Industrialism

o Economic and social system based on the development of large-scale industries
o marked by the production of large quantities of inexpensive manufactured goods and the concentration of employment in urban factories.



The Means of Production?

o The raw materials, lands, factories, farms, and other economic resources used to produce goods and services.

Capitalism

- o Proletariat
 - o The class of industrial wage earners who, possessing neither capital nor production means, must earn their living by selling their labor; the poorest class of working people.
- o Bourgeoisie
 - o property-owning and controlling/ruling class; in conflict with the proletariat

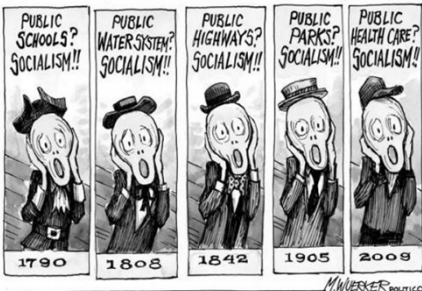
Socialism

- o Theories or systems of social organization in which the means of producing and distributing goods is owned collectively or by a centralized government that often plans and controls the economy
- o aim is to alter the capitalist system by evolution not revolution.

Socialism:
the radical
idea of
sharing

IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT... AGAIN

A Brief History of Socialist Plots to End the American Way of Life



Communism

- ◊ Fundamentally, a system of social organization in which property (especially real property and the means of production) is held in common.
- ◊ Refers to movements that aim to overthrow the capitalist order by revolutionary means
 - ◊ to establish a classless society in which all goods will be socially owned.



Politics



- ◊ Social relations involving power and authority
- ◊ Can involve the manipulation of people and resources, the maneuvers intended to enhance power, the rise of factions that compete for power, and the development of political parties with differing points of view.

Governance

- ◊ Traditions, institutions and processes that determine how power is exercised, how members of political communities are given a voice, and how decisions are made on issues of public concern

Power

- o Ability to command others to do certain things and to get compliance from them; the ability to influence another, to impose one's will on another.

Forms of Power

- o Consent
 - o compliance through agreement
- o Coercion
 - o compliance through force or fear of punishment
- o Max Weber
 - o 'illegitimate power'



Ideology

- o Organized collection of ideas
 - o a comprehensive vision of how the world ought to be.
- o Offer changes through instilling a normative thought process
 - o making the vision appear as common sense

Power, Culture & Everyday Life

o Hegemony

o the dominance of one group over other groups, without the threat of force; perspectives become skewed to favor the dominant group.

o Refers to the ways that dominant cultural beliefs, values and practices become "naturalized" or function as common sense.

Political Organization

o Band

o small loosely organized group of people dispersed throughout a wide territory who are primarily organized through kinship ties.

o Tribe

o a small group that centers around kinship units and common-interest groups that cross-cut kindred boundaries.

o Chiefdom

o political organization is typically inherited through kinship lines.

o State

o formal political organization with a central bureaucracy with the authority to employ legalized force.

Discussion

o Discuss political organization matrix that describes these four types of societies, their basic leadership, and typical characteristics of economy under these forms of political organization.

ECONOMIES & SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

Subsisting & Making A Living Providing
for Oneself & One's Family
