

**BLOCK V:  
SOCIAL ORGANIZATION AND  
DISORGANIZATION**

**Unit 1 : Social Organization**

**Unit 2 : Types of Social Organization**

**Unit 3 : Social Disorganization**

**Unit 4 : Factors of Social Disorganization**

**Unit 5 : Types of Social Disorganization**

## UNIT-1 SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

### Unit Structure:

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Objectives
- 1.3 Concept of Social Organization
  - 1.3.1 Definition of Social Organisation
- 1.4 Nature of Social Organization
- 1.5 Summing Up
- 1.6 Questions and Exercises
- 1.7 References and Suggested Readings

### 1.1 Introduction:

Social organization refers to the way individuals and groups are structured and interact within a society. It encompasses the patterns of relationships, roles, norms, and institutions that shape social interactions and guide behavior. Social organization varies across cultures and can take various forms, including kinship systems, political systems, economic systems, and religious systems.

### 1.2 Objectives:

After the discussion of this unit, the learner will be able to –

- *understand* the concepts of social organization,
- *describe* the nature of social organization.

### 1.3 Concept of Social Organization:

The literal meaning of organisation means ‘association.’ Association or Organisation means some combination or inclusion of individuals. Organisation may be small or large. An organisation follows some rules and

regulation for the existence of that organisation. Normally the small organisation or association follow formal rules and regulation whereas the large organisation follows formal rules and regulations. For example, family, peer group, friend circle, group of students of different levels etc. are example of small organisation or association. On the other hand, educational organisation, religious organisation, political organisation, student organisation labour union, worker's association etc. are example of large organisation or association.

Social organisation literally means 'the society' i.e., in a society there are so many small and large organisations. The ancient sociologist tried to define social organisation as 'a society' because they believed that a society is a combination of so many small of large organisation and association. Social organisation implies the totality of these organisations and associations.

Life is a process of continuous adjustment and readjustment. The social organism is always undergoing a change requiring adjustment of its different parts. When the different parts of society are properly adjusted, we have a well organised society, called Social organisation. Social organisation is characterised by the harmonious operation of the different elements of a social system as a group. We may thus speak of the organisation of a family, community, political unit or a nation. Social organisation depends upon common definition of social goals and an accepted programme for their achievement.

### **1.3.1 Definitions of Social Organisation:**

1. According to Ogburn and Nimkoff defined social organisation as an organisation is an articulation of different parts which perform various functions, it is an active group device for getting something done.
2. According to H.S. Johnson, "Organisation refers to an aspect of interaction system"
3. According to Elliot and Merrill, "Social organisation is a state of being, a condition in which the various institutions in a society are functioning in accordance with their recognised or implied purpose."

**CHECK YOUR PROGRESS**

**Que. 1:** Define the concept of social organization.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Que. 2:** Write any one definition of social organization

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**1.4 Nature of Social Organization:**

The nature of social organization is discussed in the following manner:

- An organization has definite purpose and goals.
- Social organization can be formal or informal in nature.
- Social organization relies on communication and interaction among individuals and groups.
- Social organizations develop norms and values that guide the behavior and interactions of their members.
- Social organizations assign specific roles and responsibilities to their members.

**STOP TO CONSIDER**

Social organisation literally means ‘the society’ i.e., in a society there are so many small and large organisations. Organisation may be small or large. An organisation follows some rules and regulation for the existence of that organisation. Social organizations develop norms and values that guide the behavior and interactions of their members.

### 1.5 Summing Up:

- Social organization refers to the way individuals and groups are structured and interact within a society.
- An organisation follows some rules and regulation for the existence of that organisation.
- For example, family, peer group, friend circle, group of students of different levels etc. are example of small organisation or association.
- On the other hand, educational organisation, religious organisation, political organisation, student organisation labour union, worker's association etc. are example of large organisation or association.
- Social organization relies on communication and interaction among individuals and groups.

### 1.6 Questions and Exercises:

1. Discuss the concept of social organization with its definitions.
2. Discuss the nature of social organization.

### 1.7 References and Suggested Readings:

1. Brown F. J. (1961) "*Educational Sociology*" Second Edition, Prentice- Hall, INC, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Charles E. Tuttle Company, Tokyo
2. Bookover, W.B., (1955): *A sociology of Education*, New York, American Book Co.,
3. Chaube, S.P. & Chaube, A. (1990): *Philosophical and sociological Foundation of Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra-2
4. Kuppuswamy, B. (1972) *Social Change in India*, Konark Publishers, Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
5. Mathur, S.S: *A Sociological Approach to Indian Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra 2

Space for Learner

6. Ogburn William F. and Nimkoff Meyer F. (1979): “*A Handbook of Sociology*” Eurasia Publishing House (PVT) LTD. Ram Nagar, New Delhi-55
7. Rao, C.N. Shankar. (2013): “*Sociology of Indian Society*”. S.Chand and Company Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
8. Ruhela, S.P. & K.V. Vyas, *Sociological Foundations of Education in Contemporary India*, New Delhi, Dhanpat Rai Publishers, 1969
9. Saikia, Polee (2019) *Sociological Foundations of Education*, DVS Publishers, Panbazar, Guwahati
10. Sharma, R.N. “*Philosophy and Sociology of Education*”. Surjeet Publications

—x—

## UNIT-2

### TYPES OF SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

Space for Learner

#### Unit Structure:

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Objectives
- 2.3 Types of Social Organization
  - 2.3.1 Formal Social Organization
  - 2.3.2 Informal Social Organization
- 2.4 Relationship between formal and informal organization
- 2.5 Differences between formal and informal organizations
- 2.6 Summing Up
- 2.7 Questions and Exercises
- 2.8 References and Suggested Readings

#### 2.1 Introduction:

In a society, there are so many organizations exist. Different organization can be divided as formal and informal social organizations. Formal organization always based on some rules and regulations but informal organization doesn't follow formal rules and regulations.

#### 2.2 Objectives:

After the discussion of this unit, you will be able to–

- *understand* the concepts of formal social organization,
- *identify* the characteristics of formal social organisation,
- *understand* the concept of informal social organization,
- *identify* the characteristics of informal social organisation,
- *establish* a relationship between formal and informal Organization,
- *differentiate* between formal and informal organization.

### 2.3 Types of Social Organization:

There are mainly two types of social organisation. These are:

1. **Formal Social Organisation:** A formal social organisation is that which follows certain rules and regulations normally there is agreement in the process of social organisation. For e.g., educational institution, religious organisation, political parties, labour union, student union etc.
2. **Informal social Organisation:** An informal social organisation is one where there no formal rules and regulations are maintained. Informal organisation is normally smaller in size. For e.g., Family, friend circle, peer groups, etc.

#### CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

**Que. 1:** What is formal Social Organization?

.....  
.....  
.....

**Que. 2:** What is informal Social Organization?

.....  
.....  
.....

#### 2.3.1 Formal Social Organization:

##### Characteristics of Formal Organisation:

- Formal organisation is well organised and well maintained.
- Normally formal organisation is large in size.
- Formal rules and regulations are maintained in organised groups.
- There is some kind of agreement maintained in formal group.
- In formal organisation there is a leader, but most of the leaders are authoritarian by nature.
- There is formal interaction as well as formal pattern of relationship among the members in formal organisation.



- Face to face interaction is not always possible in formal organisation
- There are some of aims and objectives strictly followed by formal organisation.
- Formal organisations are normally goal oriented.

*Space for Learner*

### **STOP TO CONSIDER**

A formal social organisation is that which follows certain rules and regulations normally there is agreement in the process of social organisation. For e.g., educational institution, religious organisation, political parties, labour union, student union etc. Normally formal organisation is large in size.

### **2.3.2 Informal Social Organization:**

#### **Characteristics of Informal Organisation:**

- Informal organisations are not always well organised.
- Informal organisations are normally small in size.
- There are no formal rules and regulations maintained in informal organisation.
- There are normally no agreements followed.
- There is a leader, but most of the leaders are democratic by nature.
- There is informal interaction as well as permanent kind of relationship between the group members.
- Face to face interaction is a common characteristic of informal organisation.
- Aims and objectives are not always followed by informal organisation.
- There is normally no fixed goal in informal organisation.

**CHECK YOUR PROGRESS**

**Que. 3:** Discuss the characteristics of formal social organization?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Que. 4:** Discuss the characteristics of informal social organization?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**2.4 Relationship between Formal and Informal Organization:**

While formal and informal social organizations have distinct characteristics, they also share some similarities. Few similarities between formal and informal organizations discussed below:—

- Both formal and informal social organizations involve human interaction. They are formed and sustained through relationships, communication, and shared experiences among individuals.
- Both formal and informal social organizations can provide influence and social support to their members.
- Both formal and informal social organizations contribute to socialization and learning processes.
- Both formal and informal social organizations foster a sense of group identity and cohesion. Members of both types of organizations often develop a shared sense of belonging, common goals, and group norms.

## 2.5 Differences between Formal and Informal Organization:

Formal Organization	Informal Organization
1. Formal organizations have a defined and structured hierarchy.	Informal organizations have a more fluid and flexible structure.
2. Formal organizations are established with specific purpose and goals.	Informal organizations may not have formalized goals and objectives.
3. Formal organisation is larger in size.	Informal organisations are normally smaller in size.
4. In formal organisation there is a leader, but most of the leaders are authoritarian by nature.	There is informal interaction as well as permanent kind of relationship between the group members.
5. Face to face interaction is not always possible in formal organisations.	Face to face interaction is a common characteristic of informal organisation.

Space for Learner

## 2.6 Summing Up:

- There are mainly two types of social organisation. One is formal social organization and another one is informal social organization.
- Formal organisation is well organised and well maintained. Normally formal organisation is large in size.
- Informal organisations are not always well organised. Informal organisations are normally small in size.
- Educational institution, religious organisation, political parties, labour union, student union etc. are the example of formal organization.
- Family, friend circle, peer groups, hobby groups, social club etc. are the example of informal social organization.

### **2.7 Questions and Exercises:**

1. What do you mean by formal social organization?
2. What do you mean by informal social organization?
3. Discuss the characteristics of formal social organization?
4. Discuss the characteristics of informal social organization?
5. Explain the examples of formal and informal social organizations.
6. Discuss the relationship between formal and informal social organization.
7. Discuss the differences between formal and informal social organization.

### **2.8 References and Suggested Readings:**

1. Brown F. J. (1961) "*Educational Sociology*" Second Edition, Prentice- Hall, INC, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Charles E. Tuttle Company, Tokyo
2. Bookover, W.B., (1955): *A sociology of Education*, New York, American Book Co.,
3. Chaube, S.P. & Chaube, A. (1990): *Philosophical and sociological Foundation of Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra-2
4. Kuppuswamy, B. (1972) *Social Change in India*, Konark Publishers, Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
5. Mathur, S.S: *A Sociological Approach to Indian Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra 2
6. Ogburn William F. and Nimkoff Meyer F. (1979): "*A Handbook of Sociology*" Eurasia Publishing House (PVT) LTD. Ram Nagar, New Delhi-55
7. Rao, C.N. Shankar. (2013): "*Sociology of Indian Society*".S.Chand and Company Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
8. Ruhela, S.P. & K.V. Vyas, *Sociological Foundations of Education in Contemporary India*, New Delhi, Dhanpat Rai Publishers, 1969

9. Saikia, Polee (2019) *Sociological Foundations of Education*, DVS Publishers, Panbazar, Guwahati
10. Sharma, R.N. "*Philosophy and Sociology of Education*". Surjeet Publications
11. [egyankosh.ac.in › bitstreamPDFunit 5 social control](http://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/PDF/unit%205%20social%20control) - eGyanKosh

—x—

*Space for Learner*

## UNIT-3

### CONCEPT AND NATURE OF SOCIAL DISORGANISATION

#### **Unit Structure:**

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Objectives
- 3.3 Concept and Definition of Social Disorganisation
- 3.4 Nature of Social Disorganisation
- 3.5 Summing Up
- 3.6 Questions and Exercises
- 3.7 References and Suggested Readings

#### **3.1 Introduction:**

Social disorganisation is in a sense, the reverse of social organisation. When the orderly processes of social interaction and effective functioning of a group break down, there is social disorganisation. It may thus be defined as the process by which group relationships are broken. A group in turn is a number of people with whom vital relationships exist with some degree of permanence.

#### **3.2 Objectives:**

After going through this unit, you will be able to—

- *define* and understand the concepts of social disorganisation,
- *understand* the nature of social disorganisation.

#### **3.3 Concept and Definition of Social Disorganisation:**

The concept of disorganisation was developed by W.I. Thomas and Florian Znaniecki. According to Thomas and Znaniecki, “Social disorganisation refers to the decrease in the influence of the existing social rules of behaviour upon individual members”. Social disorganisation is a

complex process because the breakdown of a group is caused by the same combination of factors that produces it.

Social disorganisation can also be termed as social disintegration. Society is made up of groups, both large and small and social organisation depends upon their effective interrelationship and their adequate functioning. Social disorganisation means the process by which group relationships are broken. So, an organisation is an orderly relationship of the parts and disorganisation is a disturbance of the balance existing in the function of the parts of groups.

Space for Learner

### **STOP TO CONSIDER**

Social disorganisation is in a sense, the reverse of social organisation. When the orderly processes of social interaction and effective functioning of a group break down, there is social disorganisation. Social disorganisation can also be termed as social disintegration. Society is made up of groups, both large and small and social organisation depends upon their effective interrelationship and their adequate functioning. Social disorganisation means the process by which group relationships are broken.

#### **Definition:**

According to Elliot and Merrill, “Social disorganisation represents a breakdown in the equilibrium of forces, a decay in the social structure, so that old habits and forms of social control no longer function effectively.

#### **3.4 Characteristics of Social Disorganisation:**

- Social disorganisation is a universal process, because it is a common characteristic of every society.
- It is a complex process, because the breakdown of the group is caused by some combination of factors that produces it.

Space for Learner

- In a disorganised society, we have generally seen that there is a conflict between the status and the role within the members of that society.
- In a disorganised society, considerable inconsistency is seen between the expectations and achievements. For example, because of cheating in the exams, education becomes a disorganised entity.
- Social disorganisation is the result of the breakdown of group interaction as well as breakdown of institutional relationships in a changing society.

**CHECK YOUR PROGRESS**

**Que. 1:** Define the concept of social disorganization.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Que. 2:** Discuss the nature of social disorganization.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**3.5 Summing Up:**

- Social disorganisation is a complex process because the breakdown of a group is caused by the same combination of factors that produces it.
- Social disorganisation can also be termed as social disintegration.



- Social disorganisation is a universal process, because it is a common characteristic of every society.
- It is a complex process, because the breakdown of the group is caused by some combination of factors that produces it.
- In a disorganised society, we have generally seen that there is a conflict between the status and the role within the members of that society.

### 3.6 Questions and Exercises:

1. What do you mean by social disorganization?
2. Discuss the nature of social disorganization.

### 3.7 References and Suggested Readings:

1. Brown F. J. (1961) "*Educational Sociology*" Second Edition, Prentice- Hall, INC, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Charles E. Tuttle Company, Tokyo
2. Bookover, W.B., (1955): *A sociology of Education*, New York, American Book Co.,
3. Chaube, S.P. & Chaube, A. (1990): *Philosophical and sociological Foundation of Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra-2
4. Kuppaswamy, B. (1972) *Social Change in India*, Konark Publishers, Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
5. Mathur, S.S: *A Sociological Approach to Indian Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra
6. Ogburn William F. and Nimkoff Meyer F. (1979): "*A Handbook of Sociology*" Eurasia Publishing House (PVT) LTD. Ram Nagar, New Delhi-55
7. Rao, C.N. Shankar. (2013): "*Sociology of Indian Society*". S.Chand and Company Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.

*Space for Learner*

8. Ruhela, S.P. & K.V. Vyas, *Sociological Foundations of Education* in Contemporary India, New Delhi, Dhanpat Rai Publishers, 1969
9. Saikia, Polee (2019) *Sociological Foundations of Education*, DVS Publishers, Panbazar, Guwahati
10. Sharma, R.N. “*Philosophy and Sociology of Education*”. Surjeet Publications

—x—

## UNIT- 4

### FACTORS OF SOCIAL DISORGANISATION

Space for Learner

#### Unit Structure:

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Objectives
- 4.3 Factors of Social Disorganisation
  - 4.3.1 Confusion between Role and Status
  - 4.3.2 Social Change
  - 4.3.3 Cultural Change
  - 4.3.4 Social Attitude
  - 4.3.5 Social Values
  - 4.3.6 Crisis
- 4.4 Summing Up
- 4.5 Questions and Exercises
- 4.6 References and Suggested Readings

#### 4.1 Introduction:

As you know that, Social disorganization is a universal process. Social disorganization is the opposite of social organization. When the process of social interaction and effective functioning of a group breaks down, there is social disorganization. It may be conceived as a state of conflict among social values and attitudes. Different factors are responsible for social disorganization like social change, cultural change, social attitude, and social values etc.

#### 4.2 Objectives:

After going through this unit, you will be able to—

- *analyse* the factors of social disorganisation,
- *identify* various types and forms of social disorganisation,

- *understand* the role of education in the prevention of social disorganisation.

### **4.3 Factors of Social Disorganisation:**

According to Elliot and Merrill, the major factors of social disorganisation are:–

#### **4.3.1 Confusion between Role and Status:**

In a dynamic society, the social structure is in a process of rapid change. Status and role are not clearly defined and many persons find themselves in situations where no established role patterns exist. So, they are often forced to introduce new roles. This is difficult for the individuals and often dangerous to the society. A dynamic society thus carries within itself as it were, forces of its own disorganisation. When the status and role are clear and well defined, a society is well organised. When the reverse is true, social disorganisation develops.

#### **4.3.2 Social Change:**

Social change is the principal factor of social disorganisation. Social change is closely related to social structure. A changing society is one in which large number of people occupy different statuses and play different roles over a period of time. A changing society also tends to be a disorganised society because of the disparity in the rate of change between the various elements. The structural and other non-material elements of the society are incorporated in the personalities of the members where they assume normative qualities. Structural change of the society implies, that there is a change in the family system or different institutions, like educational, political, religious, financial, etc.

#### **4.3.3 Cultural Change:**

Social change and cultural change are related but not synonymous. Society is made up of human beings in symbolic interaction and culture is the product of this interaction. Changes in culture bring about changes in society also. Society and culture are the parts of the same functioning whole but they are different parts. Social disorganisation is a result of the both social as well as cultural change.

**4.3.4 Social Attitude:**

Social disorganisation also arises from the disparity in the rate of changes between related elements of a dynamic society. When new forms of behaviour threaten accepted patterns, social disorganisation may develop. Social attitude is a process of individual consciousness which determines a real or possible activity of the individual in the social world. So, problem of attitude, i.e. conflict between old and new generation leads to social disorganisation.

**4.3.5 Social Values:**

Social value is another important factor of social disorganisation. Social values are objects which have a meaning for us and which we consider important in our life. The essential element in the value is the social meaning. Certain values are especially important in the organisation and disorganisation of a society. When there is a conflict between old and new values, when there is degradation of values; then social disorganisation occurs.

**4.3.6 Crisis:**

Crisis also produces social disorganisation. A crisis is a serious interruption in the activities of a group, which requires adjustments in patterns of behaviour. In modern society both the individual and the group are faced with the variety of actual or potential interruption in their regular activities. When people are unable to adjust in crisis, then social disorganisation develops in the society.

**STOP TO CONSIDER**

A disorganised society is composed of disorganised individuals. A disorganised society tends to produce confused, disorganised and disoriented personalities. There are different factors of social disorganisation – confusion between role and status, social change, cultural change, social attitude, social values, crisis etc.

**CHECK YOUR PROGRESS**

**Que. 1:** How social change can bring social disorganisation?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Que. 2:** How cultural change can bring social disorganisation?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**4.4 Summing Up:**

- Social disorganisation is a complex process because the breakdown of a group is caused by the same combination of factors that produces it.
- There are different factors of social disorganisation – confusion between role and status, social change, cultural change, social attitude, social values, crisis etc.
- Social change is the principal factor of social disorganisation. Social change is closely related to social structure.
- Social value is another important factor of social disorganisation. Social values are objects which have a meaning for us and which we consider important in our life.

**4.5 Questions and Exercises:**

• **Short answer question:**

1. What are the factors of social disorganization?

- **Long answer question:**

1. Define social disorganization. Explain the factors responsible for social disorganisation.

#### 4.6 References and Suggested Readings:

1. Brown F. J. (1961) *“Educational Sociology”* Second Edition, Prentice- Hall, INC, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Charles E. Tuttle Company, and Tokyo
2. Elliot Mabel Agnes & Merrill Francis Eilsworth (1961) *“Social Disorganisation”* Herper Publishe, Pvt. Ltd.
3. Mathur, S.S: *A Sociological Approach to Indian Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra
4. Ogburn William F. and Nimkoff Meyer F. (1979) : *“A Handbook of Sociology”* Eurasia Publishing House (PVT) LTD. Ram Nagar, New Delhi-55
5. Rao, C.N. Shankar. (2013): *“Sociology of Indian Society”*. S.Chand and Company Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
6. Ruhela, S.P. & K.V. Vyas, *Sociological Foundations of Education* in Contemporary India, New Delhi, Dhanpat Rai Publishers, 1969
7. Saikia, Polee (2019) *Sociological Foundations of Education*, DVS Publishers, Panbazar, Guwahati

—x—

Space for Learner

## UNIT- 5

### TYPES OF SOCIAL DISORGANISATION

#### Unit Structure:

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Objectives
- 5.3 Types of Social Disorganisation
  - 5.3.1 Individual Disorganisation
  - 5.3.2 Family Disorganisation
  - 5.3.3 Community and National Disorganisation
  - 5.3.4 International Disorganisation
- 5.4 Role of Education in the prevention of Social Disorganisation
- 5.5 Summing Up
- 5.6 Questions and Exercises
- 5.7 References and Suggested Readings

#### 5.1 Introduction:

Social Disorganisation is a theoretical perspective. It explains ecological differences in levels of crime based on structural and cultural factors. It also shape the nature of the social order across communities. Social Disorganisation theory asserts that strong levels of connection within a community along with a sense of civic pride motivate individuals to take a more active role in the community therefore acting as a deterrent to crime.

#### 5.2 Objectives:

After going through this unit, you will be able to—

- *identify* the types and forms of social disorganisation,
- *understand* the role of education in the prevention of social disorganisation



### **5.3 Types of Social Disorganisation:**

There are mainly four types of social disorganisation:—

- (i) Individual disorganisation
- (ii) Family disorganisation
- (iii) Community and national disorganisation
- (iv) International disorganisation

#### **5.3.1 Individual Disorganisation:**

A disorganised society is composed of disorganised individuals. A disorganised society tends to produce confused, disorganised and disoriented personalities. The individual's personality develops by learning the approved patterns and roles from other members of the group. When these patterns are confused, he cannot know exactly what is expected from him. Under such conditions, his chances for developing a complete integrated personality are not so easy. As a result, it develops disorganised personalities. Examples of disorganised personalities are— delinquents, adult criminals, sex offender, alcoholic and drug addicts, maladjusted workers, mentally disorganised, peoples with suicidal tendencies etc.

##### **Forms of Individual Disorganisation:**

###### **• Delinquents:**

Delinquents are those categories of children who fall under the age group of 12/13 – 19/20. Criminal behaviour or tendency to commit crime in any society or nation is not only found among the adults, but minor children and adolescents also. These individuals are known as juvenile or young delinquents. They violate the law of the land and commit offences like thefts, gambling, cheating, pick pocketing, murder, robbery, dacoit, destruction of property, violence and assault, intoxication, vagrancy, begging, kidnapping, abduction and sexual offences. The term “Juvenile Delinquent” means a youth, minor in age who deviates seriously from the norms of his culture or society and commits offences such as murder and robbery or those that are strictly age related such as drinking liquor and getting

involved in sexual activities. If they are below the age of 18 years, they are not sent to jail, but to corrective schools.

• **The adult Offenders or Criminals:**

Despite the alarm concerning juvenile delinquency, the public generally have evidenced no similar anxiety over the rise in adult crimes. Adult society wants its younger generation to conform to rules. Yet from a social point of view adult crime must be recognised as an even greater danger. Much juvenile delinquency is related to adolescents itself, whereas adults are presumably old enough to know better. Adult criminals are subverting the purposes of their own adult group to their own selfish ends and promoting social disorganisation in our society, community, state and nations. They themselves are major examples of disorganised individuals for whom some of the important moral values of the community as exemplified in the law have no significant meaning. For example: thieves, robbers, murderers, etc pose great danger to the society.

• **The Sex Offenders:**

Sex and sexual development is a part of every normal individual, and one has to adjust with it. But in the society we have seen that series of crimes related to sex are taking place. The person who is unable to control himself with his sexual development as well as his emotions then he or she is termed as individually disorganised. There is a great deal of chaos in contemporary attitudes towards sex. Times of widespread social change and consequent social and political disorganisation have always been marked by an attempt to throw off rigid sex restraints. Wars, revolutions and general social upheavals are upsetting to human life schemes and social values. As a result, many people apparently seek security through fulfilment. For example; rapist, prostitutes, unmarried mother, unmarried father, sex delinquents etc are referred to as sex offenders.

• **The Alcoholics and the Drug Addicts:**

Alcoholics make up one of the most significant groups of disorganised persons in our country. These unhappy individuals are unable to carry on their occupational and family roles because of their addiction. Alcoholics are not only those in the lowest walks of life but occupy all

social levels. Not all persons who use alcohol are in danger of personal disorganisation. They are those excessive drunkards whose dependence upon alcohol has attained such a degree that it shows a noticeable mental disturbance or an interference with their bodily and mental health, their inter-personal relations and their smooth social and economic functions.

• **The Maladjusted Worker:**

The way a man makes his living is an important aspect of his life. Many important group relationships occur on the job or in direct connection with it. In an industrial society, millions of men and women work for long hours in the factory and their personalities are subjected to tension that are unique both in kind and in intensity. Individual disorganisation may thus come to the man or woman in the factory, either in the form of physical disability or more often, through boredom, dissatisfaction and apathy. For example, industrial conflict is the symbolic culmination of social disorganisation in industry. It is a collective expression of the cumulative aspects of social disorganisation.

• **The Working Women:**

The role of women in society is still defined largely in their functions as wife and mother. And many women wish to be recognised as persons as well as members of their own sex. Anything which interferes with women's biological and sex roles produces a certain amount of social disorganisation.

• **The Child Labourers:**

The disorganising aspects of child labour may be classified as the physical hazards, the mental handicaps of early employment and moral dangers. Physical hazards are subjected to personal injuries which lead them to disorganised personalities. The mental handicaps are, where compulsory education standards are low and early child labour is permitted, children are deprived of the education from which they would derive great mental satisfaction. As a result, mental handicaps create disorganised personality.

• **The mentally disorganised:**

A sizeable share of the persons who fail to adjust according to the definition of normal, fall into the classification of mentally disorganised. This classification is further divided into –

**a. The Mentally Deficient:**

The mentally deficient are lacking in intelligence. This kind of individual has not deteriorated or revolted against the society.

**b. The Mentally Ill or Mentally Deranged:**

These are those persons whose intelligence has deteriorated. Some persons escape from reality through mental illness because they are unable to adjust to the stresses and strains which life imposes. Other mental illnesses occur as a result of brain damage caused either by injury such as infection, accident or poison like alcohol and drugs. So, both the mentally deficient and mentally ill persons are regarded as disorganised individuals.

• **Suicide:**

Suicide is the term applied to “all cases of death resulting directly or indirectly from a positive or negative act of the victim himself, which he knows will produce this result.” Suicide is the final and irreversible culmination of personal disorganisation. It is the last stage in the series of progressive change in attitude, from a blind and unthinking love of life. In our society, suicide indicates a disorganisation of the ties that bind the members of the organised group together. Suicide has been further classified by the insight of the Psycho-analysts. To them it is the final expression of self-concept which turns into active self-hatred.

**5.3.2 Family Disorganisation:**

The family, composed of husband, wife and children, is the basic biological and social unit in our society. Normally every individual enters in a family life to lead a happy successful life, which is not always possible. Due to various reasons when conflict and problems arise among the members in the family, then family disorganisation develops. For example, family tension, desertion, divorce, after divorce disorganisation, etc can all cause family disorganisation.

**Following are the Various Forms of Family Disorganisation:**

Space for Learner

• **Family Tensions:**

Family tensions are limited to conflicts between husband and wife. As such they either threaten the stability of the marriage or result in its eventual disintegration. There are other family tensions – between parent and children, between siblings, between in-laws and members of the larger kith and kin groups. Sometimes these other tensions cause conflict between husband and wife. Family tensions constitute the real, as distinguished from the legal causes for family disorganisation.

• **Desertion:**

Desertion and Divorce are the final tragic formal announcement of family disorganisation. Desertion is an unofficial indication of a dissolved marriage relationship. But it is at the same time a penal offence. A man can be sent to prison for deserting his family. So, desertion means irresponsible departure from the home of either husband or wife, leaving the family to support for itself.

• **Divorce:**

Divorce in our society is the final and legal termination of marriage. Divorce is also a tragic breakdown of a family relationship. Divorce occurs after the family is disorganised, when one or both parties have a strong desire to dissolve their relationship. They do not occur in happy, well-adjusted families. In other words, divorce merely gives a legal status to a marriage already disrupted.

• **After Divorce Disorganisation:**

Disorganisation does not end with divorce. The dissolution of the marriage contract is the final outcome of a long process of family disorganisation. But it is final to the participants only in the sense that it represents a formal break in a previously intimate relationship. Divorce is the end to the marriage for its individual participants. It merely represents a change from one status to another, but the roles associated with the new status are often difficult.

### **5.3.3 Community and National Disorganisation:**

A society is a combination of many small and large groups, associations, organizations, etc. When there is a lack of communication and interaction among these groups, then social disorganization develops in the society. Social disorganisation is the decline, breakdown and dissolution of the interpersonal relationships binding human beings together in groups. The community involves two related aspects – the Geographical and the Psychological. In a geographical sense, the community is a contiguous distribution of people and institutions. In a socio-psychological sense, it may be regarded in terms of the psychological elements that make it a living entity. For example –The Rural Community disorganization, The Rural Community Institutional Disorganisation, Corruption, Crime and the community, Mobility, Migration, Unemployment, Religious minorities, Racial Minorities etc.

#### **Following are the Various Forms of Community and National Disorganisation:**

- **The Rural Community Disorganization (The Agricultural Revolution):** Most individual and social disorganisation occurs in urban communities. There are fewer disorganised individuals, fewer divorces, fewer slums, and relatively less social disorganisation in the rural areas where social control is more personal and no one can hide behind the anonymity which characterizes city life. Farm life virtually requires a stable and orderly existence if the farm work is carried on successfully. Community disruptions and dislocations have occurred in farm areas also. There have been agricultural depressions and disturbing rural social changes. The rural community is important to city people, because our whole country is enmeshed in a rural hinterland. The metropolitan areas and the larger and smaller cities are all dependent upon rural production for their rice, bread, meat, vegetables, fruit, milk etc.

- **The Rural Community Institutional Disorganisation:** The changes in agricultural methods and the shifts in rural population have had a profound impact on the institutions serving the farmer's need. Many of

the rural institutions affected were in villages and smaller towns; some, like the rural religious institutions and rural schools were in the open area. These are rapidly vanishing and rural communities are becoming “Reurbanized”, means the farmer’s and their children’s increased contact with town and city life has changed rural life.

Some of the decline in rural institutions has made for major changes in the rural way of life. In numerous instances rural institutions lag far behind than those available in urban centres. This fact also has an impact on the rural community because many people desert the farm as much for better opportunities for health, education and recreation as they do to escape farm work. For the present day well-to-do farmer, life is not greatly different from life in the city. Rural institutions meanwhile are falling behind in fulfilling vital needs of rural people in many areas. For example, one of the results of urban industrial and commercial expansion has been the decline of locally owned banks in villages and small towns.

• **Political Corruption:** Modern political corruption is part of the larger process of social disorganisation. The traditional forms of democratic local government were established in a society where social mobility was limited, the population was homogeneous and the majority of citizens were interested in the central social and political problems. Political corruption in a technical sense is the wilful exploitation of political office or opportunity for personal gain. Corruption involves an unlawful act and a tangible or intangible benefit. The machinery of government is manipulated in the interests of predatory groups. Politicians, criminals and businessman employ the resources of the community for their own ends, rather than for those of the general welfare. The civic conscience has changed under the impact of social disorganisation.

Political corruption is an expression of a breakdown in community attitudes and structures. Corruption is not confined to political figures, who may have higher ethical standards than many persons not actively engaged in government. Political corruption is in a sense a product of the mores of an acquisitive society, where financial values are predominant and the pragmatic sanction of behaviour lies in its monetary success.

• **Crime and the Community:** The crime rate is a major index to community disorganisation because it is a measure of the degree to which the citizens fail to live up to the community's moral requirements. Crimes are sometimes defined as negative mores. They are violations of the moral values of the group which are forbidden and punished by law. They are types of conduct which are considered offences against the general welfare, and persons convicted of crime tend to be branded by the conviction as well as by any punishment which may be exacted. The community with a high crime rate is likewise one in which a sizeable share of the citizens flouts the important social values. On the other hand, the community is to a large degree responsible for the crime rate. Community disorganisation is measured by the extent to which life and property are not safe and political corruption is abundant, while the losses sustained by crime undermine the general well-being.

• **Mobility:** Man is the most mobile of all creatures. The nature of man's social life is partially determined by the restlessness that drives him from place to place. Mobility involves changes in position that bring about new contacts and stimulations. Mobility involves psychological as well as physical changes – new ideas, experiences, and outlooks. Mental contact and communication are the important considerations in mobility, as they are in society itself. Social mobility breaks group relationships if it is of an extreme form. This breaking of group relationships causes many problems in a mobile and secular society. When persons shift rapidly from place to place, they lose contact with their family. As a result, disorganisation develops. When many individuals lose their ties with a settled society, the entire social structure may be broken down. Persons who move after short intervals from one residence to another within a city have a higher rate of personal disorganisation than newcomers from other communities. In other words, these disorganised personalities create community disorganisation.

• **Migration:** Migration has played an important role in the development of society. There is a significant difference between early migration and modern migration. The ancient migrations involved entire societies that carried their culture with them. Social disorganisation was largely absent at that time, because social structure was solidly maintained.



But modern migration is not like that. It has become an individual or a family enterprise, rather than an organized group movement. For this reason social disorganisation has resulted.

Culture conflict is fundamental to the disorganisation of the migrant and of the society into which he enters. Culture conflict is especially apparent in the large city, where there is a large immigrant population. If the immigrant is mature when he enters the new society, he may have great difficulty in adjusting to its new culture.

• **Unemployment:** So far as our civilization is concerned, unemployment has been a community problem for long in a local and national sense. Attempts to deal with it have been confined to the local, state and national resources. But these attempts have been made more with the idea of alleviating unemployment rather than with the idea of preventing it. When the problem has been relatively less, each local community has usually tried to “look after its own”. When communities have been unable to meet the problem because the number in need of relief exhausted local resources, state governments have usually come to their rescue. Unemployment is an economic phenomenon which is not contained within national boundaries. Social planning and government spending will be essential to achieve continued full employment. And this unemployment problem is a community disorganisation of a nation.

• **Religious and Racial Minorities:** Development of religious minorities are also another form of community disorganisation. Racial minorities are also another important form of community disorganisation. Race involves a permanent and visible division of humanity to which long established patterns of prejudice are attached. Race is the term applied to the four (4) major divisions of human population and refers to the differences in skin colour, head shape, nose shape, structure of the hair and other features. The four races are –The Caucasoid race, the Negroid race, The Mongoloid race, and the Australoid race. Racial differentiations have caused much conflict and led to many unscientific conclusions about racial superiority and inferiority. Racial minorities include– Educational discrimination, Economic discrimination, Health discrimination, etc.

### 5.3.4 International Disorganisation:

International disorganisation is another important type of social disorganisation. When there is a problem of international peace, harmony, brotherhood, border dispute, problem in exchange, problems related to border, political issues etc. between or among different nations, then social disorganisation develops. For example, revolution, totalitarianism, war etc.

**The Major Forms of International Disorganisation are discussed below–**

- **Revolution:** Revolution is social disorganisation in its most literal sense. Revolution, Totalitarianism and War are social movements growing out of social disorganisation on a supernatural scale. In varying degrees, they are the results of a breakdown in world consensus and involve different forms of social disorganisation, all of which have worldwide implications. Revolution breaks down the basic consensus of the society. Social and moral codes disintegrate. In a complete revolution, all the major institutions undergo drastic changes.

- **Totalitarianism:** Totalitarianism may be defined as the absolute and authoritarian method or methods by which a revolutionary political organisation takes over a government. The new government is thus authoritarian. Totalitarianism aims to take over the power quickly and involves total or absolute control over those governed.

Totalitarianism is another major form of international disorganisation. Under totalitarianism the decisions of the leader possess the authority of law. The roots of totalitarianism are complex. They are historical, cultural and also psychological.

- **War:** War is social disorganisation in its most violent form. War is the formal disruption of the relationships that bind nations together like in peacetime harmony. War disturbs world harmony, international trade, the free exchange of ideas and the communication between people that is so vital to human relationships. War disorganises an international structure. War destroys stability between nations. War and its attendant hatreds

constitute the strongest barrier against the peaceful grouping of the people in the world.

Space for Learner

#### **STOP TO CONSIDER**

- Desertion is an unofficial indication of a dissolved marriage relationship. But it is at the same time a penal offence.
- Totalitarianism may be defined as the absolute and authoritarian method or methods by which a revolutionary political organisation takes over a government. Totalitarianism is one of the major forms of international disorganisation. Under totalitarianism the decisions of the leader possess the authority of law.

#### **5.4 Role of Education in the prevention of Social Disorganisation:**

- The curriculum of a school must be able to reflect the aspirations of the society in the positive direction.
- The objectives underlying the curriculum must satisfy the mental and physical needs of the children.
- Sex education through trained personnel provides the platform for satisfaction of their sexual curiosity.
- Awareness should be developed in the minds of parents regarding the concept of sex education.
- Proper guidance and counselling cells, if maintained in the educational institutions can go a long way in identifying and solving psychological problems among the adolescents.
- Proper counselling must be provided to the families for maintaining a proper balance in family life.
- Education helps to change the mindset of the people towards the children of divorced families to control after divorce disorganisation.
- Children of divorced or broken families need to be tended with proper counselling for better adjustment in the society mentally and physically, especially in child guidance clinics.

Space for Learner

- The rural people need to be made aware about modern agricultural science and techniques through NGOs and government initiatives.
- The education system in the rural areas must be intensified and improved technologically to make the people employable. Agriculture must be included in the curriculum through diversification at the secondary stage keeping in mind the need and importance of agriculture in villages.
- Bank must function as the funding agency for fulfilment of the farmer's agricultural needs in rural areas. There should be concerted effort among the villagers and the government to revitalise the banks to make it at par with those in the urban areas.
- Education must be made to cater to different needs of the masses to make the people employable, which further helps in controlling crime, migration etc.
- International cultural exchange programmes of students and teachers need to be conducted for better exchange of ideas and culture.
- Peace conferences and programmes need to be conducted by the respective governments for better understanding of different problem areas.

**CHECK YOUR PROGRESS**

**Que. 1:** Discuss the types and forms of social disorganization.

.....  
.....  
.....

**Que. 2:** Write the role of education in prevention of social disorganization.

.....  
.....  
.....

### 5.5 Summing Up:

- Crisis produces social disorganisation. A crisis is a serious interruption in the activities of a group, which requires adjustments in patterns of behaviour.
- The various types of social disorganisation are classified as – individual disorganisation, family disorganisation, community disorganisation and international disorganisation.

### 5.6 Questions and Exercises:

- **Short answer questions:**

1. What is individual disorganisation?
2. What is family disorganisation?
3. What is community disorganisation?
4. What is international disorganisation?

- **Long answer questions:**

1. Discuss in detail the major types of social disorganisation with appropriate examples.
2. State the role of education in prevention and control of social disorganisation.

### 5.7 References and Suggested Readings:

1. Brown F. J. (1961) “*Educational Sociology*” Second Edition, Prentice- Hall, INC, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Charles E. Tuttle Company, Tokyo
2. Elliot Mabel Agnes & Merrill Francis Eilsworth (1961) “*Social Disorganisation*” Herper Publishe, Pvt. Ltd.
3. Mathur, S.S: *A Sociological Approach to Indian Education*, Vinod Pustak Mandir, Agra

Space for Learner

4. Ogburn William F. and Nimkoff Meyer F. (1979) : “*A Handbook of Sociology*” Eurasia Publishing House (PVT) LTD. Ram Nagar, New Delhi-55
5. Rao, C.N. Shankar. (2013): “*Sociology of Indian Society*”. S.Chand and Company Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
6. Ruhela, S.P. & K.V. Vyas, *Sociological Foundations of Education* in Contemporary India, New Delhi, Dhanpat Rai Publishers, 1969
7. Saikia, Polee (2019) *Sociological Foundations of Education*, DVS Publishers, Panbazar, Guwahati
8. [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

—x—