327/01

SOCIOLOGY – SOC 1

UNIT 1 - ACQUIRING CULTURE

A.M. TUESDAY, 16 January 2007

(1 hour)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer all questions from **ONE** option only.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

Option 1: Families and Culture

Parents and teenage children

The family is regarded as an important agent of primary socialisation. Young children learn what is expected of them by experiencing rewards and criticism. They may also imitate the behaviour of parents. As children grow up, they may be influenced by other agencies of socialisation.

Among the most common argument between parents and teenagers are those regarding untidiness. Parents are driven mad by the school blazer dropped on the hall floor, the wet towel dropped next to the bath or the mould growing in the week-old coffee cup.

Different parents deal with teenage behaviour in different ways. Some don't mind clearing up after their teens. They see it as carrying on the childcare they've been doing all along.

But, if parents are determined to teach teenagers to be tidy, one way may be to let them experience the consequences of mess.

If the example set in the rest of the house is to be clean and tidy, then s/he'll probably decide to clean up every now and then, too.
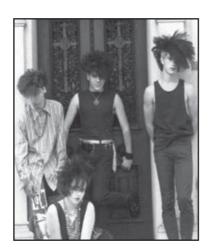
Adapted from http://www.bbc.co.uk/parenting

1.   Answer **all** of the following questions:

   (a)   Explain what is meant by the term **primary socialisation.**   [5]

   (b)   Using the extract above, identify ways in which parents may socialise children to be tidy.
                                                                                                    [5]

   (c)   Using relevant examples, outline and explain the changes that have taken place in parent child relationships since the 1950s.   [20]

   (d)   Discuss the view that the family is the most important agent of socialisation.   [30]

Option 2: Youth Culture

Goths – contemporary Youth Culture

Goth is a contemporary **youth subculture** found in many countries. It began in the United Kingdom during the early 1980s. Goth subculture is unusual because it has lasted so long compared to other youth cultures.

Gothic music includes a number of different styles; but popular bands have a tendency towards a "dark" sound. Styles of dress within the subculture vary. Goths will identify themselves with leather, rips and tears, and some romantic, magical or cross-sexual clothing. The dominant colour in clothes, makeup and hair is black. Jewellery will consist of mythical or death symbols. Goths may be tattooed and pierced.

Defining an ideology of the gothic subculture is difficult for several reasons. First is the importance of mood for those involved. Goths are generally attracted to dark, mysterious, and morbid imagery and mood. This is seen in their taste for 'dark' fiction about vampires and monsters which can be seen in novels and horror films, as well as their taste in music.

Adapted from http://en.wikipedia.org/

2. Answer **all** of the following questions:

(a) Explain what is meant by the term **youth subculture.** [5]

(b) Using the extract above, identify characteristics of the Goth subculture. [5]

(c) Using relevant examples, outline and explain changes in youth cultures since the 1950s. [20]

(d) Discuss the view that youth cultures are different from mainstream cultures. [30]

Turn over.

Option 3: Community and Culture

Language and culture

A recent study shows that the future of Welsh language is threatened by the fact that many parents are not speaking in their own language to their children.

"We found that many Welsh-speaking parents were not transmitting the language to their children," says Dr Delyth Morris, who led the study. "This is particularly the case in families where only one parent speaks Welsh." Language development is affected by **socialisation**.

Researchers found that a number of factors affect children's learning of the language including the amount of time spent with the Welsh-speaking parent, the amount of contact they have with grandparents who speak Welsh, and whether the family's friends and neighbours speak Welsh or not.

Other factors which affect language learning were also discovered. It was found that the number of Welsh speakers in the surrounding community, alongside the use of television, DVDs, computers and books significantly affected children's success in learning the Welsh language.

Source: Adapted from Morris: ***Welsh Language Socialization within the Family***

3. Answer **all** of the following questions.

(a) Explain what is meant by the term **socialisation**. [5]

(b) Using the extract above, identify factors that may affect the language development of children. [5]

(c) Using relevant examples, outline and explain factors that contribute towards national identity. [20]

(d) Discuss reasons for social change taking place within communities. [30]