

SOCIAL GROUPS

Social group

- Is a basic social unit when two or more persons interacting with each other, fulfilling common goals
- Two or more persons
- Interact with each other
- Influence each other
- Common goals to achieve

Characteristics

- Sense of unity
- Collective perception
- Common interests, values
- Similarity of behaviour
- Cooperation
- Social control emerges over behaviour

Group structure

- Based on stability, becomes structured
- Structure based on communication
 - Communication essential in transforming information
- Vertical communication
- Flat communication

Group functions

- Participation
- Job enrichment
- Handling of conflicting situations

Classification of groups

- Summer classification
 - In group
 - Out group
- Cooley's classification
 - Primary group
 - Secondary group

Primary group

- Intimate, face to face relationship
- Play role in social nature of a person
- Expressed as We
- Important for child's personality

Characteristics

- Closeness
- Small in size
- Stable in nature
- Continuity in relationship
- Common aims
- Control over group members

Importance

- Develop personality
- Efficiency improves
- Satisfaction of total needs
- Socialization process takes place
- Individual acquires attitudes of kind, tolerance etc.

Secondary group

- Made with some aims, after the achievement group will not exist
- Relationship competitive, casual and impersonal

Characteristics

- Self dependence among members
- Large size
- Limited responsibility
- Formed with definite objective
- Individuality develops due to self interest

Importance

- Rules formed for efficiency
- Delegation of authority, coordination and planning
- Breaks barriers of class, caste, religion
- One can develop himself by his talent

Role of Primary group in sickness / rehab

- Supporting the patient
- Takes participation in treatment
- Fulfill
 - physiological needs
 - Belonging needs
 - Safety and security needs
 - Emotional needs
 - Economic needs

Role of Secondary Group in Sickness / Rehab

- Health care professional
- Fulfil specific needs like cognitive, esteem, self actualization
 - Counselling
 - Appropriate treatment
 - Make independent as much as possible