

Think twice...

He who is unable to live in society or who has no need because he is sufficient for himself, must be either a beast or a god

▪ Aristotle

- ✓ Involves local functions: social control/ social sanctions; social involvement; socialization; productions; distributions & economics consumptions
- ✓ The characteristics of a society are highly influenced by historical & geographical factors; local authorities; its members & other macro influences (i.e economic trends; weather; politics etc.)

INTERACTIONS & TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN THE HUMAN BEINGS & THE COMMUNITY

5 functions of a community

1. Production, distribution, consumption.
 - Community provides means to make a living for its members (agric, industry, services)
2. Socialization
 - Through which norms & values are instilled (tradition, modelling, formal education)
3. Social control
 - Means to enforce adherence to community values (group pressure or formal law)

Individuals & the family are basic units of the society (community); influencing each other

Society/community - the concept

Society = a social community

Community = all the people living in a specific locality (a Latin word == fellowship)

More than 1 person interacting within one geographic location & have social bonding / relationship

4. Social participation (involvement)
 - Community fulfills the need for companionship (neighbourhood, public place, religious institutions, business etc)
5. Mutual Support
 - enables cooperation among & between members

✓ May influence the characteristics of the family living within

✓ Examples????

✓ The work culture of the Japanese? Our immigrant workers? Our youth?

✓ During the industrious era:

➢ The nuclear family system

Living one own home; own rules & responsibilities

- Men were head of households, breadwinners; women were the home manageress
- Reduced family size - usage of contraceptive method by the women; women got involved in out of home economic activities
- Moderate divorce rate

Social change

1. Is a product of transitions of the era == from the pre industrious to post industrious eras

2. Toffler (1980) categorized the social change into 3 classifications:

1. 1st wave
2. 2nd wave
3. 3rd wave

Each wave has its own characteristics

✓ Post Industrious Era

■ Family at the junction of industrious & info-techno era

➢ Existing of various family forms

➢ Reduced in size & number of nuclear families

➢ Average number of children = 3 (vs 6 before)

➢ Later age of marriage ; divorce rate is high

➢ Many remain singles

➢ Vague gender roles (shared roles between H & W)

✓ During the pre industrious era:

• Family depended on the natural environment for food

- Family ecosystem was highly adaptive doing agricultural activities & hunting
- Extended family; big size == free labour for the farms
- Family living pattern was based upon the patrilocal of matrilocal trend (living with one spouse's family of origin)
- Arranged marriage; divorce was rare

• The role of childcare centers; maids = VERY important; esp. with > 50% involvement of women in the economic sector

• Family faces the issues related to caring for the elderly

• Life is centered around communication - information & technology (ICT)

Community & Human Development

- Reciprocal relationships between individual; family & the community
- 1. Community Economy
 - Highly influential
 - Types of job; consumerism; housing; employment (i.e Damansara heights; Country Heights vs. Sg Besar; vs. Kuala Pilah; vs Baling; Gua Musang??)
 - Poverty, Recession; infra-structure; pollutions; migration
 - "specific culture"; class & status

3. Social Density

- Community contains diversified roles for children to learn from & for parents to draw upon
- Homogeneity vs heterogeneity (pluralism)
- Multi generations family provide > social density roles (homemaker; provider; organization officer) as compared to families with one adult generation

2. Geographic Locations

- Urban/rural/sub-urban; marginalized society
- Q of life is determined by the environmental Q
- Seen through the natural, human constructed & socio-cultural environments
- i.e Urban = natural environment has been transformed; rural? Sub-urban?

- Parents in multi generations family have better chances to receive social support from the system
- Children who live within (smaller) environment with adults of various age groups are blessed with enriched "social environment"
- Social intensity of a given community determines the availability of support that can be received by the family

□ Rural:

1. Agric activities = small scale? Small scale industries" Food processing; improved facilities
2. Support system; family relationships; kinships system is still upheld.
3. Idle land; old folks are left behind

Environmental Stability

- Stability of a context determines the richness of a child's and parent's social experience
- Difficult to recreate a social lanscape that has been ruined by war/ disaster
- Tough to rebuild social network

Family-Community Interface

- Family-Local government
 - Provision of enough & conducive space & infrastructure/amenities for human dev.
 - Protection/ reservation
 - Restoring, Licensing
 - Rules / regulations === Legal / policy

Child care

- An indicator of the quality & quantity of the community
- Informal vs. formal settings
- Malaysians? Live-in maids; neighbours; family members; nurseries; preschool; after-school transits; at-work settings ve..
HOME ALONE

Family-work

- Community may help to sensitize the needs of dual career families .e child-care facilities at the work place
- Transportation
- Housing
- Economics effect
- Unemployment

The neighbourhood & support system

- 40 houses surrounding us
- Rights of neighbours
- Functions: the helper in times of need
- Happy vs sad occasions
- Maintain social control & standards
- Good neighborhood = one that provides positive learning context of life (strong & healthy)

Home - School

- a strong home-school mesosystem will benefit the child (> academic achievement)
- PIBG (PTA)
- Class size; teaching method => curriculum? Maths & Science in English
- Can encourage & discourage child's success
- Issue of dissegregation? Streaming? Democratization of education? Vocational training
- School-related issues=== gangsterism? Truancy?
- What is EXCELLENCE???

Community Ecology & Family Social Pathology

- Social Pathology = problems & dysfunctions related to Q of social environment
- At risk versus protective environment
- Mortality rate of infants
- Juvenile delinquency
- Child abuse / domestic violent
- Poverty? Crime related incidents