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

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

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)
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

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?

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

- 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 landscape 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.g. 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 dissecgation? 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