CLASSIFICATION IN SOCIOLOGY

CLASSIFICATION OF GROUPS

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INTRODUCTION :-

The concept of group is central to sociology. A group is a collection of people interacting together in an orderly way on the basis of their expectations about each others behavior.

According to oxford dictionary of sociology a group is a number of individuals defined by formal or informal criteria of membership to share a feeling of unity or are bound together in relatively stable pattern of interaction the latter criteria is necessary in order to distinguish social groups from other aggregates.

CRITERIA OF GROUP GIVEN BY R.K MERTON

1 A group refers to a number of pupil who interact with another in accord with established patterns.

2 Second criteria of group is that the interacting persons define themselves as members.

3 Third criteria is that the persons in interaction be defined by others as belonging to the group these others including fellow members and non fellow members.

Definition of social group According to T.B Bottomore A social group may be defined as an aggregate of individuals and which definite relations exist between the individuals compromising it and each individual is conscious of the group itself and its symbols .

QUASI GROUP DEFINED BY T.B BOTTOMORE

The aggregate which lacks structure organization and whose members are unaware or less aware of the existence of the group in for example social status social classes age and sex groups are example of quasi groups but these example suggest that the frontier between group and quasi group is fluid and variable quasi groups may give rise to organize social groups as for example social classes give rise to political parties or the feminie sex group to feminist associations are they themselves may become fully organized groups as for example age groups which become organized age sets in some primitive societies.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY GROUP BY C.H COOLEY

Primary group According to C .H cooley By primary groups l mean those characterized by intermediate face-to-face association and cooperation. They are primary in several sense but chiefly in that they are fundamental in forming the social nature and ideals of the individual.
Characteristics of primary group

1 Physical proximity
2 Smallness of the group
3 Duration of the relationship

The character of primary relation

1 Identity of ends
2 Relationship is in end itself
3 The relationship is personal
4 The relationship is inclusive
5 A relationship is spontaneous

SECONDARY GROUPS

According to cooley secondary groups are large aggregates like social classes indeed categories of people rather than social groups proper were included by Cooley but specially if they are bound by a normative order and display interaction among the members in which case the constituent an association kind of secondary group, examples are trade union a learned society.

Characteristics of secondary group

1 Members of secondary groups have Relatively limited formal and impersonal relationship with one another.

2 Secondary groups are specific or specialised interest groups.

3 Relationship is a mean to an end.

IN GROUP AND OUT GROUP BY SUMNER

Propounded The concept of in group and Outgroup. In the In groups term WE is used. Relationship among the members of in group is determined by the sense of duty the feelings of unity friendship and cooperation is found amongst the members of in group.

There are some groups which can be termed outgroup towards which the individual has feeling of indifference competition distance and sometimes conflict usually the individual is prejudiced towards out group.

MEMBERSHIP AND NON MEMBERSHIP GROUP GIVEN BY R.K MERTON

Merton gave this classification according to which an individual at the time of birth gets memberships of few groups like family, village, caste or religion these are called membership groups.

NON Membership group R.K Merton Call these other groups as non membership groups one in which a man lives, acts and norms and values of which are imbibed by him but when he tries to leave the norms and standards of his own group and imitates those of non membership group.

CONCLUSION :-

Groups are units of society and every human being is a member of one or more than one group their behavior is a reflection of the structure of the society they live in the degree of closeness and the frequency with which they interact among themselves will determine the type of group they belong to.

A group is always formed by the individuals who interact and this interaction is affected by the fact that they are a unit.

Thank you…