Sociology: An Introduction

The basics of the study of Sociology
Defining Sociology

• Sociology is the scientific study of human society and interactions
  • Applies the principles of the Scientific Method to study the ways in which humans interact with each other and as part of a group
  • Specifically focuses on the roles of individuals, groups, institutions
Defining Society

• A Society is a large social grouping that shares the same geographical territory and is subject to the same political authority and dominant cultural expectations.
Examining Society

- Looking at the variety of things that influence peoples lives
  - Family
  - Ethnicity
  - Class
  - Gender
  - Religion
The Role of Sociologists

• Sociologists apply scientific method and come up with theories of human interaction, then collect evidence to either prove or disprove their theories
  • Example. A researcher trying to explain why females tend to do better than males in school

• Sociologists look for relationships and connections
The Role of Sociologists

• Sociologists try to come up with explanations for some of societies biggest questions and problems
  • Inequality
  • Deviance
  • Group Dynamics
  • Relationships
  • Conflict
  • Connections