

**Warm-up**



» Take the Human Nature Opinion Survey

Warm-up



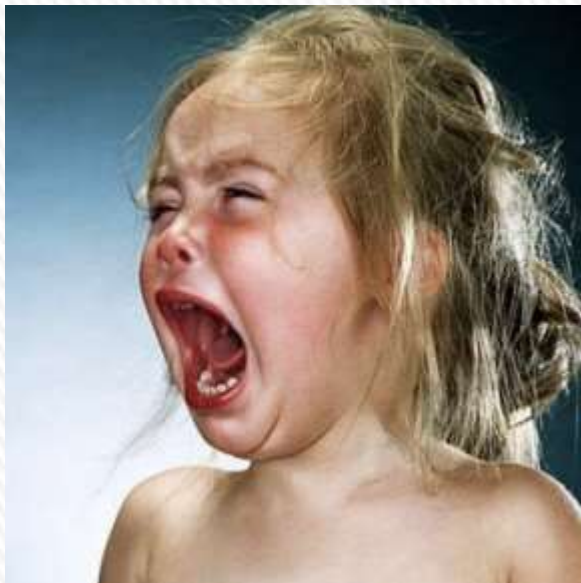


# SOCIALIZATION

## theories

**“Man is the only one that knows nothing, that can learn nothing without being taught. He can neither speak nor walk nor eat, and in short he can do nothing at the prompting of nature only, but weep”**

**-Pliney the Elder**  
Roman Scholar



» **Socialization=preparation for newcomers to become members of an existing group and to think, feel and act in ways that group consider appropriate.**



Reminder... “textbook” definition

<b>Theoretical Perspective</b>	<b>View of Socialization</b>
<b>Functionalism</b>	<b>Stresses how socialization contributes to a stable society.</b>
<b>Conflict Theory</b>	<b>View socialization as a way for the powerful to keep things the same.</b>
<b>Symbolic Interactionism</b>	<b>Holds that socialization is the major determinant of human nature</b>

# Theoretical perspectives on Socialization

- » A number of theories exist to explain how people become socialized and develop a sense of self.
- » *Your **self** is your conscious awareness of possessing a distinct identity that separates you and your environment from other members of society.*

self



- » We have seen that while both are important, it is society that makes people “human”.
- » We have to learn how to be social, just like we have to learn everything else.
- » We become members of the human community through these three things
  - > Language
  - > Social interaction
  - > Physical human contact

# Nature vs. Nurture



Certain Sociologists specialize in the study of how we socialize specifically...

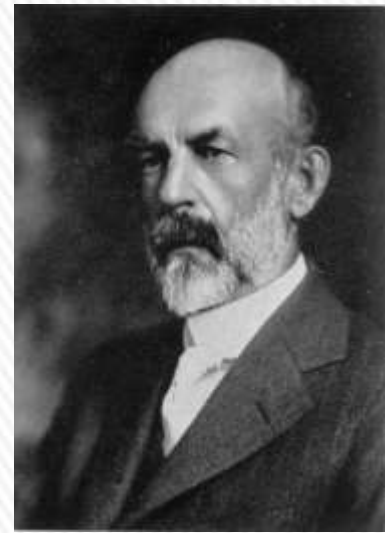
» They are all concerned with how we develop a sense of self.

» Here are the big three. >



# #1 Charles Horton

## Cooley



- » Mr. Socialization
- » Interactionist... think back to Chapter One... he is concerned with small interactions...how one small personal event leads to another and forms our social reality
- » **“It is a success to be one”**, in other words after society is “done with you” if you can keep your individuality you have succeeded.
- » Most important contribution to sociology is one of the big concepts... THE LOOKING-GLASS SELF



# LOOKING GLASS SELF

- » Explain sense
- » LGS is  
by wh  
image  
how v  
to oth

## The Looking Glass Self

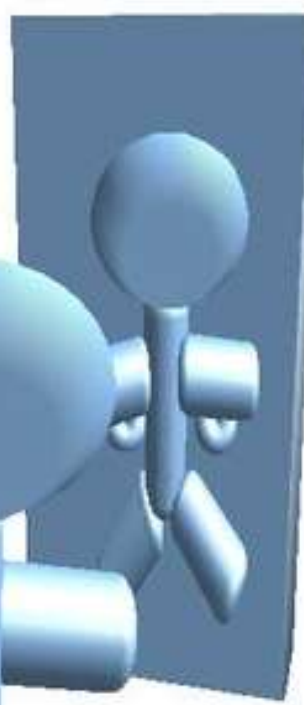
How my mom and dad see me.



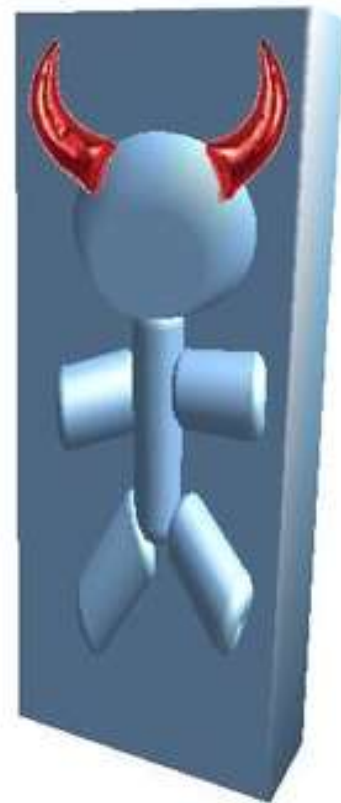
How my girlfriend sees me.



How my older brother sees me.



How my ex-girlfriend sees me.



» **Other people act as a social mirror in which we react to how others react to us.**

> **1<sup>st</sup> we imagine how we appear to others**

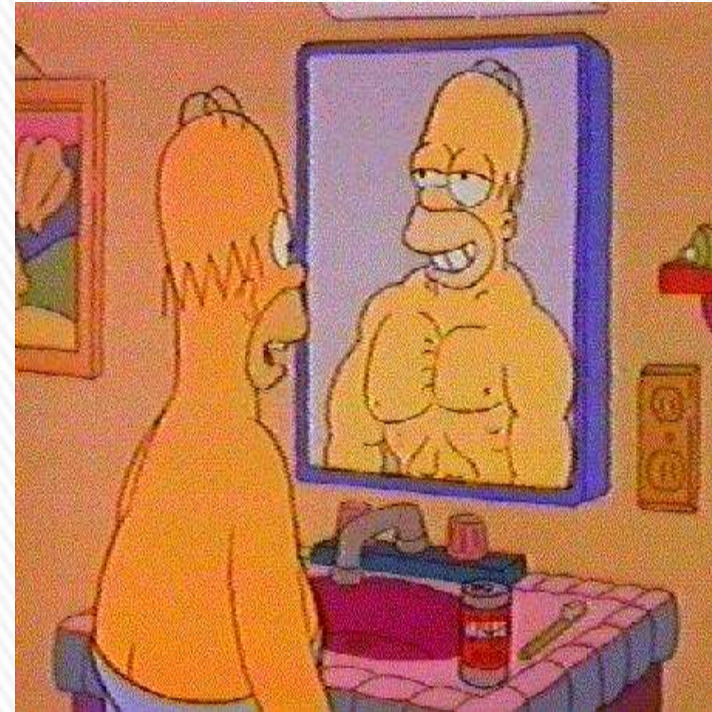
+ We take a selfie- then we analyze and edit it to make us appear more desirable (prettier, better background etc)

> **2<sup>nd</sup> we imagine the reaction of others to our imagined appearance**

+ If I use this filter I look tanner, hides my acne, this is my better side etc. = more likes and comments

> **3<sup>rd</sup> finally we evaluate ourselves according to how we imagine others have judged us**

+ If our image passes all the “tests” we post it and then determine our self-worth from the likes and comments





## » Significant others

- > Those people whose reactions are the most important to you
- > In childhood these would be your parents, grandparents, teachers, siblings, playmates
- > Teenagers place heavy reliance on their peers
- > The variety of significant others for adults is greater ranging from spouses, parents, friends, to ministers and employers and employees.



In other words... do you worry about  
what others/ society thinks?????

Sadly Yes! But *Remember... it sounds  
cliché, but*

**“If you don’t love yourself,  
how can others love you?”**

*Be comfortable in your skin when you are  
around others!!!*

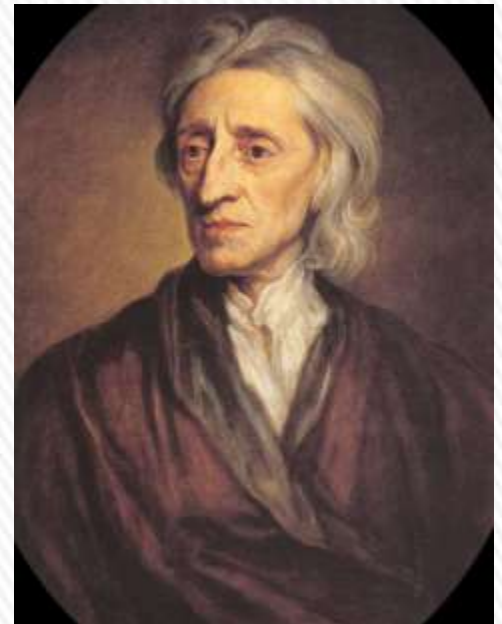


- » Anorexic who sees him/herself as overweight while society does not...
- » Someone embarrassed to dance in public...
- » A girl afraid to be seen without makeup...
- » WHY DOES IT MATTER...
  - > Because they are all afraid of how society will “see” them...
  - > *Cooley also notes that although this process starts in childhood (from parents), it continues throughout life (society, friends, spouses, mothers/fathers-in-laws).*

Examples of LGS... >

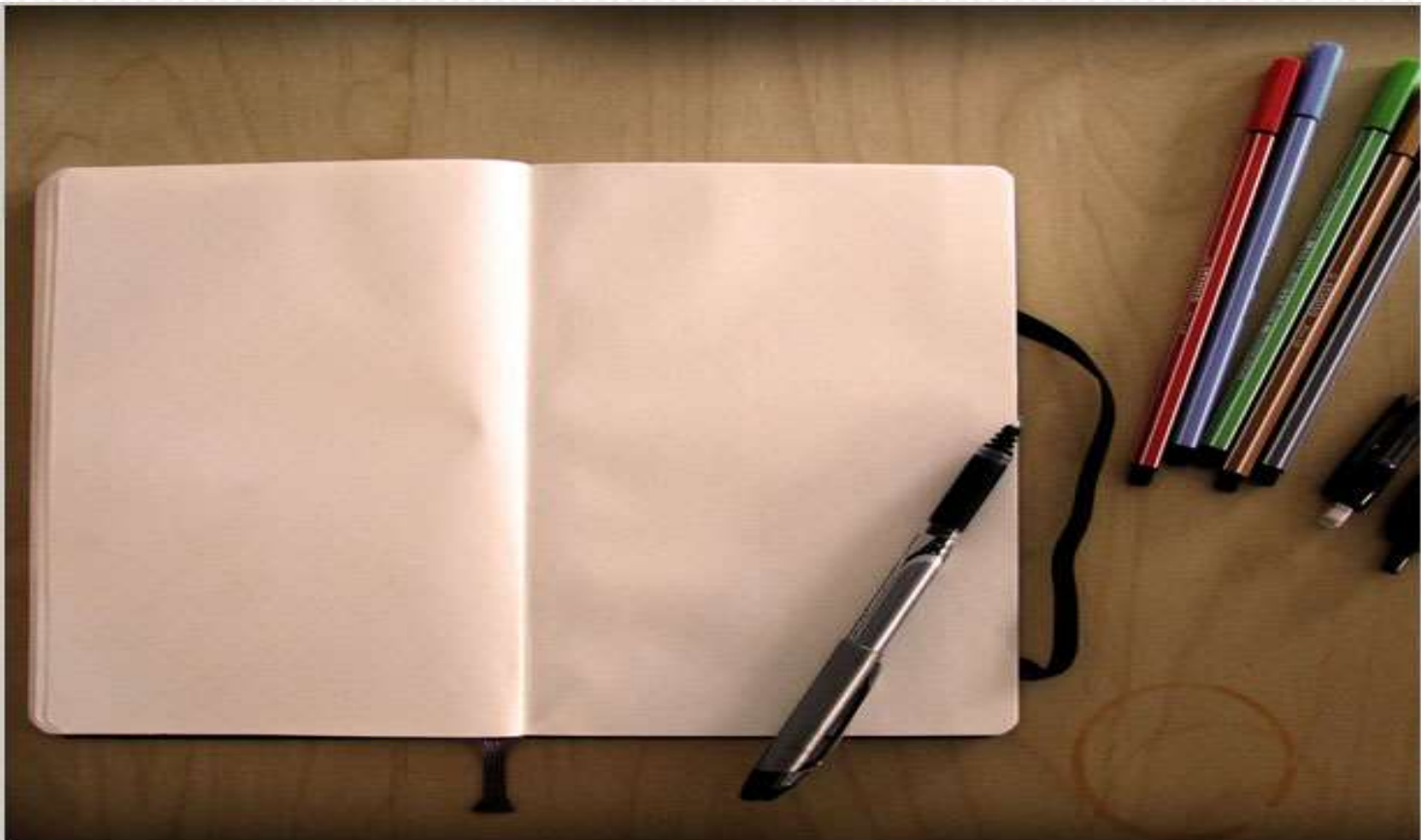
- » Yes, the same as political John Locke...he was a sociologist too.
- » He said everyone is a “Tabula Rasa”... clean slate on which anything can be written. He believed we are all born without a personality and society forms one for us through social experience.
- » All nurture, no nature. Few people today take such an extreme view.

## #2 John Locke





- » He believed that, if given a newborn infant, he could shape that child's personality, giving the child whatever characteristics he chose.





"Let us then suppose the mind to be, as we say, white paper, void of all characters without any ideas; how comes it to be furnished? Whence comes it by that vast store, which the busy and boundless fancy of man has painted on it with an almost endless variety? Whence has it all the materials of reason and knowledge? To this I answer, in one word, from EXPERIENCE."


- John Locke

# #3 George Mead

- > Added on to Cooley.
- » Said seeing ourselves as others do is only the beginning...eventually we actually pretend to or do take on the role expected-role-taking.



# According to Mead

- > **Stage 1- Imitation stage-** begins at about 1 ½ -2 years old, the child imitates the physical and verbal behavior of a significant other.
- > **Stage 2- Play stage-** age of 3-4, child begins playing as a mother or father, police officer, teacher etc. It involves acting and thinking as the person would.
- > **Stage 3- game stage-** this is where the child considers the roles of several people simultaneously. This is where they learn to gear their behavior to the norms of the group. 

- » Also according to Mead, the self consists of two related parts- the “I” and the “me”.
- » The **I** is the unsocialized, spontaneous, self-interested, component of personality and self-identity.
- » The **Me**, on the other hand, is the part of our self that is aware of the expectations and attitudes of society- the socialized self.

I vs Me



## Me

- Predictable/ Created by socialization
- Directs 1<sup>st</sup> reaction to socially acceptable channels
- Can be overridden by I

## I

- Spontaneous/Unlearned or Instinctual
- Acts in rage or excitement
- 1<sup>st</sup> reaction
- Can be directed by me
- Can over ride me



» While watching LOST I want you to give an example of

1. A Characters looking glass self from their perspective, audience perspective, other passengers perspective
2. An example of 1 character's I vs Me situation
3. Give an example of someone's perspective being different than another's
4. Give an example of personality development in a character.

# LOST Episode 1



- » Everyone get out your phones and take a selfie
- » Who is that a picture of?
- » Who took the picture?
- » So what did you just do?
  - > the “I” as the doer of the action, or the active phase of the self (the “who” who took the picture, and in this way acted on or toward oneself)- represents the “self-interested” part of you
  - > the “me” as the one (or self) in regard to whom the “I” acted (in most cases you take the selfie because this is what “society” does now)

# Selfie time

