



İSTANBUL
GELİŞİM
ÜNİVERSİTESİ

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

WEEK 7

Asst. Prof. Pınar KARABABA KAYALIGİL

www.gelisim.edu.tr



POWER

- **What is power?**
- **Power means to make people obey and do things that they do not want to. (Weber)**
- **It is a social relation created by someone's or some groups controlling the behavior of the others.**
- **Power is not only for large organizations. Small groups and family members also enter into power relations**



LEGITIMACY

- **Legitimacy** : is the belief supported by public that power holder individuals and groups have the right to govern. (The adoption of governance)
- Legitimacy enable the power to continue ruling.
- It is not limited with governments.

- **The problem of legitimacy:**
 - Legal legitimacy – Social legitimacy



LEGITIMACY

- The legitimate power which is institutionalized and adopted by public is called **AUTHORITY**.
 - Authority is a need
 - Authority may spread fear.
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- What are the essential units of legitimate power/authority?



AUTHORITY

- **An individual or groups having the authority**
- **People under the authority**
- **A conscious choice or order**
- **Obedience to orders (objective)**
- **Behaviors shaped by concern or will to obey to norm (subjective)**



AUTHORITY

Types of Authority (Max Weber)

- **TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY**
- **LEGAL-RATIONAL AUTHORITY**
- **CHARISMATIC AUTHORITY**





TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

- Legitimacy, being in line with traditions
- Leaders personalized way of leading
- Family ties in governance
- Sacred character of the leader
- Obedience to masters rather than laws





LEGAL-RATIONAL AUTHORITY

- Legitimacy, rational rules and laws
- Authority is selected according to the legal regulations
- The power of leaders and bureaucrats are limited by law
- The type of organization is bureaucracy
- Obedience to law rather than leaders
- The supremacy of law/legislation



CHARISMATIC AUTHORITY

- Its legitimacy is based on the sacred character of the leader, his/her power and heroic features
- Total obedience to leader
- Civil officers are selected according to their obedience to leader rather than their expertise
- Social crisis creates an expectation for a charismatic leader



THE SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL STRUCTURE

- **Functionalist Theory:**
- **State occurred as a result of social needs.**
- **Provides order, organizes the system**
- **Builds relations with other states**

- ***Pluralism* approach of functionalist Theory**
- ***Pluralism means “separation of powers , therefore spreading the power into different groups.***
- ***In most of the modern states legislative, executive and juridical functions of government are divided into different and independent bodies.***



THE SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL STRUCTURE

- **Conflict Theory:**
- **The class in power is the same class having the property of the means of production.**
- **The relation between sub-structure and super-structure is determined by the sub-structure. Therefore the relations of production (sub-structure) form the institutions of state, family, religion and other governing institutions (super-structure).**
- **The economic power of this class enables it to come to power.**
- **That power gives them the military power and the production and distribution of ideas and knowledge.**
- **There is continuous conflict between ruling classes and classes dependent to ruling classes.**
- **This conflict is affected by the technological changes.**



STATE

- ***State is the ruling institutions in modern societies.***
- ***It is the only legitimate monopoly in the modern world which can use physical power. (Max Weber)***
- **State is an institution which**
- **Governs the relations on a given land,**
- **and has the right to use military power to set legal order and to implement policies**



FEATURES OF MODERN STATE

- **Sovereignty**
 - It is the authority of a state in its defined borders.
- **Citizenship**
 - Is composed of people who are considered as a part of a nation and who have common rights and duties.
- **Nationalism**
 - Is the unity of symbols and beliefs referring to being a part of a single political community.
- **CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS**
- **Civil Rights**
 - Rights such as property, being equal in front of law, freedom of speech and freedom of belief.
- **Political Rights**
 - *Rights such as right to vote and stand for election.*
- **Social Rights**
 - Rights such as having a social security in terms of retirement, unemployment and sickness.
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TYPES OF STATE

- ***AUTHORITARIAN STATE***
- ***TOTALITARIAN STATE***
- ***DEMOCRATIC STATE***





AUTHORITARIAN STATE

- The rule of a powerful person or a small group
- The power is defined as above the law
- Can take the shape of a oligarchy of aristocratic, bureaucratic and military elites.
- In most often the rule implements pressure.
- Often has a short-term reign.
- It is not that much seen in our time.



TOTALITARIAN STATE

- **Totalitarian state**
- **The rule of a single party**
- **The control of economy**
- **The control of media**
- **The rule bases on an ideology**
- **Pressure is implemented on citizens**
- **To create a homogenous society is one of the aims**



DEMOCRACY

- Its roots come from Greek words public (demos) and rule (kratos).
- *Offers citizens an extended personal freedom.*
- Supports to the protection of basic rights.
- Citizens have the right of making choices and select sides
- It involves relatively more political rights. Active participation, right of receiving information, right of free speech and equality of vote comes with this type of governance.



CULTURE

- **Culture:** *is the ways of thinking, the ways of acting, and the material objects that together form a people's way of life. Culture includes what we think, how we act, and what we own. Culture is both our link to the past and our guide to the future. (Macionis, 54).*



CULTURE

- **Non-material culture** are the ideas developed by the members of one society. They take place in a large spectrum from art to philosophy.
- **Material culture:** are the things produced physically by the members of a society. It has a variety from the type of household items in that society to the types of settlement.
- **Cultural shock:** is not to know how to act when confronted a different lifestyle.



RISE OF CIVILIZATION AND DIVERSITY

- Approximately 12000 years ago a greater control over the nature was set by the end of nomadic life the appearance of specialized occupations.
- The progress of societies led to countless cultural changes that brought us to today's diversity.
- The differences between subcultures, high culture and popular culture have been crystallized.



Culture and Society

- Culture is a shared way of life.
- Among its signifiers there are:
 - Language,
 - Symbols,
 - Values and Beliefs,
 - Norms





CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- **MULTI CULTURALISM:** It is the perspective that approves cultural diversity and approaches all cultural traditions from an egalitarian point of view.
- It has developed through time.
- It is adopted with the acceptance of the pluralism and social diversity in one country,
- During times of turmoil it is criticized,
- It has an emphasis on peace and tolerance,
- Acceptation of differences brings intercultural exchanges and cultural change.
 - Cultural relativity: It bases on the idea of judging a culture according to its own standards.



CULTURAL CHANGE

- Change in a part of a culture leads to a change in other parts as well.
- It can be said that change is essential to the relation between society and culture.
- **Inventions:** (the invention of new transportation and communication systems)
- **Discoveries** (discoveries of what is already there but unknown such as the geographical discoveries or neglected facts like women can work)
- **Spread** (other cultures' adopting these inventions, ideas and discoveries)



CULTURAL CHANGE

- **Global economy:** The free movement of goods
- **Global communication:** Movement of information
- **Global migration:** Movement of people
- **Cultural Delay**
 - Some parts of the culture develop more than the others.
 - Material cultural elements develop faster than the non-material ones.
 - The controversy between the slow development of some cultural elements and the rapidly changing elements results with cultural delay.