

Definitions and Quotes from Dictionary.com

Socialization - 7 dictionary results

so-cial-i-za-tion [soh-shuh-luh-zey-shuhn] –noun

1. a continuing process whereby an individual acquires a personal identity and learns the norms, values, behavior, and social skills appropriate to his or her social position.
2. the act or process of making socialistic: the socialization of industry.

Origin:

1885–90; [socialize](#) + [-ation](#)

World English Dictionary

socialization or socialisation — n

1. psychol the modification from infancy of an individual's behaviour to conform with the demands of social life
2. the act of socializing or the state of being socialized

Medical Dictionary

so-cial-iza-tion definition

also British so-cial-isa-tion Function: n

: the process by which a human being beginning at infancy acquires the habits, beliefs, and accumulated knowledge of society through education and training for adult status

socialization so-cial-i-za-tion n.

The process of learning interpersonal and interactional skills that are in conformity with the values of one's society.

Cultural Dictionary

socialization definition:

Learning the customs, attitudes, and values of a social group, community, or culture. Socialization is essential for the development of individuals who can participate and function within their societies, as well as for ensuring that a society's cultural features will be carried on through new generations. Socialization is most strongly enforced by family, school, and peer groups and continues throughout an individual's lifetime. (See also acculturation.)

Encyclopedia

socialization

the process whereby an individual learns to adjust to a group (or society) and behave in a manner approved by the group (or society). According to most social scientists, socialization essentially represents the whole process of learning throughout the life course and is a central influence on the behaviour, beliefs, and actions of adults as well as of children.

Quotations:

“In some ways being a parent is like being an anthropologist who is studying a primitive and isolated tribe by living with them.... To understand the beauty of child development, we must shed some of our socialization as adults and learn how to communicate with children on their own terms, just as an anthropologist must learn how to communicate with that primitive tribe.”
Lawrence Kutner (20th century), U.S. child psychologist and author. *Parent and Child*, ch. 1 (1991).

“The family is both the fundamental unit of society as well as the root of culture. It represents a child's initial source of unconditional love and acceptance and provides lifelong connectedness with others. The family is the first setting in which socialization takes place and where children learn to live with mutual respect for one another. A family is where a child learns to display affection, control his temper, and pick up his toys. Finally, a family is a perpetual source of encouragement, advocacy, assurance, and emotional refueling that empowers a child to venture with confidence into the greater world and to become all that he can be.”
Marianne E. Neifert (20th century), U.S. pediatrician, professor and author. *Dr. Mom's Parenting Guide*, ch. 1 (1991).

“...I have come to make distinctions between what I call the academy and literature, the moral equivalents of church and God. The academy may lie, but literature tries to tell the truth.”
Dorothy Allison (b. 1949), U.S. author and lesbian feminist. *Skin*, ch. 18 (1994).
Allison had grown up in a very poor, dysfunctional South Carolina family and lacked the education and socialization typical of many writers who worked as college or university faculty members.

“Even though fathers, grandparents, siblings, memories of ancestors are important agents of socialization, our society focuses on the attributes and characteristics of mothers and teachers and gives them the ultimate responsibility for the child's life chances.”
Sara Lawrence Lightfoot (20th century), professor, education. *Worlds Apart*, ch. 2 (1978).