

Concept of Community

Community and Society

Community- a social group of people interacting with each other, determined by geographic boundaries, living together to attain certain and common goals and sharing the same interest.

Characteristics of a healthy community

1. The members are aware of their own health and biologic status.
2. Members give credit to the governing authority.
3. The natural and biological resources are open for everybody, but the consumption is controlled to help in preserving this resources.
4. Has a strong and reliable governing body.
5. The people work together to attain independence.
6. Environmental and physiologic needs are sustained by the community and families.
7. Parents and guardians serves as role models for the children.
8. The people are concerned with their health status.
9. Health needs are accessible and affordable to the public and free for the indigent.
10. Everyone is working to attain Health Citizenry.

Classification of a Community:

1. Rural or the open lands – usually places in the provincial areas where people make earn their living by agriculture and things of sort. Mostly less dense and more spacious.
2. Urban or the city – a non- agricultural type of community. The community is dense and mostly populating the whole community the major source of income are the industrial products and technology.
3. Suburban or the capitals- usually the capital of provinces where there is a mix of agriculture and industry, although technology is not in its highest peak in this type of community, technology is utilized to increase the productivity of both the industrial and agricultural side.

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Development of the Community and Society

A. Every human community has institutions for the socialization of its members

1. Process by which individuals are compelled or induced to conform to the customs of the group

- Group establishes rules and codes of conduct governing its members, and these become the norms, values, and morals of the group
 - Role of members includes specified rights, duties, attitudes, and actions
2. Controls established through a system of rewards and punishment
 - Reward leads to acceptance as a member of the group
 - Punishment for antisocial behavior leads to rejection and separation from the group

B. Development of community requires sanction of group members

1. Growth takes place in social space
 - Social boundaries separate one group from another
 - Barriers to participation are established through morals and customs
2. Leader's influence is always limited to conditions placed on it by the total group
3. Behavioral roles are established by members of the group

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C. A community is a reflection of all the functional relationships that occur among its individual members

1. Products of group life are a major determinant in an individual's intellect, creativity, memory, thinking, and feeling
 - Human beings have no memory, thought, or feeling that does not include community
 - Intellect and creativity can be enhanced or hampered by community
2. Members of a community have functional and rewarding social contact
 - Members are accepted and approved and then participate in establishing rules, norms, and values
 - The nonmembers have, at best, limited social contacts with the members; this causes a segmentation of relationships and provides few rewarding experiences for the nonmembers

D. A Community or a group can change because of conflict among members

1. This conflict is greatest when there is an absence of certain members, an introduction of new members, or a change in leadership
2. Ensuing reorganization goes through three stages.
 - a. Tension: caused by conflict

- b. Integration: during which members learn about "the other's" problem
- c. Resolution: during which a reconstruction of the group's norms and values takes place

3. Resolution of conflict and the restoring of equilibrium

- This takes place when people interact with one another and the group is dynamic
- Conflicts are not resolved when groups are rigid with fixed membership and ideas

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E. Family is the primary group

1. Helps society to establish and maintain its code of behavior

- Members experience sensory stimuli through close contacts
- Members learn to care about the emotional and physical well-being of each other
- Members are responsive to one another's feelings, acts, and opinions
- Members learn empathy by vicariously living the experiences of others
- Members view selves through the eyes of others

2. Provides individual family members with:

- Strong emotional ties
- A feeling of security by meeting dependent needs
- A system of communication
- Role identification and intimacy that helps them to internalize the acceptable behavioral patterns of the group
- A spirit of cooperation and competition through sibling interaction

3. Changes that have influenced the family's ability to indoctrinate children with the norms of society

- The Industrial Revolution changed an agrarian society into an industrial one
- Altered male and female role patterns
- Factors resulting in a reduction in the size of families

F. Peer groups help youth to establish norms of behavior and assist in the rites of passage from the family group to society

1. Youth learns about life through contact with the peer group

2. Youth develops further self-concept in contact with other youths
3. Peer group interaction can produce change in its individual members
4. Members have a strong loyalty to the peer group because of the reciprocal relationships and other rewards the group offers
5. Peer group norms may conflict with family or society's norms

G. Group membership helps individuals achieve goals that are not attainable through individual effort

1. Types of groups are task oriented, therapy, self-awareness, socially oriented
2. Group functional roles include task roles, group building or maintenance roles, individual or self-serving roles
3. Group content refers to the subject matter or task being worked on
4. Group process refers to what is happening among and to group members while working; it deals with morale, feeling tones, influence, competition, and conflict.

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