

Students
minors

Do Now

Church

What type of groups do you
belong to?

teens

Woman

Young life

Men

SWBAT: explain social groups

Agenda

- 1. Do Now
 - 2. Objectives
 - 3. New Material
 - 4. Discuss New Material
 - 5. Closing
 - 6. Exit Slip
-

Groups Within Society

- 9/16/10

Objectives

- SWBAT:
 - Content:
 - 1. Explain that groups are the foundation of social life
 - 2. Explain how sociologists define groups
 - 3. Explain the major types of groups
 - Language:
 - 1, 2, and 3, by **note taking** and **discussing** in class
-

Statistically Speaking...



Social Networking Web sites such as MySpace and Facebook provide a virtual community where people can “gather.” Members create their own online profile and “meet” using a host of communication methods, including voice, chat, instant message, and video. This mode of group interaction is growing in popularity among young Americans.

55% Percentage of online teens who use social networking sites.

48% Percentage of online teens who visit social networking sites one or more times a day.

91% Percentage of social networking teens who say they use the sites to stay in touch with friends they see frequently.

72% Percentage of social networking teens who say they use the sites to make plans with friends.

49% Percentage of social networking teens who say they use the sites to make new friends.

Skills Focus INTERPRETING GRAPHS What in the graph suggests that virtual communication encourages rather than discourages traditional forms of communication?

Sources: Pew Internet & American Life Project

Section 4 at a Glance



Groups Within Society

- **Groups** are the foundation of social life. They differ in terms of size, life, organization, and purpose.
- **Groups** perform important functions, such as setting membership boundaries, choosing leaders, fulfilling goals, and controlling members' behavior.



Groups Within Society

Main Idea

Groups are the foundation of social life and they differ in terms of size, organization, and purpose. Groups also perform many important functions in society.

Reading Focus

- How do sociologists define the term group?
 - What types of groups do sociologists recognize?
 - What are the main functions of groups?
-

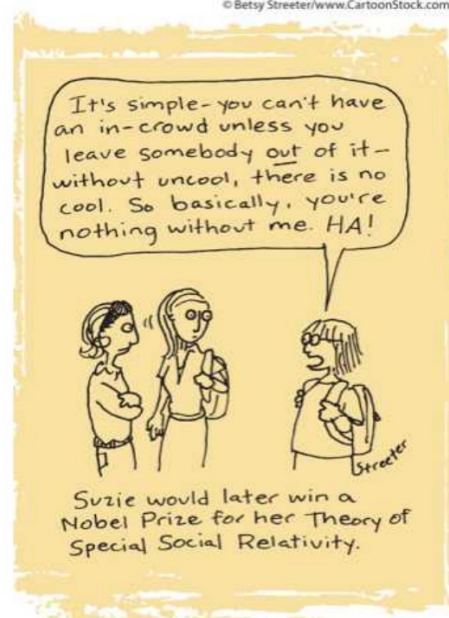
**SOCIOLOGY
CLOSE UP**

In with the “In” Crowd

In which group do you belong?

How are the social groups at CLA similar and/or different than the groups at your home high school?

© Betsy Streeter/www.CartoonStock.com



Sociologists would agree with this cartoon—you cannot have an in-group without setting boundaries to show who does not belong.

How Sociologists

Defining Groups

- Four features of Groups:

1-2-3-4

- Two or more people
- Interaction occurs between members
- Shared expectations
- Must possess a sense of common identity
 - Ex: Soldiers at boot camp, a family, people attending a video-game conference

- Aggregate

- A gathering of people without lasting organization
 - Ex: Passengers on a bus, people in line at movies

- Social categories

- People with a shared trait or status who do not interact with each other
 - Ex: Students, women, teens, men, left-handed people

Ways Groups Can Differ

Family

Friends
Army

1.

• Size

- A dyad is two people.
- A triad is three people.
- ~~Fifteen is the largest number that works well as a group.~~

2.

• Time

- A group can be a one-time meeting or a lifetime.
- Interaction is not continuous; there are breaks.

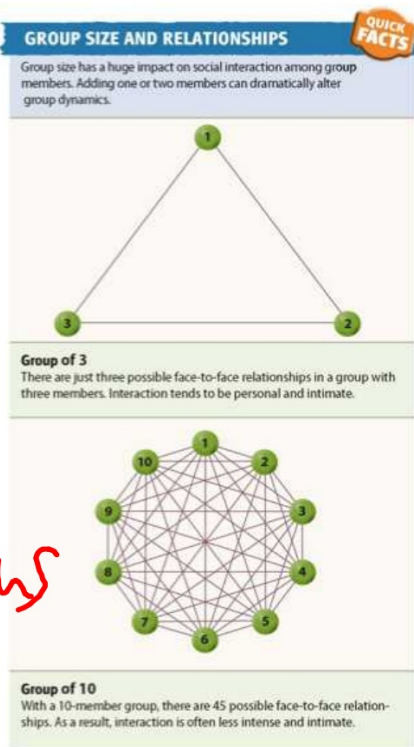
3.

• Organization

- A formal group has clearly defined structure, goals, and activities.
- An informal group has no official structure or rules of conduct.

more
meaning

more
in interactions



Class
Size

Reading Check

Identify Supporting Details

In what ways do groups differ?

Answer → *size, length of time group exists, organization*

Types of Groups

There are many kinds of groups. Most people belong to several.

Primary Groups

- The **most intimate** type
- Helps to form your **values/beliefs**
- **Small group**
- **Personal** group
- **interacts over a long period**
- Allows you to share your **entire self**
 - Ex: family

Secondary Groups

- Interaction is **impersonal** and **temporary**
- Involve **share part of a member's self**
- **Casual**
- **Limited time**
- ~~Importance of person linked to his or her function~~
- **Members can be replaced**
 - Ex: classroom, factory, political party

Types of Groups (cont.)

Reference Groups

- A group you compare yourself with
- A group you personally identify with
- Attitudes and values are adopted
- Can have both positive and negative effect on behavior
 - ex: friends

In-Groups and Out-Groups

- **In-group:** any group that a person belongs to and identifies with
- **Out-group:** any group that the person does not belong to or identify with

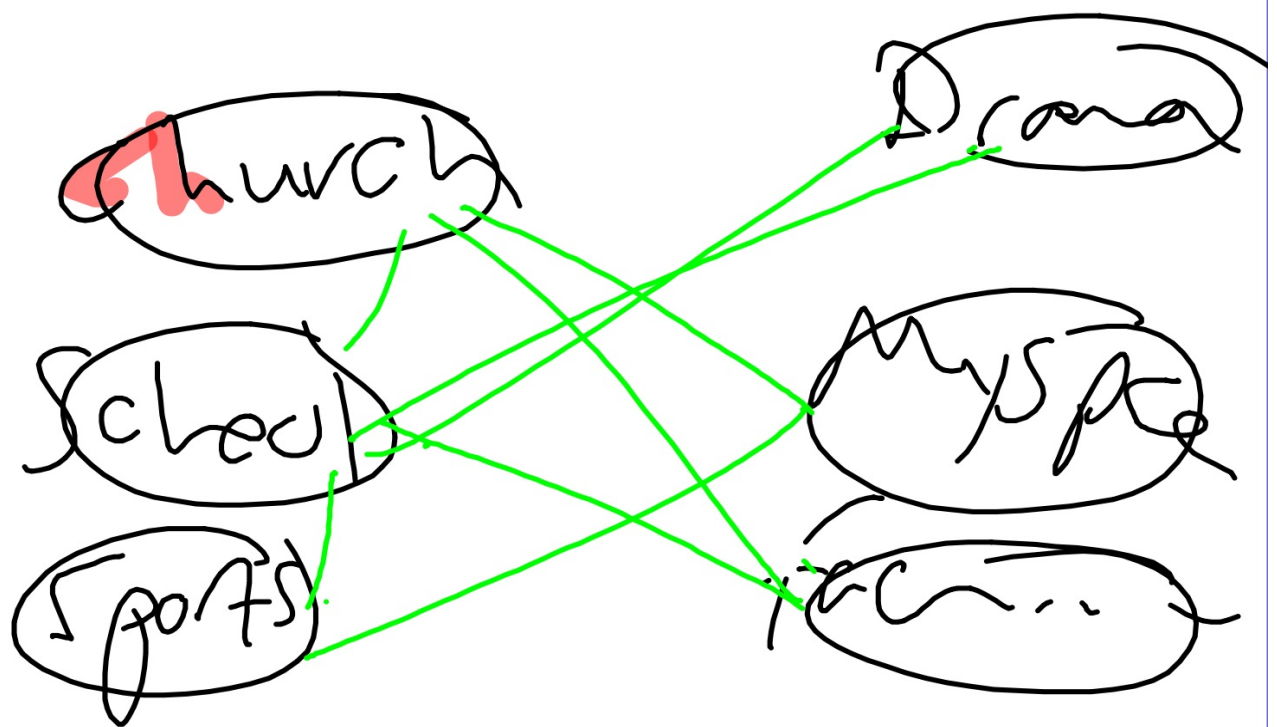
Electronic Communities

- Have grown with arrival of internet
- Some reflect primary-group dynamics

Social Networks

- The web of relationships across groups due to people belonging to many groups
- No clear boundaries

not a group



Reading Check

Find the Main Idea

How do primary groups
and secondary groups differ?



A large orange rounded rectangle with a black border, intended for the student's answer. A small blue downward-pointing triangle is located at the top right corner of this box.

Group Functions (The Things Groups Do)

1. • Define boundaries

- Use of uniforms, gestures, handshakes, or language

2. • Select leaders

- Leaders influence the attitudes and opinions of others
- 1. *Instrumental leaders* help find specific solutions that will help the group reach its goals
- 2. *Expressive leaders* find ways to keep the group together and to maintain morale

3. • Define purpose

- Set goals
- Assign tasks
- Make decisions

4. • Control members' behavior

Reading Check

Summarize

What types of leadership do groups need to be successful?

Answer: *need both instrumental leaders and expressive leaders*



