



**THE CSS POINT**  
Yes We Can Do It!

## Social Institutions

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# What is an Social Institution?

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- ▶ A well-established and structured pattern of behavior or of relationships of group of people that is accepted as a fundamental part of a culture.
- ▶ Institutions are structures and mechanisms of social order and cooperation governing the behavior of a set of individuals within a given human collectivity.
- ▶ A set of organized beliefs, rules, and practices that establishes how a society will attempt to meet basic needs.
- ▶ A socially approved system of values, norms, and roles that exists to accomplish specific societal goals.

# Elements of Social Institutions

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- ▶ A Group of People
- ▶ United by common interests
- ▶ Having material resources
- ▶ Having norms
- ▶ Fulfill some social need

# Characteristics of Social Institutions

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- ▶ Social institutions are patterns of behavior grouped about the central needs of human beings in society.
- ▶ In all societies, the institution of family plays a central role.
- ▶ Social institutions are therefore social patterns directing the ordered behavior of human beings in the performance of their basic activities.
- ▶ The continuity of institutional practices is further assured by the development of rituals.
- ▶ The central aspects of institutions are the functions they perform and the pattern, established to carry out the functions.
- ▶ The claim of institutions upon the members are also known as loyalties.
- ▶ The institutions of a society are connected in a close end interdependent pattern.
- ▶ Institutions are connected through status and role of the members.

# Characteristics of Social Institutions

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- ▶ Institutions are the most important agencies in the formation of personality.
- ▶ Social institutions are the great conservers and transmitters of cultural heritage.
- ▶ Cultural heritage is thus transmitted through social interaction.

# General functions of Social Institutions

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1. Institution Satisfy the Basic Needs of Society.
2. Institution Define Dominant Social Values.
3. Socialization
4. Institutions Establish Permanent Patterns of Social Behavior
5. Preservation of Social Order.
6. Institutions Support Other Institutions.
7. Institutions Provide Roles for Individuals .

# Types of Social Institutions

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▶ There are five Basic Types of Social Institutions

1. Family
2. Government
3. Economy
4. Education
5. Religion.

# Family

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- ▶ A fundamental social group in society typically consisting of one or two parents and their children.
- ▶ Two or more people who share goals and values, have long-term commitments to one another, and reside usually in the same dwelling place.



# Functions of Family

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- ▶ The control and regulation of sexual behavior.
- ▶ To provide for new members of society (children).
- ▶ To provide for the economic and emotional maintenance of individuals.
- ▶ To provide for primary socialization of children.
- ▶ To provide a sense of identity or belonging among its members.
- ▶ To transmit culture between generations

# Types of Family

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- ▶ **Patrilocal or Matrilocal Family**
- ▶ **Nucleus Family**
- ▶ **Consanguine Family**
- ▶ **Conjugal Family**
- ▶ **Patriarchal or Matriarchal Family**



# Mates Selection

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- ▶ Exogamy
- ▶ Endogamy
- ▶ Polygamy
- ▶ Monogamy
- ▶ Polyandry
- ▶ Group Marriage

# Economic Institutions

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- ▶ Economic Institutions are the set of norms related to production of goods and services.
- ▶ Economic Institutions is an aspect of theoretical and particle.
- ▶ Economic Institutions are very important for almost all Groups.
- ▶ Economic growth and development has changed the pattern of interaction of people all over the world.

# Functions of Economic Institutions

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- ▶ 1. Provide methods for the production of goods and services.
- 2. Provide methods for the distribution of goods and services.
- 3. Enable society's members to consume goods and services which are produced.
- ▶ 4. To Control and regulate goods and services.
- ▶ 5. Division of labour
- ▶

# Political Institutions (Gouvernement)

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- ▶ Set of norms pertaining to the distribution of power and authority concerning the management of control of society to bring order in life.
- ▶ A sociologist is interested in Politics because it deals with political behavior, public opinions, public relations, pressure groups etc...
- ▶ Structure of Government
  1. Executive
  2. Legislative
  3. Judiciary

# Functions of Government

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- ▶ The Institutionalization of norms (Laws).
- ▶ The enforcement of laws.
- ▶ The adjudication of conflict (Court).
- ▶ Provide for the welfare of members of society.
- ▶ Protection of Society from external threat.

# Educational Institutions

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- ▶ Refer to the set of norms centered round the teaching and learning aiming at the adjustment of individuals to the environment.
- ▶ Education is synonyms with Socialization.
- ▶ Formal Education
- ▶ Informal Education



# Educational Institution

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- ▶ Transmitting culture.
- ▶ Preparation for occupational roles
- ▶ Evaluating and selecting competent individuals
- ▶ Transmitting functional skills for functioning in society.
- ▶ To minimize the cultural lag in society
- ▶ It increase social mobility in society

# Religious Institutions

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- ▶ Religious Institution is the system of believes and practices influencing human events where man is helpless to explain them.
- ▶ Supernaturalism and sacredness are the two main elements of Religious Institution.

# Functions of Religion

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- ▶ 1. Providing solutions for unexplained natural, phenomena.
- 2. Supplying a means for controlling the natural world.
- 3. Religion tends to support the normative structure of the society.
- 4. Furnishing a psychological diversion from unwanted life situations.
- 5. Sustaining the existing class structure.
- 6. Religion serves as an instrument of socialization.
- 7. Religion may both promote and retard social change.