

## Examrace

# Anthony Giddens: Theory of Structuration: Famous Works and Structuration

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- British Sociologist
- One of the most cited and prominent modern sociologists
- Critical reinterpretation of the classical theories by Weber, Marx, etc.
- Check our understanding of modernity

## Famous Works

- Capitalism and Modern Social Theory (1971)
- The Class Structure of the Advanced Societies (1973)
- New Rules of Sociological Method (1976)
- Central Problems in Social Theory (1979)
- The Constitution of Society (1984)
- Consequences of Modernity (1990),
- Modernity and Self-Identity (1991)
- The Transformation of Intimacy (1992),
- Beyond Left and Right (1994)
- The Third Way: The Renewal of Social Democracy (1998).

## Structure

- Sum of rules and resources
- Organized as properties of social systems
- Coming together of formal rules and informal and implicit codes
- Exists as 'structural properties'

## System

- Reproduced relations between actors or collectivises
- Organized as regular social practices

## Structuration

- Conditions governing the continuity or transformation of structures
- Reproduction of social systems

## Agency

- Capability of doing things or act with intention
- independently
- make their own free choices

## Social System

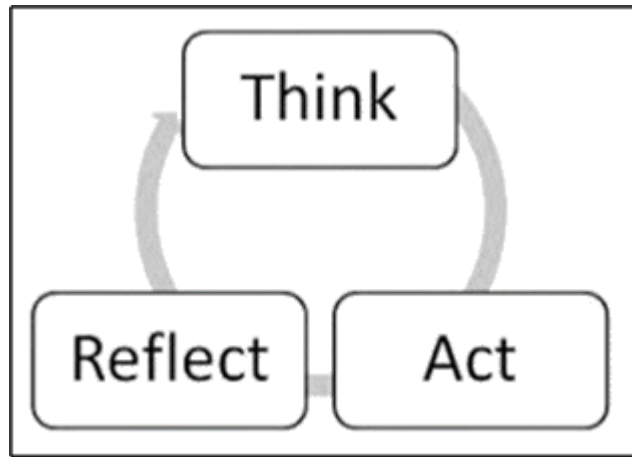
- Repeated form of social action and interaction
- Patterns of relations in groupings
- Can be small or large
- E.g. family, peers

Articulated integration of 'agency and structure' in structuration theory

- Whether an individual acts as a free agent or in a manner dictated by social structure.
- Understanding agency and motives of individuals
- The ways in which structure and agency interact with each other to create shared meaning.

## Structuration

- Study ways in which social systems are produced and reproduced in social interaction
- Structuring of social relations across time, space, in virtue of the duality of structure
- Human beings practice:
- Reflective – Consequences of actions?



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## Reflexivity

- The way in which people constantly examine their own practices and in the light of that examination, alter them.
- Institutional reflexivity
- Not unique to modernity, characteristic of all human action
- We are aware of our actions- Reflexive monitoring of actions – self-conscious in all kinds of societies
- Reflexivity differs with traditional and modern societies
- Double Hermeneutic
- System of Interpretation to give meaning and justify the world
- Two-way relationship of everyday concepts and terms from Sociology
- Relationship between lay terms and scientific terms

## MCQs

Q.1. In his theory of structuration, Giddens focuses on:

- (1) Structural Dualism
- (2) Duality of structure
- (3) Dichotomous Relationship
- (4) Binary Oppositions

Ans. (2)

Q.2. According to Anthony Giddens, 'structure' is

- 1) itself the form and shape of human life

2) outside or external to human action

3) itself exists in time and space

4) constraining and enabling

Ans: (4)

#structurationandpost-modernism

#anthonygiddens

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-Manishika

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