



# Analyzing the Development of Structural-Functional Theory in the Sociological Approach to Primary School Education

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## Abstract

This study investigates the interplay between sociology and education, focusing on Islamic education from a sociological perspective. The objective is to elucidate the sociological dimensions of Islamic education, employing library research for data collection and analysis. This approach facilitated an objective examination of the existing literature, uncovering the multifaceted perspectives within the sociology of education, akin to the diversity in sociological studies. The research underscores the importance of a sociological approach in understanding religious teachings and their social implications, particularly in the realm of Islamic education. It reveals that social issues significantly influence religious teachings, necessitating a comprehensive understanding of social sciences within religious communities. The findings indicate that the sociology of education in the context of Islam incorporates individual, social, and interactional approaches. The individual approach examines personal religious experiences and their educational impact, the social approach considers the influence of societal norms on educational practices, and the interaction approach investigates the interplay between individual beliefs and social contexts in educational settings. This tripartite framework enriches the understanding of Islamic education, highlighting the role of sociological insights in analyzing and interpreting educational phenomena within religious contexts. The study advocates for the integration of sociological theories in educational research, especially for religious education, to unravel the complex interactions between society and education. It proposes that a sociological perspective is essential for a nuanced understanding of Islamic educational practices and theories, urging further research in this interdisciplinary field. The conclusion emphasizes the need for continued exploration of the sociological aspects of education, particularly in Islamic contexts, to foster a more comprehensive and holistic approach to educational studies.

**Keywords:** *Sociology of Education, Islamic Education, Sociological Approach*

## Introduction

In simple terms, sociology can be interpreted as a science that describes the state of society, complete with structure, layers, and various other interconnected social symptoms. With this science, a phenomenon can be analyzed by presenting the factors that drive the relationship, social mobility, and the beliefs that underlie the process (Fauziah, 2023).

The sociology of education is a science that seeks to know ways to control the educational process to develop individual personalities for the better. Sociology of education refers to the application of sociological knowledge, thinking techniques, and data collection in educational research. Thus, the sociology of education studies the educational process as a social interaction, schools as a social group, and social institutions.

The sociology of education has excellent benefits for educators. The contribution of the sociology of education is to provide the results of the analysis of the relationship between humans within the school and the structure of the society in which the school is located. The scope of Sociology of Education refers to the application of sociological knowledge, thinking techniques, and data collection in educational research (Andrea, 2020).

According to Durkheim, the task of sociology is to study what he calls "social facts," forces and structures that are external but capable of influencing individual behavior. In other words, social facts are ways of acting, thinking, and feeling that are external to the individual and have coercive forces that control them. The social facts referred to here are not only material but also nonmaterial, such as culture, religion, or social institutions (Arif, 2014)

Thus, the sociology of education studies the educational process as a social interaction, schools as a social group, and social institutions. Models of sociological analysis of Malibu education There are four kinds of analysis: a.) analysis of functional, structural models with figures Emile Durkheim and Talcott Parsons, b.) analysis of the conflict model with its characters S. Bowles and H. Gintis and Louis Althusser, c.) analysis of the model of critical sociology with its figures Paulo Freire and Ivan Illich and d.) Micro Level Education Analysis UK and US version.

The application of sociological perspectives in handling education is explained clearly by D.F. Swift. He showed the outline of sociological review in the educational process in four things, namely: (1) The educational process itself is a social interaction, interaction or reciprocal relationship between educators and students, interaction among fellow students and others; (2) Schools as groups or social institutions (institutions), which contain school residents ranging from teachers, education staff, students, and so on; (3) The influence of other social institutions on educational institutions, the existence of schools / educational institutions are never silent from the influence of other social institutions, such as economics, politics, religion, and others; and (4) The function of educational institutions for the community (Mohamad, 2016)

## Methods

The research method used is a literature study (Library Research), which is by combining data from various literature sources in a way that includes books, journals, national seminar proceedings, and scientific articles related to Islamic education from the perspective of a sociological approach. The source of data in research is the subject from which data can be obtained by the researcher (Adlini, 2022). Then, analyze and study related theories. The author presents the results of data findings objectively and systematically through descriptive data analysis techniques.

## Result and Discussion

### The development of functional structural theory in the sociology of education

Functionalist structural theory is one of the most influential theoretical structures in the social sciences today. The figures who first sparked the function are August Comte, Émile Durkheim, and Herbert Spencer (Rafika, 2016).

Emile Durkheim and Talcott Parsons embraced the functional, structural perspective in education itself. Durkheim viewed education as having a significant role in transferring existing values and norms in society. According to Durkheim, the existence of this "element of commonality" is very important in creating cooperation, social solidarity, and social life that can be realized (Viridi, 2023). Durkheim argues that education has an important role to play in providing individuals with specific skills in order for them to contribute to future employment. Educational institutions play a passive role, where individuals have the freedom to determine the role they want to choose and choose an educational path that suits their interests and character.

The functional structural theory approach discusses human behavior in the context of organizations (society) and how that behavior is in, (can maintain) a state of equilibrium in organizations/societies; the sociology of education focuses its attention on educational institutions. Educational institutions as social sub-systems, like broad systems, have structures, processes of activity, and patterns of interaction that all determine their lives

(Juwita, 2020).

Education in functional, structural theory is an integration between education and society. In this relationship, it can be seen how society affects education and also vice versa, how education affects society. Data on books and articles related to the sociology of education in functional structural theory were obtained based on the studies that have been collected (Sulistiawati, 2022).

Structural functionalism mo, popularly known as 'Structural Functional,' is the result of a powerful influence of general systems theory. The functionalist approach adopted from the natural sciences, especially biological sciences, emphasizes the study of ways of organizing and maintaining systems. The structuralism approach, derived from linguistics, emphasizes its study of matters concerning the organization of language and social systems. Structural functionalism or 'systems analysis' revolves principally around several concepts, but the most important are the concept of function and the concept of structure (Abidah, 2017).

### Sociological Approach

In terminology, sociology is interpreted as a science that discusses the structure, process, and also social changes that occur in it. The object of the sociological study lies in the results of looking at the paradigm of relationships between humans and the processes born through their relationships in society. Sociology has a focus goal that is to increase human potential in adjusting to the environment in social life (Labiba, 2021)

According to E. George Payne (father of the sociology of education), *educational sociology* is the science that describes and explains the institutions, social groups, and social processes. In that relationship, the individual acquires and compiles his experiences. So, the principle between individuals and institutions is constantly influencing influence.

The sociology of education is also a used science. However, this science is not related to methods of search or collection experience but is related to the effect of learning on group life. This science seeks and explains how education as a social process can, under optimal conditions, eliminate social shortcomings and try for an ideal society. Therefore, according to Brown, *Educational sociology* is the science of *social control* because it will lead to an ideal society. This includes knowing how culture affects personality (Nasehudin, 2014)

The term Sociology, according to Auguste Comte, comes from Greek (Latin). Sociology comes from the word *socius*, which means friend or neighbor, and *logos* means story. Sociology is a science that studies social facts that contain ways of acting, thinking, and feeling that are outside the individual. Sociology is also defined as the science that studies living together in society and investigates the bonds between humans who control their lives (Sudarmin, 2009).

According to Soerjono Soekanto, sociology is defined as a science that limits itself to assessment problems. Sociology does not set in which direction something should develop in the sense of giving clues concerning the societal wisdom of the process of everyday life. Although there are many definitions of sociology, in essence, sociology is known as the science of society. Sociology studies society encompassing social phenomena, social structure, social change, and networks of human relationships or interactions as individual beings and social beings (sugeng cahyono, 2016).

From the description above, it is understood that the sociological approach is a view or paradigm used to describe the state of society complete with structure, layers, and various other interrelated social symptoms. With this science, a social phenomenon can be analyzed with factors that encourage relationships, social mobility, and beliefs that derive from the occurrence of the process. Sociology can be used as an approach to understanding religion because many fields of religious studies can only be understood proportionally and accurately when examined and studied through this approach.

## Sociological Approach in SD Education

The sociology of education is a scientific discipline that explicitly studies interactions among individuals, groups, social institutions, social processes, and social relations where and with humans obtain and organize experience; the definition of the sociology of education, according to various experts, will be presented a little to find out what sociology looks like in the eyes of sociologists including F. G. Robbins is Sociology specifically whose task is to investigate the structure and dynamics of the educational process. The structure contains the understanding of educational theory and philosophy, cultural systems, personality structures, and relationships, all of them with the social order of society. The dynamics are social and cultural processes, the process of personality development, and the relationship to everything with the educational process (Suhada, 2020). According to Abu Ahmadi, the sociology of education has a psycho-pedagogical approach. The sociological approach as sociological approach in education consists of an individual approach, a social approach, and an interaction approach.

### *Individual Approach (The Individual Approach)*

In sociology, individuals are used to designate individual people or humans, meaning one human being is not a group of human beings. The individual is limited by himself and is not divided, like the individual as the atom of society, the atom of social. Suppose we can understand the level of individual behavior one by one, such as the way of thinking, feeling, willingness, actions, attitudes, and speech. In that case, the existence of a society will be understandable. In essence, individuals are humans who not only have a distinctive role and social environments but also have specific personality and behavior patterns because, in individuals, humans have three aspects, namely physical organic aspect, spiritual, psychological aspect, and social aspect of togetherness. These three aspects affect each other, and shocks in one aspect will affect other aspects.

### *Social Approach (The Social Approach)*

Personally, man is an individual being, but in reality, from birth, man himself actually denotes a social being. Man cannot live alone without the help of others. In the extreme, man is inseparable from his family, friends, group, and society, according to CA. Elwood, in his book *The Psychology of Human Society*, states that three biological elements cause humans to live in society and mutual dependence, namely the urge to eat, the drive to defend themselves, and the urge to carry out the type. The social approach assumes that individual behavior is absolutely determined by society and culture, where individuality is embedded in human sociality.

### *Interaction Approach (The Interaction Approach)*

Social interaction is a relationship between two or more individual human beings in which the individual's behavior influences, changes, or corrects the behavior of another individual or vice versa. This definition emphasizes the relationship between the relationship of social interaction between two or more human beings. Social interaction is carried out with the intention of meeting the needs of affection or love, the needs of inclusion or obtaining satisfaction, and maintaining and meeting the needs of control. Some of the factors behind the interaction are imitation, suggestion, identification, sympathy, and motivation. As for the types of social interaction, when viewed from the point of view of the subject, there are three kinds of social interaction, namely: interaction between individual people, interaction between people with their groups, and preferably, interaction between groups. Meanwhile, if you look at it (Andrea, 2020).

## Conclusion

A sociological approach is a view or paradigm used to describe the state of society, complete

with structure, layers, and various other interrelated social symptoms. The theory of Structural-Functionalism emphasizes the role of schools as important socialization institutions and the significance of sociology in the Islamic approach, one of which can understand social phenomena related to worship and muamalat. Sociological approaches are essential in understanding religion because there are so many religious teachings related to social problems.

The amount of religious attention paid to this social problem further encourages religionists to understand the social sciences as a means of understanding their religion. The sociological approach as a sociology of education approach consists of the Individual Approach (The Individual Approach), the Social Approach (The Social Approach), and the Interaction Approach (The Interaction Approach).

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