Theories of Socialization
Functionalism

- People internalize the role expectations that are present in society.
- The Internalization of the values of society reinforces social consensus.
- Society relies upon conformity to maintain stability and social equilibrium.
Conflict Theory

- Individual and group aspirations are shaped by the opportunities available to different groups.
- Group consciousness is formed in the context of a system of inequality.
- Social control agents exert pressure to conform.
Symbolic Interaction Theory

- Children learn through taking the role of significant others.
- Identity emerges as the creative self interacts with the social expectations of others.
- Expectations of others form the social context for learning social roles.
Social Learning Theories

- Identity is created through the interaction of mental and social worlds.

- Young children learn the principles that shape the external world.

- People respond to social stimuli in their environment.
Psychoanalytic Theory

- The unconscious mind shapes behavior.
- The self (ego) emerges from tension between the id and the superego.
- Societal expectations are represented by the superego.