The Functions of Social Conflict

The Conflict of Social Classes

Coser developed his ideas in a period following the Great Depression and World War II, when many people were searching for a way to understand and address the social conflicts of their time. His work was based on the idea that social conflict is not just a negative force, but also a positive one, that it helps to create change and progress in society.

The Social Functions of Social Conflict

Coser's key insights include:

- Social conflict is a necessary part of any society and cannot be eliminated.
- Social classes and groups exist because of differences in resources and opportunities, leading to conflict.
- Conflict can be productive, leading to change and progress.
- Conflict can be managed through negotiation and compromise.
- The goals of conflict are not always clear, and can change over time.

Coser's work has been influential in fields such as sociology, political science, and psychology, and has been applied to a wide range of social issues, including poverty, race relations, and political conflict.

Understanding that social theory can explain and predict social change was a major contribution of Coser's work, and his ideas continue to be relevant today as we continue to grapple with the social and political challenges of our time.

The Sociology of Geographical Space: A. Castells 1958

This work examines the relationship between social structures and geographical space, and how the two are shaped by each other. Castells's work has been influential in understanding how social and economic processes are shaped by geographical factors, and how this in turn affects social conflict.

Conflict Resolution: R. M. Linn 1967

This work focuses on the processes of conflict resolution, and how individuals and groups can work to resolve conflicts in a constructive way. The book provides practical advice on how to address conflicts in a variety of settings, including personal relationships, work environments, and international affairs.

The Sociology of Social Structure: C. Wright Mills 1959

This work explores the relationship between social structures and social behavior, and how the two are shaped by each other. Mills's work has been influential in understanding how social structures are created and maintained, and how they affect individual and collective behavior.

The Functions of Social Conflict: Lewis Coser 1958

In this book, Coser argues that social conflict is not just a negative force, but also a positive one, that it helps to create change and progress in society. His work was based on the idea that social conflict is a necessary part of any society and cannot be eliminated.

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