

Table of Contents

p. 13 Preface by Gianni Profita

Introduction to sociology: the basic concepts
Part 1

- 17 Chapter 1
What is Sociology Today?
 - 1.1. The Birth of Sociology, 18
 - 1.2. Is Sociology a single discipline?, 19
- 23 Chapter 2
Some Basic Sociological Concepts
 - 2.1. Society, 23
 - 2.2. Social Groups, 24
 - 2.3. Interaction, 24
 - 2.4. Social Status, 24
 - 2.5. Social Role, 25
 - 2.6. Social Behaviour, 26
 - 2.7. Sociological Imagination, 26
 - 2.8. Social Influence, 27
 - 2.9. Social Position, 27
 - 2.1.0 Relationships Between Groups, 27
 - 2.1.1. Social Relationship, 27
 - 2.1.2. Social System, 27

p. 29	Chapter 3 <i>Method in Sociology</i>
	3.1. Can a sociologist express an opinion?, 29
	3.2. Qualitative Methods, 31
	3.3. Quantitative Methods, 32
33	Chapter 4 <i>The Path of Sociology through some Authors</i>
	4.1. Émile Durkheim, 33
	4.2. Maximilian Weber, 34
	4.3. Pitirim Sorokin, 35
	4.4. Georges Gurvitch, 36
	4.5. Talcott Parsons, 37
	4.6. Ithiel De Sola Pool, 38
	4.7. Zygmunt Bauman, 39
	4.8. Pierre Bourdieu, 40
	4.9. Alain Touraine, 41
43	Chapter 5 <i>The Different Perspectives of Sociology</i>
	5.1. Social Order, 43
	5.2. Social Conflict, 44
	5.3. Social Structure, 44
	5.4. Social Action, 45
47	Chapter 6 <i>Social Groups, Social Classes and Social Areas</i>
	6.1. Social Groups, 47
	6.2. Primary Group, 49
	6.3. Secondary Group, 50
	6.4. Aggregate Group, 50
	6.5. Virtual Group, 51

p. 53	Chapter 7
	<i>Social Classes from ancient times to Max Weber</i>
	7.1. The Social Classes in Max Weber's View, 57
	7.2. The Social Classes and their relationship with the establishment, 58
	7.3. The intellectuals and their relationship with the establishment, 59
	7.4. The real country and the legal country, 60
63	Chapter 8
	<i>Social Classes in the Different Historical Periods</i>
	8.1. Social Classes in Sylos-Labini's View, 68
73	Chapter 9
	<i>Does it still make sense to speak of social classes?</i>
	9.1. The Transformation of Social Classes into Social Areas, 74
	9.2. Social Areas, 75
	9.3. Affluent Area, 75
	9.4. The Guaranteed Area, 76
	9.5. Creativity Area, 77
	9.6. The Area of Uncertainty, 78
	9.7. The Area of Distress, 80
81	Chapter 10
	<i>The Structure of Society</i>
	10.1. The Bureaucracy, 81
	10.2. Associations, 85
	10.3. Organisations, 86
	<i>Health in a society in evolution</i>
	Part 2
97	Chapter 1
	<i>A Few Brief Historical Notes</i>

p. 101 Chapter 2
The Relationship between Sociology and Medicine

103 Chapter 3
The Three Phases of the Sociology of Medicine in Italy. From Medical Sociology to the Sociology of Health

105 Chapter 4
Some Aspects of Health Sociology Today
4.1. The Determinants of Health, 105
4.2. Medicine with the Patient and in the Health Services. Prevention, 113

117 Chapter 5
The Research Method in the Sociology of Health
5.1. The qualitative methods in the practice of social-health research include life stories or oral histories, 120

125 Chapter 6
Information Technology and Medicine. The Sociological Perspective

129 Chapter 7
When the Sociology of Healthcare Intersects with the Sociology of Work
7.1. Employment and Unemployment, 131
7.2. Part-Time Work, 132
7.3. New Training Requirements, 132
7.4. Major Roles in Healthcare from the Sociological Point of View, 135

141 Chapter 8
The Doctor's Dominant Position
8.1. The Figure of the Doctor in Society, 142

	8.2. The Proletarization of Doctors, 143
	8.3. The Responsibility of Healthcare Professionals and Professional Errors in an Ethical and Socio-juridical Perspective, 143
	8.4. Medical Error, 145
p. 149	Chapter 9 <i>Hospitals over the Centuries</i>
153	Chapter 10 <i>The New Healthcare Professions</i>
159	Chapter 11 <i>The Sociology of Nursing</i> 11. 1 History, 159 11.2. Some Figures Regarding the Profession, 160 11.3. Professional Nurses Subdivided According to Age Groups, 161 11.4. Transcultural Nursing, 163 11.5. Transcultural Nursing: The Italian Case, 164
165	Chapter 12 <i>A New Profession that Comes from Far Back in Time</i> 12.1. A Distinguishing Feature of the Obstetrician's Code of Ethics, 167
169	Chapter 13 <i>Un'ipotesi di co-living per giovani e anziani nel borgo ripensato</i>
173	Chapter 14 <i>The Italian Society in the Time of Covid-19. Psychological and Social Problems Raised by the Medical Emergency</i> 14.1. What Happened During the Lockdown, 173 14.2. The Italian Regions Most Hit by Covid-19, 175 14.3. Infections in the Health Professions, 178 14.4. Forced Confinement and How Italians Responded to it, 179 14.5. What Happened After the End of Lockdown, 183

- p. 187 Conclusions
- 191 Afterword by Alessandro Boccanfelli
- 199 Thanks and acknowledgements