

What are social class subcultures?



Working-Class Subcultures

- Resistance to formal education and authority; strong peer group loyalty.
- Emphasis on practical skills, manual work, and community solidarity.



Youth Subcultures

- Use of style, music, and behaviour to signal identity and resist mainstream culture.
- Strong peer group cohesion and shared norms within subcultural communities.



Consumer and Lifestyle Subcultures

- Identity expressed through leisure, consumption, and cultural taste.
- Lifestyle choices reflect both social capital and group belonging.



Middle-Class Subcultures

- Investment in education, arts, and cultural activities to maintain status.
- Focus on individual achievement, self-expression, and career progression.



Ethnic Minority Subcultures

- Blend of heritage culture with British norms to create hybrid identities.
- Strong emphasis on community, family, religion, and coping with discrimination.

Social class subcultures often intersect with other aspects of identity such as gender, ethnicity, age and shared interests.

Growth of hybrid and multiple identities, according to postmodern theorists, suggests that class is less of a defining feature in subcultural formation. However, many other sociologists disagree.



The Sociology Guy

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