

CLASSIFICATION IN SOCIOLOGY

FERDINAND TONNIES,
CLASSIFICATION OF SOCIETY INTO
GEMEINSCHAFT & GESELLSCHAFT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
CCS UNIVERSITY, MEERUT

By : Neha Garg

Teaching Assistant

Department of Sociology

INTRODUCTION

According to Tönnies since the second half of the 19th century society has been gradually moving from Gemeinschaft to Gesellschaft that is from community to association these two terms seem unnecessary obscure and mystifying simply because they are German what if it takes them to mean community and society as indicating qualitatively different kinds of human relationships Gemeinschaft community is old. Gesellschaft society is new as a name and or as a phenomenon .

BEST WAY OF CLASSIFYING

The best way of classifying Tonnie's two types of Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft.

1. A description of their general characteristics.
 2. An outline of the kinds of will: the natural will and the rational will.
 3. An indication of some of the more important characteristics of law and social control which distinguished them.
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GEMEINSCHAFT : THE RELATIONSHIPS OF NATURAL COMMUNITY

General characteristics :- Gemein schaft or community is defined as intimate private and exclusive living together in a localised group most of whose members know one another and have a feeling of belonging to one another.

Sociologists also add another dimension to the concept of community which in their view consists of a group of people who occupied a define territory within which the group is assured of a self sufficiency life a community has does two attributes locality and community sentiment.

Tonnies argued by the intimate relationships in and among family groups the relationships between mother and child husband and wife brother and sisters work all rooted in natural instinct and attendant emotion

NATURAL WILL

Tonnies sometime referred to the natural will as the psychial equivalent of the body. And it grew and developed not deterministically but as a continuing process of self generation Within the context of the individual social experience as he grew from birth to maturity.

The Natural relationships of community,thus rested upon this concrete kind of natural will and in the natural order of relationships within which they had natural will grown to maturity.

SOCIAL ORGANISATION AND THE NATURE OF LAW

These qualities of community life and natural will were also characterized however by equally distinctive forms of social organisation and law.

The system of law in such a community was one Tonnie's it was typified by family law all of the nature of the Gemeinschaft. Tonnie's wrote is a product of the human mind. It is a system of thoughts rules and maxims Religion is family life itself for the care and assistance given by father or mother is the origin of all divine and godlike guidance and remains its innermost truth.

GESELL SHAFT THE RELATIONSHIP OF ARTIFICIALLY.CONTRIVED ASSOCIATIONS:-

General characteristics :- The other way in which human will were linked together in social relationships was described in Tonnie's second type Gesellschaft. Gesellschaft or association is defined as public life as something which is consciously and deliberately entered upon. In a Gesellschaft of Relationship men were bound together by one thing only a specific and carefully delineated contract to attain mutually rationally calculated association entered into for a clearly defined purpose

RATIONAL WILL

Rational will was concomitant With the calculated device of special contractual institutional artifices With the construction of the bits and pieces of a technology of society rational will was particularly and sharply concerned with the elaborate apparatus of society in Connection with calculated ends and this again give it a dominating concerned with the formal the abstract and the artificial rational will was of the essence of the abstract to the analytical the logical the calculating the epitome of which was science.

SOCIAL ORGANISATION AND THE NATURE OF LAW

Rational will contractual relationships went beyond these forms of social organization and law and cut across them the body of law which distinguish to these relationships was clearly the law of contracts this law was led to the creation of legal persons and institutions in the community persons and assemblies formed unions in the contractual type of society Associations were deliberately formed tonnies undoubtedly also saw this spread of contractual relationships and the increasing dominance of the law of contract as a disintegration of community relationships .In short the press was the most important instrument of public opinion and this like all the other elements of rational will.

CONCLUSION

An association may be distinguished from a community from the following point of view :-

- 1 - A community is the total organization of social life within area while an association is developed with a particular or special interest in view .**
- 2 - Our community is united by an accord of feeling or sentiment among individuals where an association is united by a rational agreement of interest.**
- 3 - In a community individuals are involved as complete or whole person in an on the other hand the members are not wholly involved as individuals.**

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Thanking You