Title page

Austin’s socialization adventure

I am in military ranked as a specialist and soon will be promoted to the rank of Sergeant. I spend time with my family and give them good company. I don’t have kids and have a girlfriend. I have many hobbies like sports and mountain bike. I am not the kind of person who is impatient to panic for reaching goals. This is because I believe in easy going and that goals can be achieved with perseverance and consistency. I am an achiever and I believe in progressing rather than remaining in a stagnant state. I am a fun loving person and tries to avoid stress.

I have undergone socialization as I learned many things from childhood to adulthood. Family is one of the most powerful force that or agent of socialization as they were the continuous social world for me. The most I interacted with were my parents and siblings so many attributes that were part of their personality also influenced me. I belong to a Christian family so I internalized many things related to this religion. I used to visit church, a habit that I naturally adopted due to my family tradition of visiting the sacred place. Through my interaction with my parents I transmitted the same religious values and norms that they were following. I only learned the significance of church or Christ when I observed my parents practicing religion. Therefore I consider my family as the first agent of socialization because I learned the most from them during my childhood and even in adulthood.

There were also some negative events that I witnessed during my childhood such as domestic violence. The first time I encountered the situation when my father physically mistreated my brother. That was a horrible scene because he hit him many times with the stick. I myself had been a victim of domestic violence because my father used to punish me when I denied to follow his orders. These events had left a negative and long-lasting impact on my memory. I still feel the terror of those events and really want to get rid of them. Sometimes those scenes create emotional problems for me and I really struggle to sleep. I learned to use force from my father and I also practices violence by hitting two boys at school on different days. My aggressive behavior was the result of the socialization because I had built the same qualities of my father. Witnessing violence promoted negative feelings of insecurity, restlessness and stress.

The second agent of socialization is high-school where I used to spend many hours of my day. My interaction with the other school boys allowed me to learn many things such as I was unable to play basketball and lacked skills. However, the school offered me the opportunity to play with other boys who were more skilled and excellent players. By practicing basketball and communicating with them I managed to learn the techniques of playing the game. I learned many other things in high-school such as competing in the academic environment. In high-school I learned that in academic life we all have to study hard for getting good grades. I learned this from other fellows who used to study a lot and scored high grades. I learned that success doesn’t comes easy so I started giving more time to study and scored better grades.

My third agent of socialization include peer group that included my classmates and seniors. I used to be sky even in high-school but in that environment I watched people interacting with each other, engaging in chats, playing, discussions and other activities. I also watched them giving time to studies and working for the attainment of their future goals. This socialization had significant impact on me and I developed the capability of interacting with others by overcoming my shyness. I watched that all boys at high-school are open, cool and confident so it also gave me motivation to transform myself. I learned a lot from peer group because they were having same beliefs and interests as mine. I learned that teenagers have a passion for bikes and I found many guys who were excellent in mountain biking. I told some of my peers that I am afraid to go to the mountains. They encouraged me and helped me in getting rid of my fear. After watching them for many days I also built the courage of mountain biking and I finally became an excellent biker. I believe that my peers helped me to overcome my deeply rooted stress of childhood by giving me the opportunity of exploring new world through mountain bike experience. I learned from my peers to enjoy freedom and get rid of my shyness or hesitation. Peers have thus played a very important role in changing my personality and becoming a better person in life.

I consider coaches and teachers as fourth agent of socialization because my personality changed a lot under their guidance. I used to be a troubled child due to the terrible memories of domestic violence. However in classroom I was inspired by the personality of my teachers. I found them calm, confident and strong personalities that allowed me to build motivation for building those traits. They played the function of good role models for me because I always found them positive and composed. I realized that such positivity is due to their achievements that they made in throughout their lives. I learned that happiness and calmness comes with achievements so I developed my future goal of joining the military. My teachers demonstrated leadership and confidence in their actions, talking and discussions. I learned to develop those leadership skills by improving my level of confidence.

I believe that my teachers had most influential role on my personality because they allowed me to learn the practical meaning of kindness and generosity. They taught me to show respect to others and avoid engaging in conflicting situations. Their teachings allowed me to interact with my schoolmates, move in the society and contribute towards positivity. Their emphasis on socialization proved to be of great help and allowed me to overcome my troubled childhood. It was through them that I developed the feelings of protection, safety and security. Another important factor that I must link to this process of socialization is teachers emphasis on creating a fair classroom environment. Irrespective of my emotional problems my teachers at school assisted me encouraged me to take part in all learning and play activities (Amon, Shamai, & Ilatov, 2008). This provided me with the opportunity of seeing the world from a positive outlook. They also helped me in building the competency of taking challenges and setting high goals.

My teachers communicated expectations by reinforced norms by teaching humility, trust and positivity. I was offered many situations where I had to corporate with class fellows this helped me in great way to build trust towards others. This permitted to establish the trait of working in corporative environment. The lectures, books and the curriculums taught by them remains equally important in transforming my personality and becoming a confident, stable person.

References

Amon, S., Shamai, S., & Ilatov, Z. (2008). SOCIALIZATION AGENTS AND ACTIVrriES OF YOUNG ADOLESCENTS. *Adolooscence, 43* (170).

Yogev, D. (2005). Leisure habits of religious and secular youth in Israel, 2003. Tel Hai Academic College: 36th Conference of the Israeli Sociological Association (Hebrew).

Zeijl, E., De Poel, Y., Dois-Reymond, M., Ravesloot, J., & Meuhnan, J. J. (2000). The role of parents and peers in the leisure E^ctivities of young adolescents. Journal of Leisure Research, 32 (3), 281-302.

Zeijl, E., Du Bois-Reymond, M., & De Poel, Y. (2001). Young adolescents' leisure pattems. Loisir et Soci6te, 24 (2).