

THE CONCEPT OF STATUS AND ITS DIMENSIONS

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Abstract. *The matter of status is a current one especially under the circumstances of transformations caused by late modernity at the level of social stratification. The concept of status expresses, in essence, the relations between social and individual contexts, illustrating individual's position in the society. Statuses appear intermediary between the systemicity of the society and multiplicity of individuals, which leads to the possibility of grouping them on several dimensions. We are concerned with the analysis of the status-role, prescribed status, acquired status and subjective status. The study deals with revealing the aspects of current society development from the point of view of transition to a system of particular-descriptive standards or values, to a system of universal-permissive values. It also reveals the role of prestige and rewards in public administration.*

Keywords: status, social culture, consensual perspective, conflicting perspective

1. Introduction

Being a bi-psycho-social being, a being into ministry and for revelation, according to Lucian Blaga, man enters in many relations that implacably decrease it's solitarily. It occupies a position that identifies it in the society, defines it in relation to others, and in its relation as an individual with the society. As a form of objectification, the relation between the social and the individual contexts phenomenalizes into status. In social reality, statuses are grouped depending on various levels of coherence, resulting into groups (categories) of human individuals that look alike. This study is a development of the status idea explained by Bryan S. Turner, as well as essential differences between the consensual perspective and the conflicting perspective in approaching the concept of status.

2. Theoretical developments and actual reality

The status problem has concerned sociologic research, both American sociology and European sociology. With accent movements from the individual towards groups, with trials to replace concepts that are considered obsolete (like for instances social classes, economic classes), with citizenship or cultural living style

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