Thursday 1st October 2015

**Functionalist View of education**

Aim: To evaluate the functionalist view of education.

**Basic ideas:**
Functionalists are positive about education. Because the education system is the secondary agent of socialisation and they believe that the education system brings belonging and identity and makes people feel like citizens.

**Durkheim:**
Durkheim said the following about education:

- Education prevents anomie through teaching students conformity.
- Teaches children an instrumental role.
- Teaches children to work with each other.
- Teaches children social solidarity.
- Learning history gives an heritage

**Parsons:**
Parsons said the following about education:

- Promotes individualism.
- Encourages competition.
- Promotes equality.
- Get students ready for uni.
- Prepares children for work.
- Makes students aspire for achieved status.

**Davis and Moore:**
Davis and Moore said the education system has the following functions:

- Role allocation.
- Inequality is fair.
- Rewards for working hard.

**Education and the economy.**

- Education performs a sorting function.
- This is done via exams.
- Educations gives children for work.
- It makes students good workers by teaching punctuality and hard work.
- This makes children more employable and creates a healthy economy.
- Schools assign people to jobs based on ability.
- The system is meritocratic.
- Better educated parents pass on skills and expertise to their children.

**Evaluation:**

- Education only transmit the values of the ruling class.