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'In the 21st century, the rise of social media means that one's sense of 'self' is now more unstable than ever'.

Individual and group meaning.

- An individual is about being a single entity that cannot be divided. It is a single person who is on their own not in a group.
- A group is several people or things regarded as forming a unity or whole on the grounds of some mutual or common relations or classed together because of a degree of similarity. (Shorter Oxford English Dictionary (2007)

What is society???

- A society is a companionship or association with one's fellows
- A group of people involved with each other through relevant relations.
- A social group
- People living together in ordered community.

Capital.

- Capital in financial or economic terms is a form of resource that individuals or groups can use or draw within society e.g, money, shells, horses
- The more capital or resource you have the easier life will be with regards to getting more.
- Capital governs the functioning of the world.
- People lacking capital find it hard to get and keep capital.

Types of Capital

- Economic Capital
- Financial Capital
- Religious Capital
- Cultural Capital
- Human Capital
- Social Capital
- Identity Capital

Equality, equity and power

- Equality means to be equal, in opportunities, status and rights. For example gaining society rewards based on merit rather than social advantage.
- Equity means the quality of being fair and impartial, giving people what they need in order to be equal in society.
- Power means the amount of control you have over someone or something. It could depend on the amount and type of capital you own.

How society represents us.

- Society is an organisation of people who share a common cultural and social background.
- They can be linked by Age, sexual orientation, race, religion, class, poverty, ethnicity, disability and gender.
- The purpose of a society is to harness the resources and abilities of others in order to increase individuals' knowledge, chances of survival and improve individual's quality of life.
- This is all helped by the availability of social media.

What is social media???

- Social media is known as websites, applications or interactive technologies that enable individuals to share, create and take part in social networking.
- It began in 1997 and by 2003 My Space was invented.
- Social media has its positive factures but also has its negatives too.

Influences of social media on individuals and groups.

- Social media is a good way of communication
- It makes day to day life easier e.g. looking for jobs, communication, banking.
- Easier to see what's going on in the world.
- It helps to contribute to charities and make donations to causes you wouldn’t normally hear about.

Negative factors of social media.

- Online bullying can happen to children and adults.
- Social media makes it easier to bully others.
- Years ago you would have to see someone to bully them but now you have Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, online group forums, mobile phones.
- Leads to mental health issues
- Has contributed to the increase in the suicide rate.

Conclusion

- Individuals and groups have always had power over others since time first began, depending on the capital they had.
- Power will always be held by someone.
- The rise of social media means that power can be gained and lost far more easily now than years ago.
- Social media has its advantages but also its disadvantages and it will be interesting to see what happens in the next century.

References

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