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The topic of my paper is how socialization affects our society as well as how the COVID-19 pandemic has warped it.

In my essay I explained how socialization is the process of people adapting to the norms and expectations of a society in order to be part of it. I discussed each individual agent of socialization which includes family, religion, school, peers, media and work. Each agent individually develops a person in its own way and prepares an individual to eventually be a part of society. In order to get a view of how others have felt about the lack of socialization during the pandemic, I conducted a survey on 3 individuals. Each individual was asked the question “ How has the pandemic affected the way you socialize with people ?”Although these three individuals can’t speak for everyone, they do express the most popular opinion in that people are keeping their guard up and aren’t socializing like they used to. People are keeping their distance, they are staying home more often and questioning people’s trust. This is a threat to our society because we need to socialize in order for it to prosper. By socializing we learn to live in a community together and still have our own opinions and be individuals.

1. Grusec, J., Hastings, P., & Anderson, C. (2015). *Handbook of socialization : theory and research* (Second edition.). The Guilford Press. [\[LINK\]](#)

My first reference is from a handbook written about socialization as a whole through the different ages of a person. Joan E. Grusec and Paul D. Hastings wrote in detail about socialization, its percs and how it affects families. The authors specifically focus on the biological side of socialization. I chose this book as a reference because I saw it was detailed with information on the agent of the family. It helped me understand how family and culture are intertwined when being socialized.

2. Knight KW, Stephenson SE, West S, et al. “*The kids are OK: it is discrimination not same-sex parents that harms children.*” The Medical Journal of Australia. 2017 Nov. [\[LINK\]](#)

This little article explains the same-sex parent dilemma happening. It goes a little into depth about children with same-sex parents and how they are different than kids with a mom and a dad. I chose this article because I wanted more information on the different types of families. I wanted to compare them and get a different point of view. I learned that kids with same sex parents are more emotionally stable and might be more mature than other kids.

3. “*Roles of Family in Socialization.*” Assignment Point, [\[WEBSITE\]](#)

This article is about families and how they are the first ones to teach us about norms and values. I found this article very useful for researching how families build someone's character. The article explained that culture also had to do with families and that it should

be taken into consideration when talking about this agent. I liked that this article gave examples on different families and their upbringings. It allowed me to expand on my knowledge of how families contribute to socialization.

4. Griffiths, H., Keirns, N., Strayer, E., Sadler, T., Cody-Rydzewski, S., Scaramuzzo, G., Vyain, S., Bry, J., & Jones, F. (2012, February 1). *Agents of Socialization*. Introduction to Sociology 2e. [\[WEBSITE\]](#)

This article was the most helpful of all. The article which has many different authors talks about all the agents of socialization. It connects them to one another yet it explains why each is so important. I wish it had been longer but the information was still useful for my paper. It also had short questions in the end that I found were thought provoking when I was at a writer's block.

5. Sherkat, D. E. (2012, June). *Religious Socialization (Chapter 12) - Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*. Cambridge Core. [\[WEBSITE\]](#)

This summary, although it was small, helped me think of new ideas. Although I did not have access to the full text the summary was enough to help me keep writing. The summary talks about religion and how it affects individuals. The line I took from this described that religion could not be forced on someone rather it needed to be accepted by the individual. It also combined other agents to further the importance of religion in socialization.

6. Pearce, L. D. (2015). *Religious Socialization*. Religious Socialization - an overview | ScienceDirect Topics. [\[LINK\]](#)

This article written in 2015 goes into depth on how youth sees religion. This was helpful towards my paper in that it explained in detail how when in someone's life religion can have long term effects. It explains that when a child is exposed to religion from a young age they are more likely to continue practicing it in their adult life. The article also talks about how religion influences political views and views on society. Overall this article helped me develop a good point on religion in youth how it affects an adult.