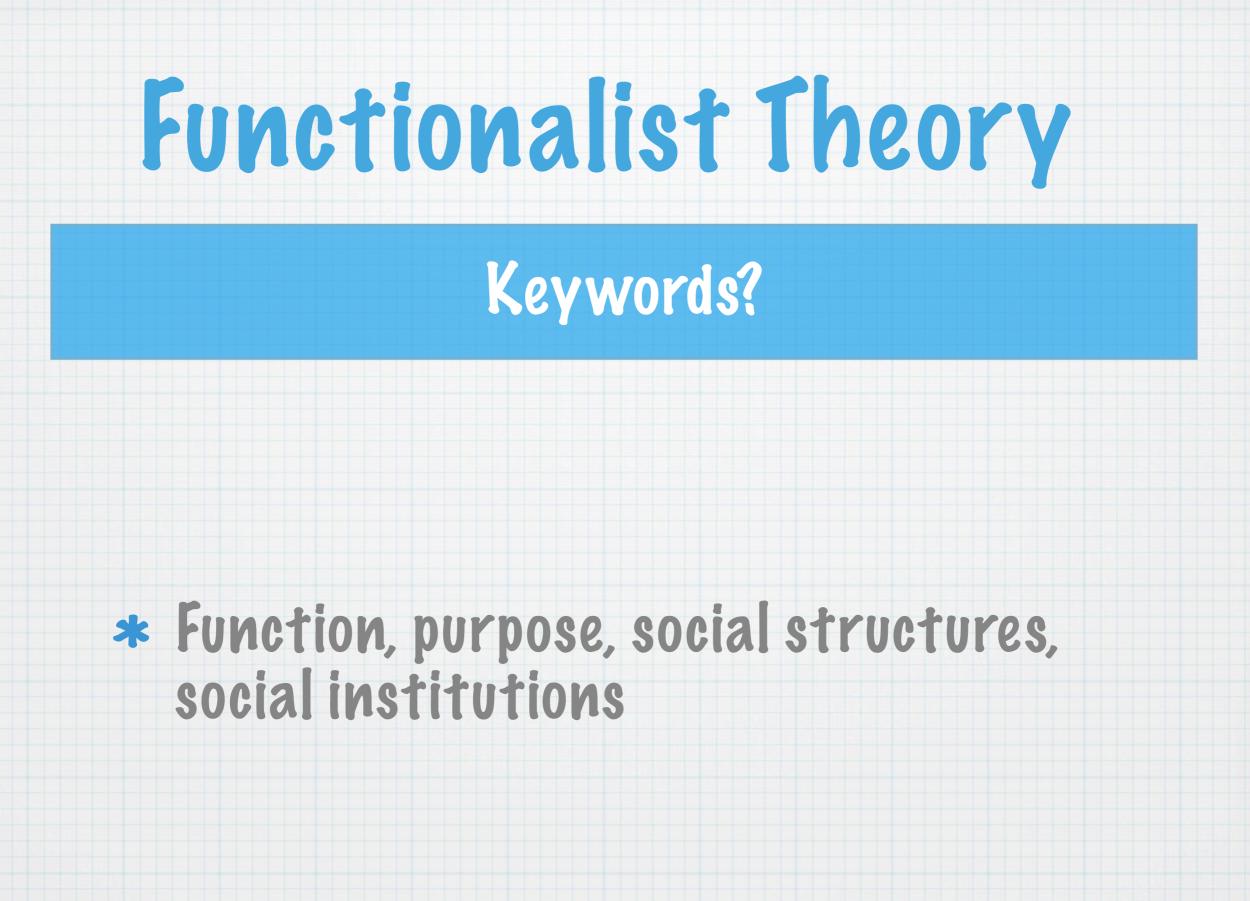
Theories of Social Change

Functionalist Theory

What does it say about change in society?

- * Emphasize what maintains society, not what changes it.
- * Social stability is due to cultural patterns.
- * As societies grow, they need new institutions and norms.





Are changes positive or negative?

* Emphasizes stability and downplays change.

Conflict Change Theory

What does it say about change in society?

* When groups have opposing interests they are in conflict.

* Conflict drives change, society is prone to be in conflict.

Conflict Change Theory

Keywords?

* Inequities, class, rich vs poor

Conflict Change Theory

Are changes positive or negative?

* Positive: Conflict is desirable and needed to initiate change and rid society of inequality.

Evolutionary Theory

What does it say about change in society?

* All societies evolve from simple beginning to complex or developed.



Keywords?

* Simple \rightarrow Complex



Are changes positive or negative?

Positive: As society progresses to higher levels, cultural attitudes and behaviors become more advanced.



What does it say about change in society?

* Trends, beliefs, traditions and values are cyclical, go in and out.



Keywords?





Are changes positive or negative?

Not always positive: Some past societies have been entering a period of decay

Challenge and Response

What does it say about change in society?

* Civilizations rise and fall based on challenges and their response to them.

* Ability to respond to challenges determines a societies fate.

Challenge and Response

Keywords?

* Challenges, response, fate

Challenge and Response

Are changes positive or negative?

* Positive: Learn from their mistakes so they are not repeated.

 Negative: Societies who cannot adapt die out.