

# E-Content

## Marginalisation

Semester: V

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## Introduction

- Marginality is an experience that affects millions of people throughout the world.
- People who are marginalized have relatively little control over their lives, and the resources available to them
- A vicious circle is set up whereby their lack of positive and supportive relationships means that they are prevented from participating in local life, which in turn leads to further isolation.
- the objective of development is to create an enabling environment for people to enjoy a productive, healthy, and creative life, it is important to address the issue of marginalization

## Objective of the lecture

- Define marginalization;
- Explain how marginalization creates development deprivation;
- Delineate the nature and causes of marginalization;
- discuss the various types of marginalization; and
- explain the effects of marginalization.

## Meaning

- The overt actions or tendencies of human societies, where people who they perceive to be undesirable, or without useful function are excluded, i.e., marginalized.
- The people who are marginalized - are outside the existing system of protection and integration. This limits their opportunities and means for survival.

## Definition

- Peter Leonard -- "...being outside the mainstream of productive / activity and/or social reproductive activity".
- The Encyclopedia of Public Health -- 'To be marginalized is to be placed in the margins, and thus excluded from the privilege and power found at the center'.
- Laitin observes that, "'Marginality' is so thoroughly demeaning, for economic well-being, for human dignity, as well as for physical security. Marginal peoples can always be identified by members of dominant society, and will face irrevocable discrimination."
- Merriam-Webster's online dictionary definition of the term, marginalize, is "to relegate to an unimportant, or powerless position within a society or group"

## Features

- Sometimes, whole societies can be marginalized at national and global levels, while classes and communities can be marginalized from the dominant social order within the local level.
- The same community can be marginalized in certain country (Jews in Germany or Russia) whereas they are not marginalized in another country (Jews in the U.S.A.).
- Marginalization also increases or decreases at certain stages of life cycle. For example, the marginalized status of children and youth may decrease as they get older
- The marginalized status of adults may increase as they become older; the marginalized status of single mother may change as their children grow up.
- Individuals or groups might enjoy high social status at some point of time, but as social change takes place, they may lose this status and become marginalized.

## Nature of marginalisation

Multidimensional, multicausal, historical phenomenon

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## Types of Marginalisation

- **Social Marginalisation:** both ascribed and acquired in a social setting. Eg., those severely impaired from birth, or those born into marginal groupings (typically life long and greatly determines their lived experience)
- Marginality is acquired by later disablement or by changes in the social and economic system
- Consequences: People who are socially marginalized are largely deprived of social opportunities. stigmatised and are often at the receiving end of negative public attitudes.
- Their opportunities to make social contributions may be limited, and they may develop low self confidence and self esteem



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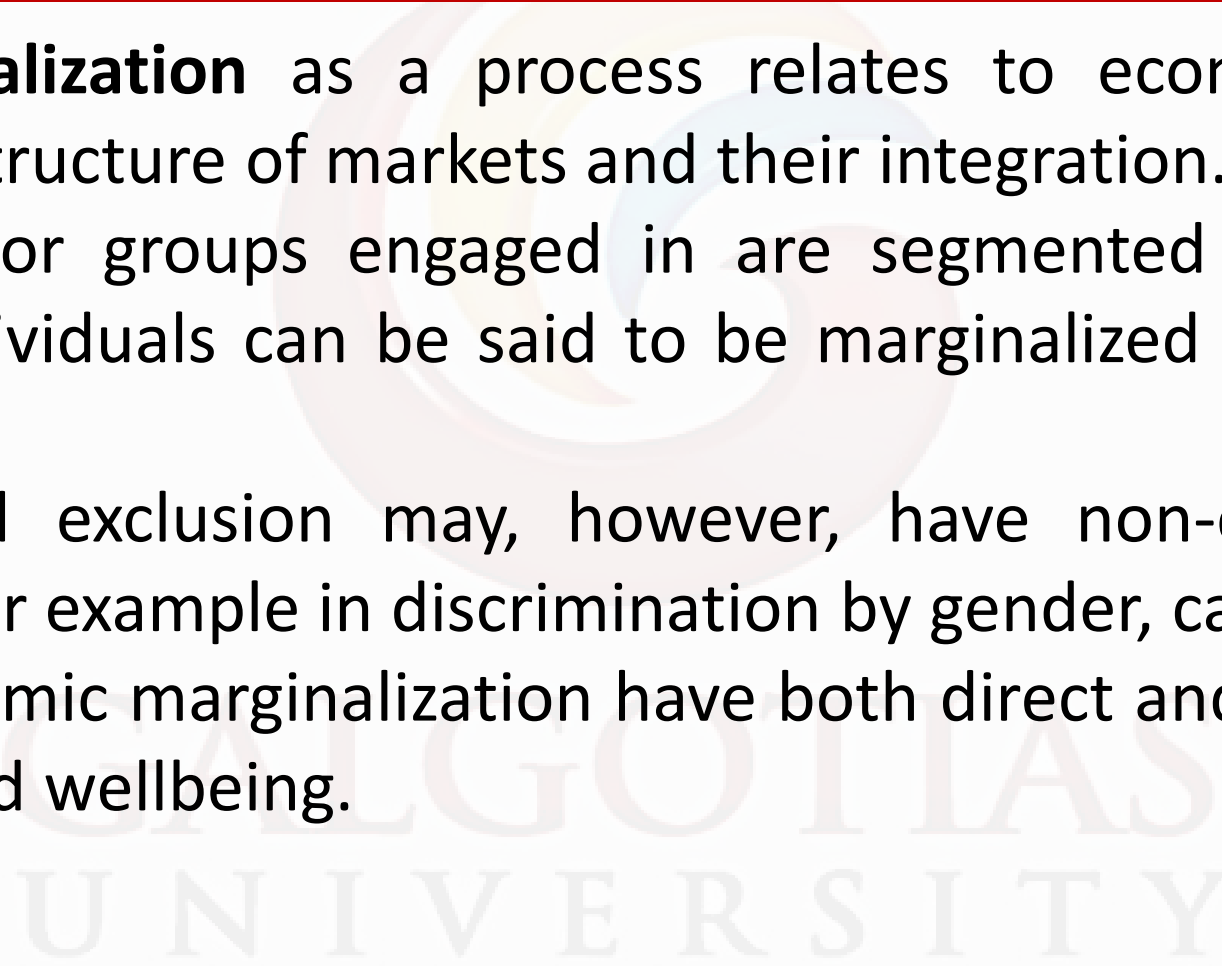
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Course Name: Sociology of Marginalised Sections

- Social policies and practices may mean that they have relatively limited access to valued social resources such as education and health services, housing, income, leisure activities, and work.
- The impact of marginalization, in terms of social exclusion, is similar, whatever the origins and processes of marginalization, irrespective of whether these are located in social attitudes such as, towards impairment, sexuality, ethnicity, and so on or, social circumstances such as closure of workplaces, absence of affordable housing, and so on.
- Another problem is that people born in a marginalized community lack the required social and cultural capital to participate in mainstream development processes.

## Economic Marginalization

- **Economic marginalization** as a process relates to economic structures, in particular, to the structure of markets and their integration.
- Some individuals or groups engaged in are segmented from the others in general, these individuals can be said to be marginalized from the rest of the economy.
- Segmentation and exclusion may, however, have non-economic and non-financial origins, for example in discrimination by gender, caste, or ethnicity.
- Poverty and economic marginalization have both direct and indirect impacts on people's health and wellbeing.



## Political Marginalisation

- **Political marginalization** does not allow the group to participate democratically in decision making, and, hence, they lose their right to every social, economic, and political benefit.
- Political empowerment is one of the most important tools for , accessing other social and economic privileges.
- For example, we find that participation by women is minimized

## Reference

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**Thank you**

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