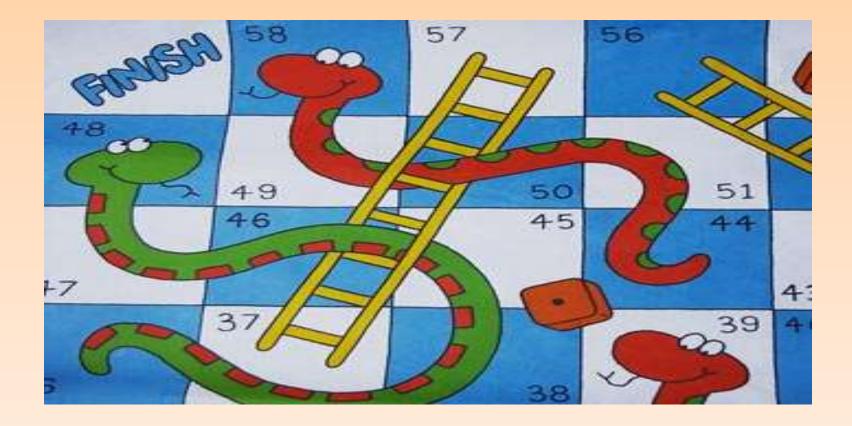
# SOCIAL MOBILITY

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### WHAT IS SOCIAL MOBILITY?

# <u>Meaning</u>: Movement from one class —or more usually status group—to another





#### Wallace and Wallace:

"Social mobility refers to the movement of a person or person's from one social status to another".

#### W.P Scott:

"Social mobility refers to the movement of an individual or group from one social position, class or social stratum to another".

#### **Sociology Dictionary:**

"The social mobility mean movement of an individual or group form one social position or status to another."

e.g. Poor people may become rich, the bank peon may become bank officers, farmers may become ministers, and a petty businessman may become a bankrupt and so on.

# **TYPES OF SOCIAL MOBILITY**

Sorokin has distinguished between two types of social mobility mainly :-

#### i. Horizontal social mobility.

ii. Vertical social mobility.

### HORIZONTAL SOCIAL MOBILITY:

Horizontal mobility is change in position without the change in status. It indicates a change in position with in the range of the same position or status. "It is the movement from one status to its equivalent".

e.g.- An engineer working in factory may resign job and join another factory as an engineer and may work in more or less the same capacity or join an engineering college and start working as professor.

#### Horizontal Social Mobility

- Movement from one position to another within the same social level
- Ex: Changing jobs without altering occupational status
- Moving between social groups having the same social status.



### **VERTICAL SOCIAL MOBILITY:**

Vertical social mobility refers to the movement of an individual or people or groups from one status to another, it involves change in class, occupations or power positions.

e.g. movement from poor class to middle class. From occupation laborer to the bank clerk.

#### Vertical Mobility

 Movement from one social level to a higher one (upward mobility) or a lower one (downward mobility)



Ex: Changing Jobs or Marrying

Cultural diffusion from one social level to another

Adoption by one economic class of the current fashions or formerly current in a higher class



# FROMS OF VERTICAL MOBILITY

Upward Mobility: This type of mobility denotes social ascendance. It denotes that the movement from a lower social position or status to a higher social position or status. It reflects social improvements.

e.g.- The son of a mason through educational attainments may become a university professor.

**Downward Mobility:** This types of mobility denotes "social descendant" or "social failure" on the part of individual or group. Sometimes individuals who fail to maintain their social, political or economic positions, and lose their statuses.

e.g.- Big businessmen who have invested huge money in business but face heavy loss. People in high officers might be denoted due to their corrupt practices and so on.

## FROMS OF VERTICAL MOBILITY

Inter-generational Mobility: It refers to a change in the status of family members form one generation to the next.

e.g.- Bus conductor's son becomes the chief minister of a status.

Intra-generational Mobility: A change in social status which occurs within a person's adult career

- e.g.- a lecturer in a pre-university college becoming a professor at the university after his doctoral degree. A person working as a supervisor in a factory becoming its Assistant Manager after getting promotion.
- Structural Mobility: Structural mobility refers to mobility which is brought about by changes in stratification hierarchy itself. The structural mobility refers to "the vertical movement of a specific group, class, or occupation relative to others in the stratification system".

e.g.- These are the days of computers and information technology. Hence, computer engineers and technicians and information technologists receive greater respect which was previously reserved for scientists and advocates.

#### FROMS OF VERTICAL MOBILITY

Intergenerational Mobility Movement within or between social classes and occupations, the change occurring from one generation to the next

Ex: Father to Son
Ex: Mother to Daughter
Can be horizontal or vertical



# FACTORS OF SOCIAL MOBILITY

- Motivation
- □ Achievements and Failures
- Education
- Skills and Training
- □ Migration
- Industrialization
- □ Urbanization
- □ Modernization

