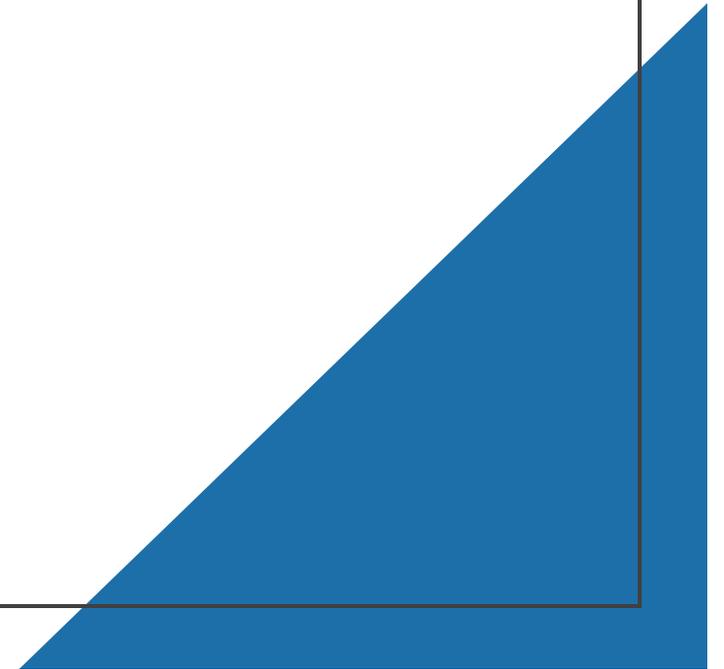


SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

Emil Durkheim

WINTER TERM 2023



What does it mean to apply the sociological perspective according to Durkheim?

What is solidarity in society (any implications for today's world)?

What kind of collective actions fulfill the function of religion in contemporary society?

(1858-1917)

EMILE DURKHEIM



sociology as academic discipline



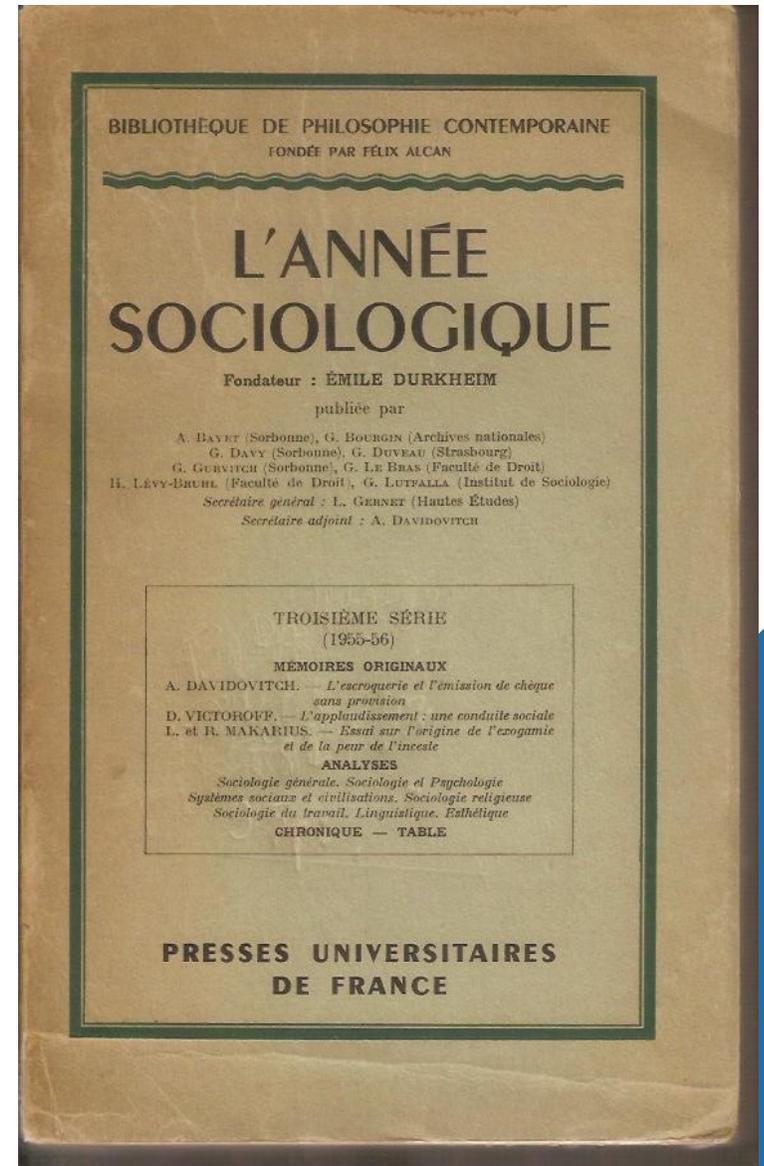
DIFFERENT THAN PHILOSOPHY –
BASED ON EMPIRICAL
RESEARCH



DIFFERENT THAN PSYCHOLOGY –
FOCUSED ON THE OVER-
INDIVIDUAL PHENOMENA

sociology as academic discipline

- 1896 – first Department of Sociology, University of Bordeaux
- 1902 – Sorbonne University
- L'Année Sociologique (1898)



*The Rules of
Social Method*
(1895)

SUBJECT OF SOCIOLOGY: TO STUDY THE
SOCIAL FACTS (SOCIAL REALITY IS OBJECTIVE)

SOCIAL FACTS ARE TO BE TREATED LIKE
THINGS

SOCIAL FACTS TO BE STUDIED EMPIRICALLY

SOCIAL
STRUCTURES

VALUES

**SOCIAL FACTS (material
and non-material)**

CULTURAL
NORMES

SOCIAL ROLES





environmental
crisis as social
fact?

The Division of Labour in Society (1893)

SOCIETY

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graph TD; SOCIETY --> MECHANICAL_SOCIETY[MECHANICAL SOCIETY]; SOCIETY --> ORGANIC_SOCIETY[ORGANIC SOCIETY]
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MECHANICAL SOCIETY

- ✓ undifferentiated structure
- ✓ little or no division of labour
- ✓ mechanic solidarity
- ✓ increasing competition

ORGANIC SOCIETY

- ✓ highly differentiated structure
- ✓ division of labour
- ✓ organic solidarity
- ✓ greater cooperation and complementarity

what kind of social world is that?

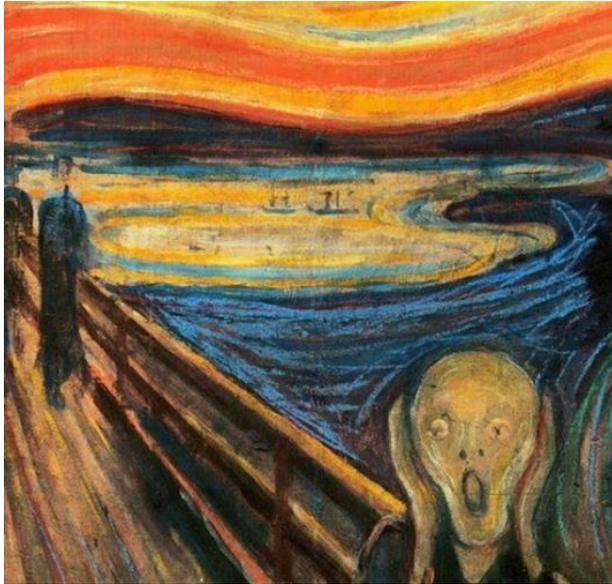


- *SUI GENERIS* (en. unique)
- EXTERNAL TO AN INDIVIDUAL - OBJECTIVE
- *COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE*

what holds society together?

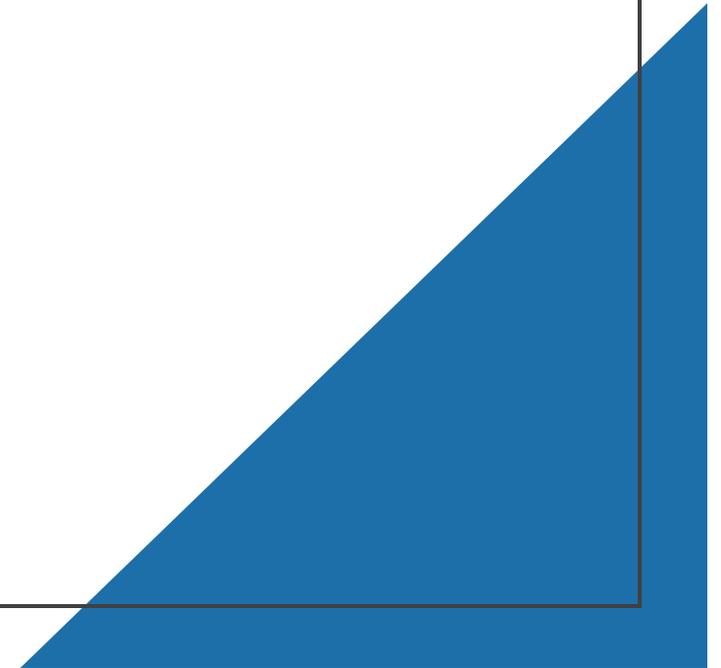
DIVISION OF LABOUR → SOLIDARITY

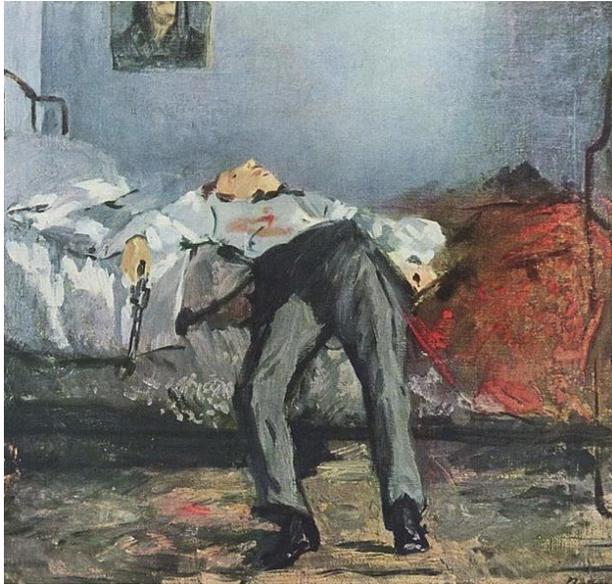




- the state in which individuals do not have a clear concept of what is and what is not a proper and acceptable behaviour
- moral connotations

anomie





To explain the differences in suicidal rate among groups

EGOISTIC (low integration)
ALTRUISTIC (high integration)
FATALISTIC (high regulation)

ANOMIC (low regulation)

Le Suicide (1897)

Suicides and Alcoholism

