


Modernity, Noise, Silence: A Sociological Critique

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ABSTRACT

Noise is known as any sound that disturbs and negatively affects people. It is seen that noise has different meanings according to societies, and this situation should be reviewed sociologically. This study focuses on the effects of noise as a social phenomenon on people and their societies. Cities represent the modern world; crowded populations, different cultural communities, are the scene of noise events such as traffic sounds. In this sense, urban areas do not have the luxury of staying silent, and access to silence can be quite costly and challenging. In addition, popular culture and music that stand out in today's society are among the significant noise sources. While the sound and rhythm in music provide activity, it can also confirm noise. The loudness of the music and its increasing electronification show that noise is used in music. Noise affects social life, as well as can have reflections on interpersonal relationships. Although noise has adverse effects on social relations, it can also be used as a communication style. The study theoretically discusses the place and impact of noise in social life. After all, the meanings attributed to noise as a social phenomenon show that it is a paradox of the modern world. While the contemporary world increases the volume of noise, it also accepts its adverse effects and tries to find solutions to minimize such effects.

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