**Social institutions** are established sets of norms and subsystems that support each society's survival. Each sector carries out certain tasks and has different responsibilities that contribute to the overall functioning and stability of a society.

**Basic Social Institutions**

**Religion-** A religion is that institution which studies, practices and believes the existence of God and the mystery of life and death. The world is diverse when it comes to religion. Different religions have different beliefs and practices. A religion in society is believed to be a dominant instrument to control the society.

**Politics-** Politics is a significant social institution. It is the function of a society in which all the powers are given to a particular group of people chosen by the citizens through poles. From the type of food we eat to the type of security we get when we go out of our houses, everything is decided by that group of people in power. So, voting for a party is a crucial decision for every citizen. Every society has politics today by the name of government. The government makes rules namely laws for the entire country, and asks the people to follow them. Breach in those laws result in imprisonment and penalties. The people in power often get involved in corruption. Corruption is one of the most negative factors of a society that prevents its growth. Politicians often give dishonest assurances to people and after they come into power, forget all about what they said. If a country gets to be corruption free, most of its issues can be resolved. It is the most anti-society factor and activity in a country.

**Economic-** Economy is that social institution which produces and distributes the goods and services and monitors their consumption. The goods and services are two of the basic things that the people of a country require. The two main economic systems are Capitalism and Socialism. The economy is an institution that keeps on changing. There are many economic trends like diversity in the work place, globalization, self- employment etc. The transaction of goods and services requires currencies as a medium. The introduction of currencies in today’s world has made the transactions much easier and advance. Before the currencies came into existence, the barter system was the only medium of transaction, barter system is where a person provides good and services in return of other goods and services.

**Education -** Education is another vital social institution. Just as economy and government, education also caters to the opportunities of growth in a society. If a child is given a proper and sufficient education, he gets an exposure to the worldly affairs and learns to judge situations better. He also passes his knowledge on and contributes to the betterment of his society.

**Family-** When we hear the word family, a house with a mother, father, brother and sister comes into our mind and it is the most general description of a family. But a family is actually the unity of two or more people through blood relation, marriage or adoption. Family in a society works as a social support for an individual. When a child is raised in a family with loving parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters he or she gets to experience a positive upbringing which continues when he or she actually grows up.

There are three main functions of a family-

 1. To get an identity.

 2. To rear future generation.

 3. To promote a culture.

**Marriage-** Marriage is that social institution which was created to keep a healthy regulation of a person’s life. It is in a close association with the institution of family. The norms of marriages vary from culture to culture. A marriage is the process of uniting two different people from different families together through a ceremony. It serves the purpose of finding companionship