## **Chapter 6** Discussion Questions

### 6.1.1 The New Groupthink

Can you think of specific examples of how working in teams within offices without walls might limit workers’ creativity, that require privacy and freedom without interruptions? Briefly describe your examples.

### 6.2.1 Total Institutions

Review the definition and features of a **total institution**. Can you think of ways in which the features of a total institution like a prison could be different yet still accomplish the goals of the definition?

### 6.3.1 Social Problems and Bureaucracies

Can you think of examples in which the rules of a bureaucratic organization clash with the needs of the individual?

### More Than a Theory

### 6.3.2 Functionalist

Can you identify one example of dysfunction in the family, corporations, and political parties?

### 6.3.3 Conflict

How might the introduction of McDonaldization negatively impact employees? What can organizations do to reduce the negative effects of McDonaldization on employees and customers?

### 6.3.4 Symbolic Interactionist

How and why would the relationship between elementary school students and their classroom teacher differ from that between a military sergeant and their troops?

### 6.4.1 Groups and Social Pressure

Can you think of other examples in which the sociological imagination can help explain how pressure applied by a group can mold the social landscape?

### 6.5.1 Cyberslacking and Surveillance

Should employees be allowed to visit social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram while at work? Should employers use surveillance equipment to monitor employee cyberslacking?