

TABLE 5.2**Merton's Modes of Adaptation**

MODE OF ADAPTATION	RESPONSE TO SOCIETAL GOALS	RESPONSE TO SOCIETAL MEANS	EXAMPLE
Conformist	Accepts	Accepts	Individual who works hard in college and strives for economic success
Innovator	Accepts	Rejects	Individual who wants economic success but turns to crime for that success
Ritualist	Rejects	Accepts	Individual who has no goals but does everything he or she is expected to do
Retreatist	Rejects	Rejects	Individual who retreats into drugs or alcohol for escape
Rebel	Rejects/Replaces	Rejects/Replaces	Individual who has goals inconsistent with societal goals and uses illegitimate means to reach those goals (e.g., terrorists)