



# Asset Accumulation Strategies in 3 New Settlement Missouri Communities

MU Cambio Center

USDA NRI

Advisory Board Meeting

April 2, 2007

Kansas City, Missouri



# Agenda

## **Introduction**

Welcome - brief introduction of attendees

Additions to the agenda?

## **Project Update and Comments**

Presentations on Qualitative Methodologies and Comments

- a) Photovoice Methodology – Steve Jeanetta
- b) How the project is approaching acculturation issues – Lisa Flores
- c) Case studies and the Household Survey - Corinne Valdivia

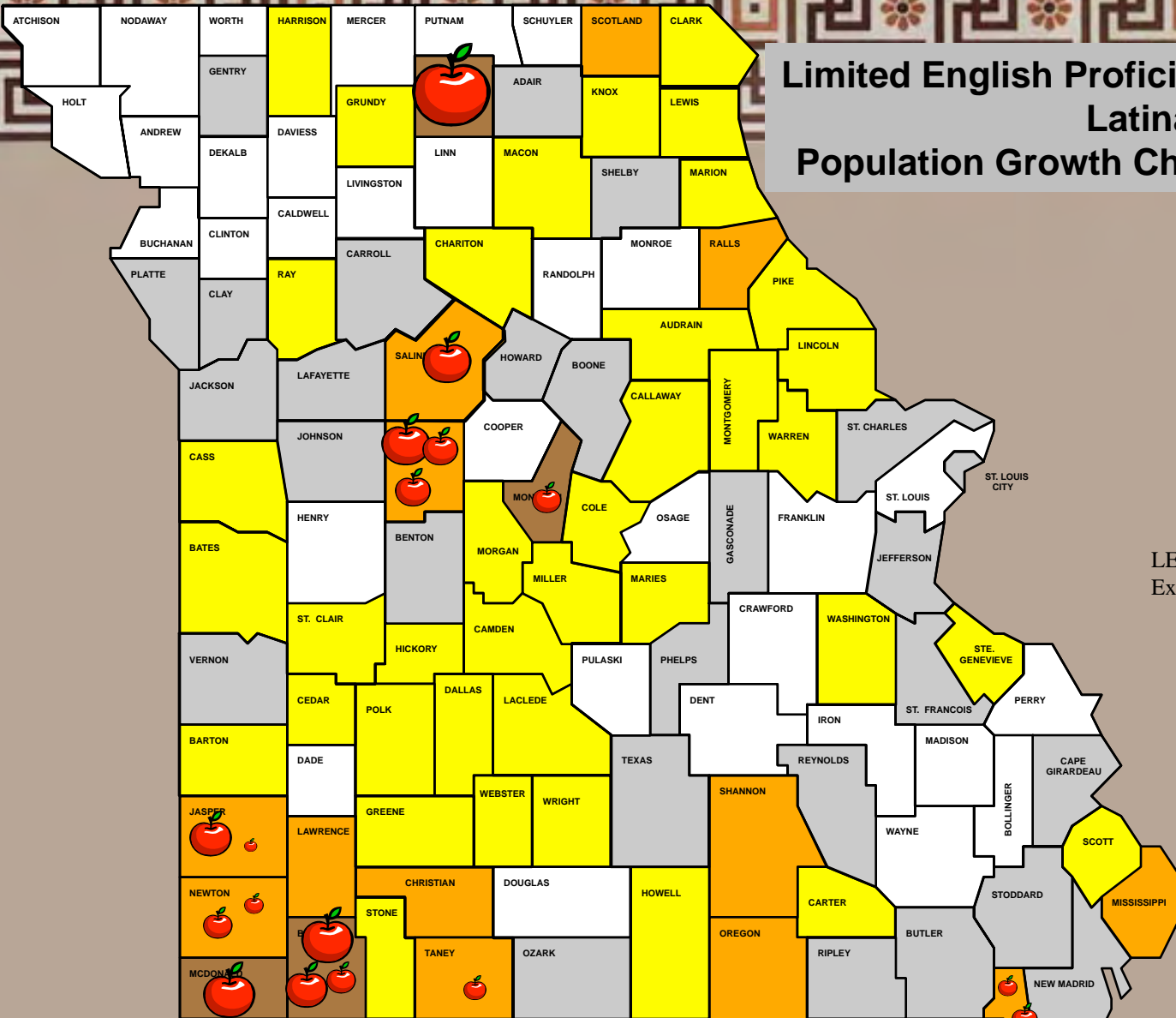
## **Advisory Board Comments**




- a) Community Forums -Identifying key stakeholders for hosting and participation
- b) Information Pathways at the following levels:  
Community - Business Sector – State - Policy Makers

## **Adjournment**

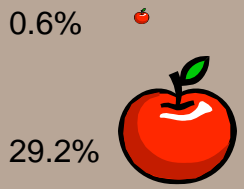


# Limited English Proficient Enrollments and Latina/o Population Growth Change: 1990 to 2000



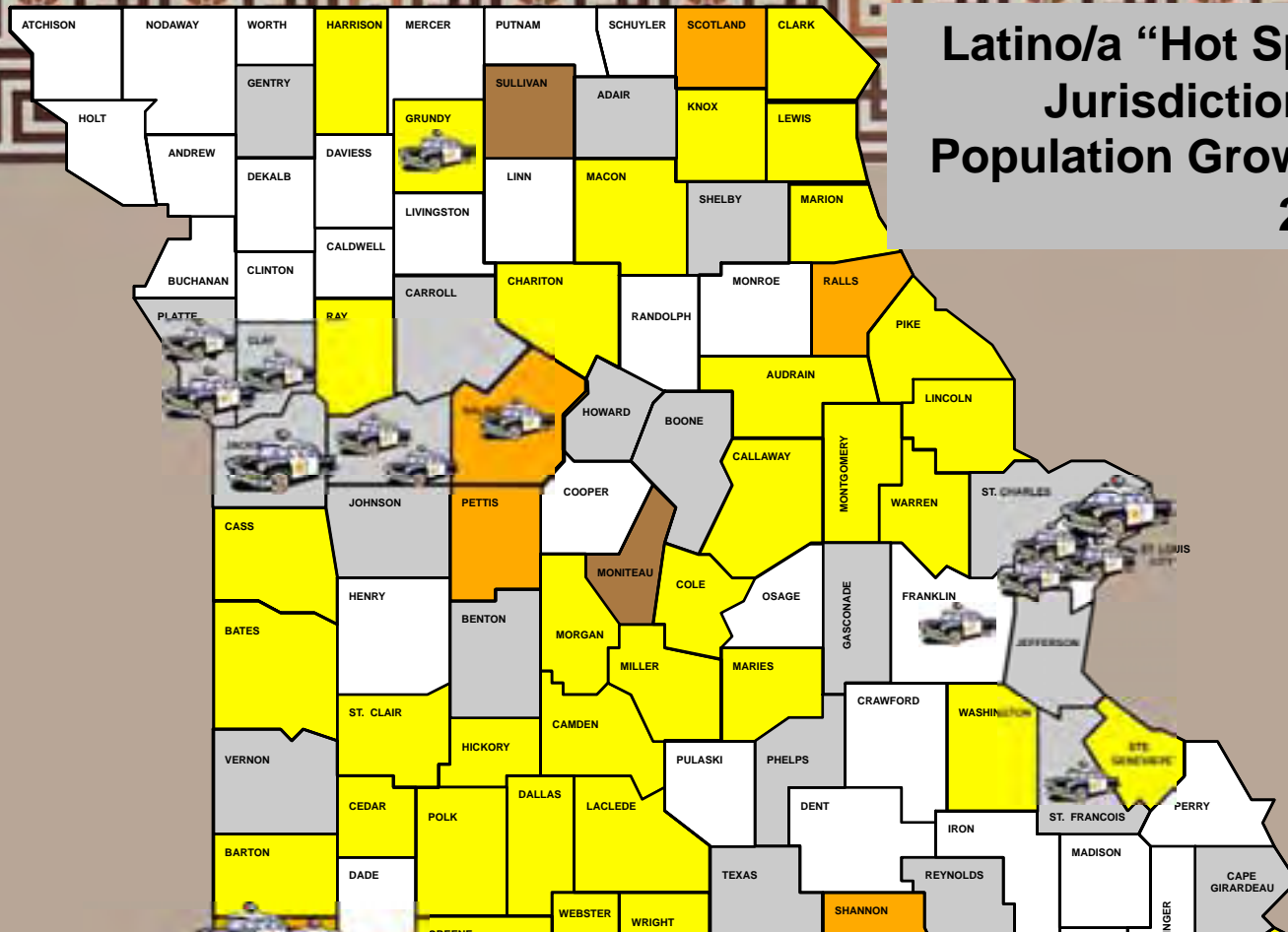
-  Less Than National Average
-  Higher Than National Average
-  More Than 2x Growth
-  More Than 4x Growth
-  More Than 8x Growth

LEP Enrollment ranges from 0.6% to 29.2%  
Examples:



OSEDA.  
Lazos, Sylvia & Cambio de Colores 2002.

# Latino/a “Hot Spot” racial profiling Jurisdictions and Latina/o Population Growth Change: 1990 to 2000



- Less Than National Average
- Higher Than National Average
- More Than 2x Growth
- More Than 4x Growth
- More Than 8x Growth

Disparity Index ranges from 1.12 to 20.45  
Examples:

1.12



20.45



**Note counties with high rates and low disparity index .**  
**Decker, 2005:**  
**Hispanic Search Rates are typically the highest of any race/ethnicity group; Contraband Hit Rates for Hispanics are typically the lowest of any race/ethnicity group**



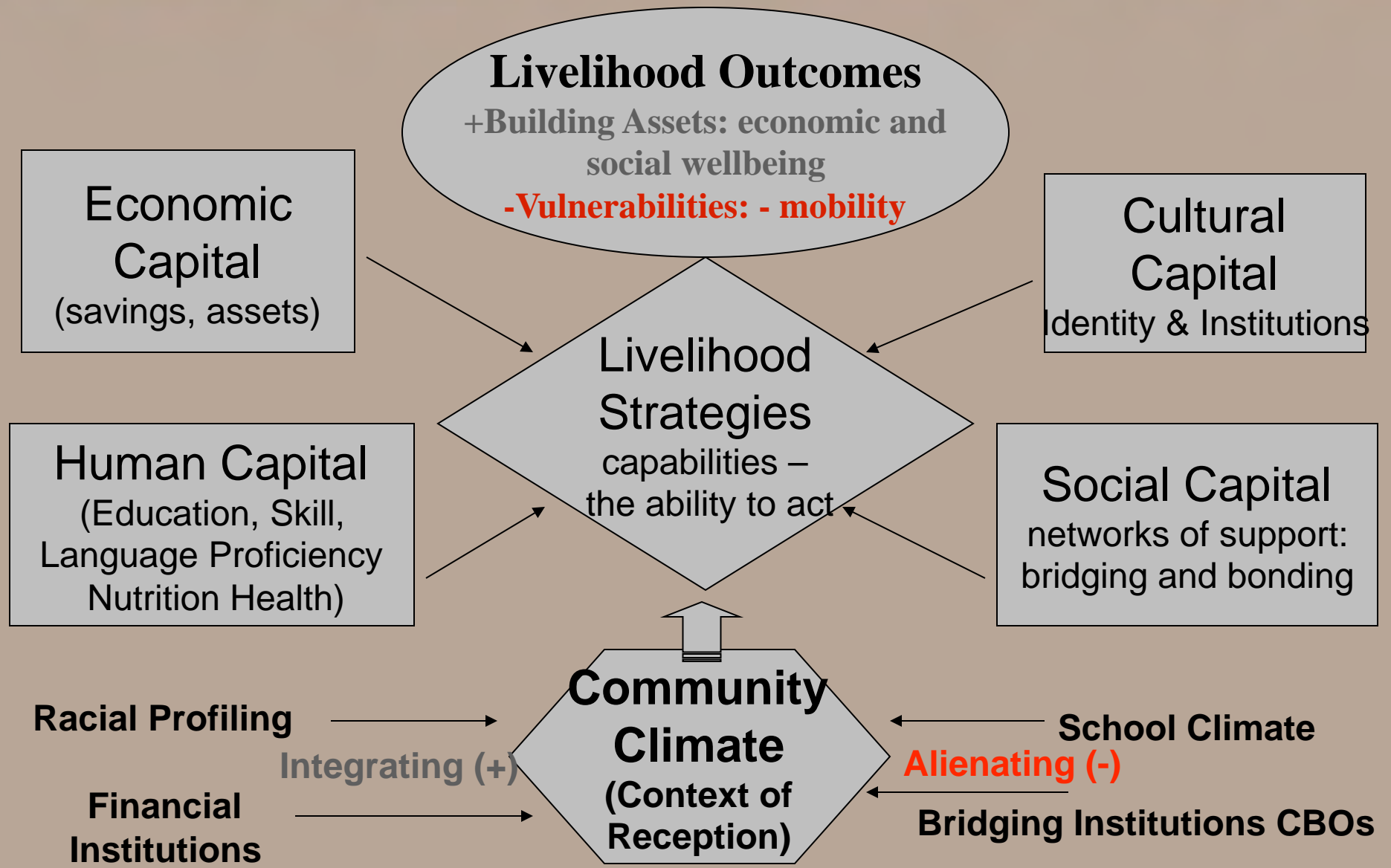


The purpose of this research is to examine the strategies newcomers employ to accumulate assets, minimize their vulnerability to risk exposure and become part of their new communities.

“Getting by and getting ahead”

- The following questions will guide the study:
  - What are the strategies Latino immigrants use to integrate into communities and lead sustainable, high quality lives?
  - What factors facilitate or impede their economic integration?
- Strengths based model

# Strengths Based Model: Livelihoods, Capitals, and the Context of Reception





# Accomplishments

- Certificate of Confidentiality and IRB approval January 19, 2007
- Recruited Dr. Flores to the team, and identified three graduate research assistants
- Visited with stakeholders in 3 communities and identified facilitating institutions – Pettis County Community Partnership, Milan Centro Latino, Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church with advice of UM Extension
- Developed contracts for the focus groups
- Developed contracts for the photovoice activity
- Conducted focus groups in Milan and Sedalia (4) – participants were thankful, as they feel they have a chance to share their stories
- In process of signing contracts for Branson – focus groups planned tentatively for April 17
- Accepted presentations: the Rural Sociology Meetings (8/07), paper and poster; to the Latin American Studies Association (9/07); Oxford conference (7/07)

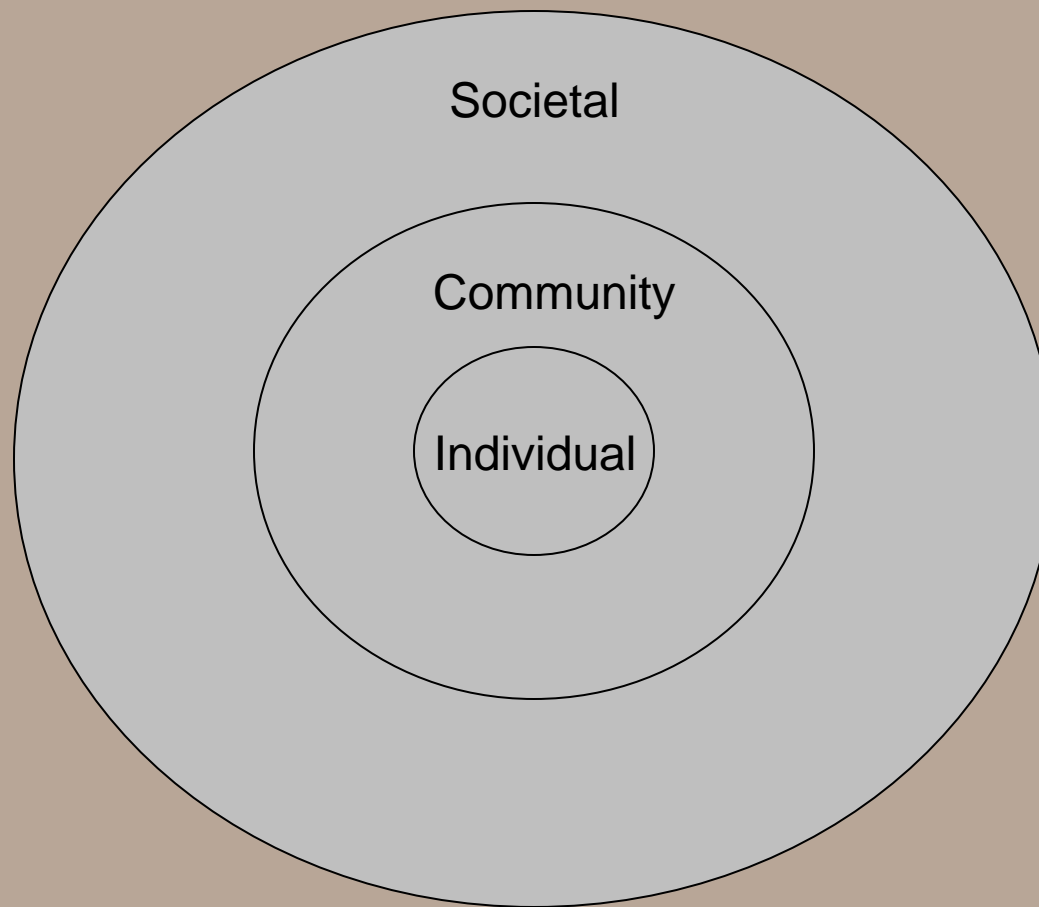




# Acculturation

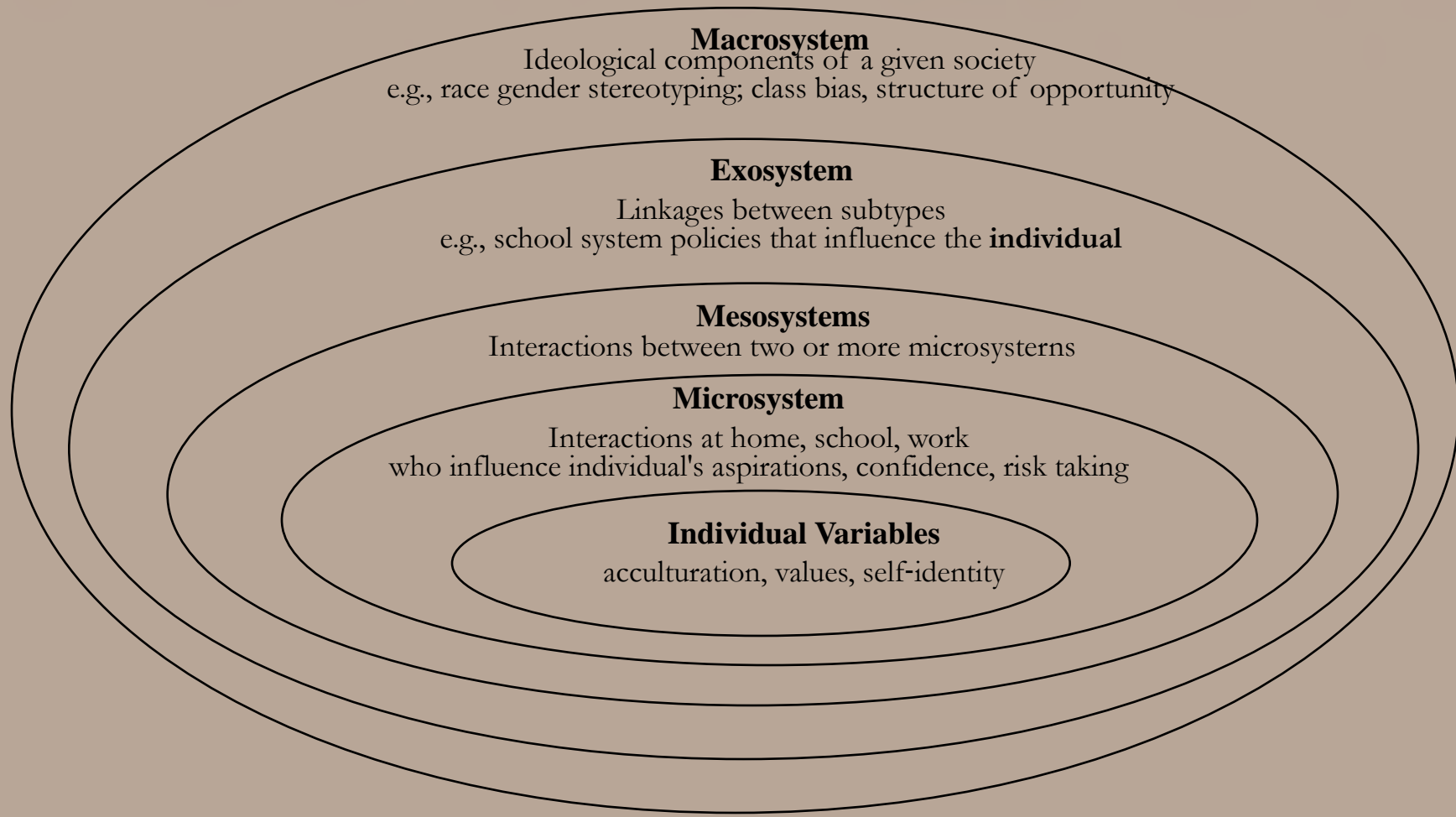
Lisa Flores

# Context is Important!





# Bronfenbrenner's (1979) Ecological Model





# Acculturation

- Generational Status
- Primary language spoken to communicate with others
- Degree of affiliation with majority culture (e.g., composition of peer network, Anglicization of name)
- Role conflicts with regard to familial expectations
- Value systems, customs, and orientations (religion, political affiliation, etc.)
- Level of involvement in cultural traditions or activities
- Educational level of client, family members, relatives
- Skin color
- Location raised, currently living
- Religious identity, affiliation



# Unidimensional



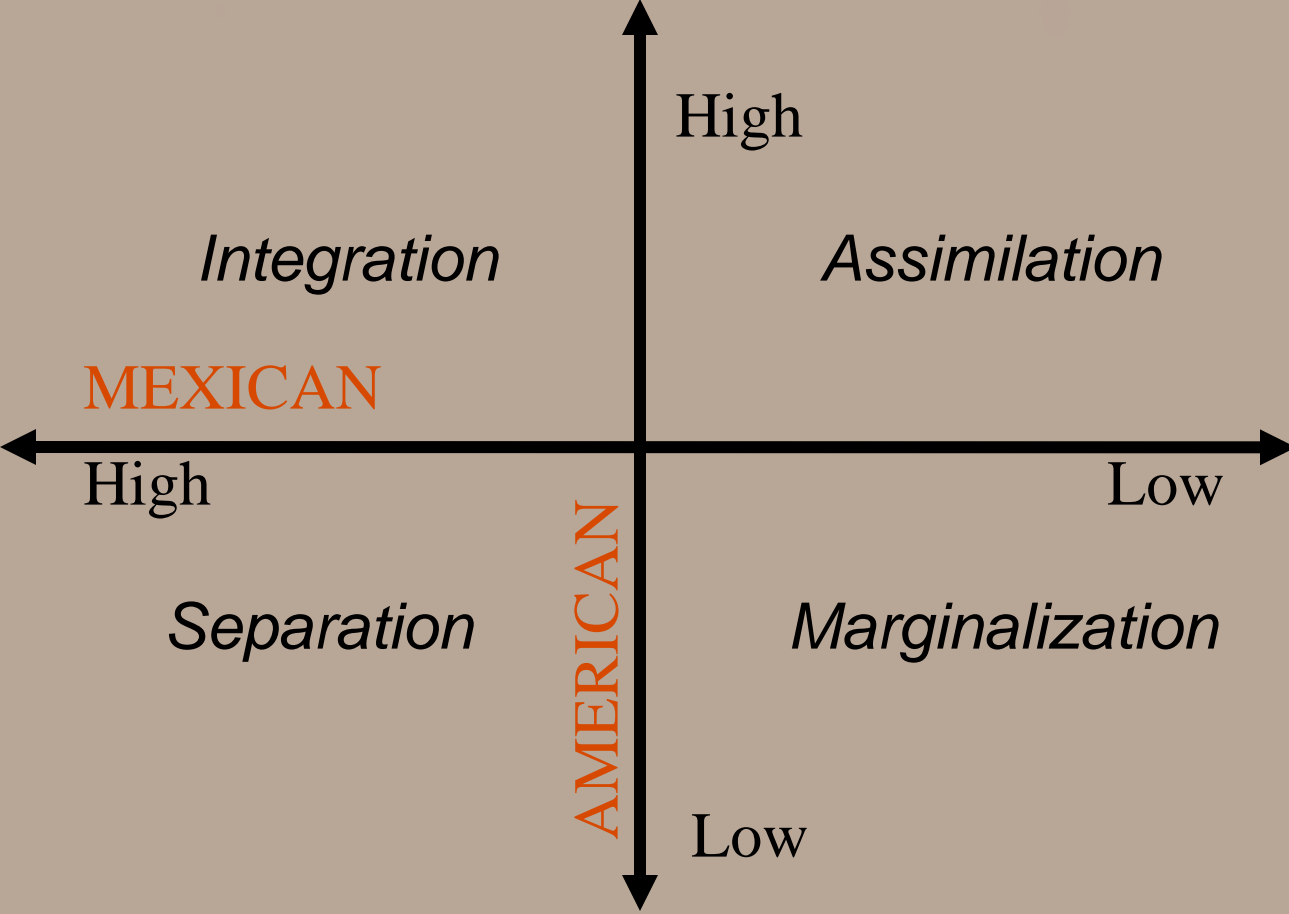
Traditional

Acculturated





# Bidimensional





# Photovoice

Steve Jeanetta




# Community Partners

- Local Facilitators
  - Contacts in the community
  - Serving as bridges between the Immigrant community and the broader community
  - Focal point for building networks into the community
  - Establish them as bridges to the University and our resources
  - Increased understanding of each others needs and capabilities
- Participants
  - Share their stories
  - Process of self reflection
  - Increased understanding of their own circumstances



# Community Stakeholders

- Connecting through local partners
  - Facilitators
  - Extension Staff
  - Other networks
- Photovoice Community Forums
  - Share participant findings with the communities
  - Start a discussion about what the photos mean about their community
  - Engage in a dialogue about what kind of changes may begin to improve the integration process



# Case studies and the Household Survey

## Corinne Valdivia

- How LS take shape:
  - case studies – process – criteria for selection
  - household survey 2007-2008 – quantitative indicators of assets/capitals and climate
- Economic Integration:
  - Asset accumulation – indicators (case studies)
- Social Integration:
  - Institutions Identity and well being – indicators (focus groups and photovoice)





# Advisory Board Comments

- a) Community Forums -Identifying key stakeholders for hosting and participation
- b) Information Pathways at the following levels:  
Community - Business Sector – State - Policy Makers
- c) Other



# References

- Berry, J. (2003). Conceptual Approaches to acculturation, in K. Chun, P. Balls Organista, & G. Marín (Eds.), *Acculturation: Advances in Theory, Measurement, and Applied Research* (pp.17-38), Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.



## Introduction - D. Martínez

### Land Grant Model

- Land Grant: address state needs through research, teaching, and service (extension)
- Permanent two-way link between academia and society's needs
- Partnership between federal government, states, and LG institutions

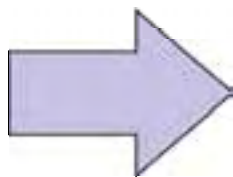


# Cambio Center “Model”

- Problem oriented and proactive
- Multidimensional problems require multidisciplinary approaches
- Sustainability requires involvement of *all* stakeholders (newcomers & receiving)
- Integration vis-à-vis assimilation



Changes in the state

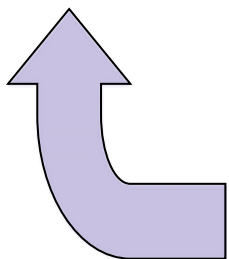


UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
Extension

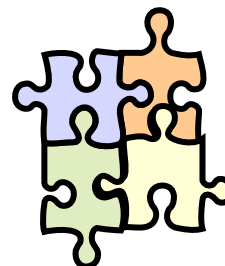
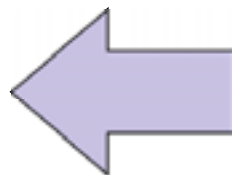
Alianzas  
alliances



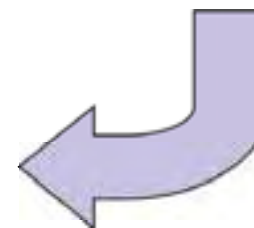
University of Missouri  
System




Knowledge,  
Data,  
and Outreach



Research







# Premise

“Recent developments in the cultural identity literature can help us to move beyond a deficits approach to viewing culture not an obstacle but as a resource from which individuals draw to create strategies to function in various domains in society (Berry 2003).

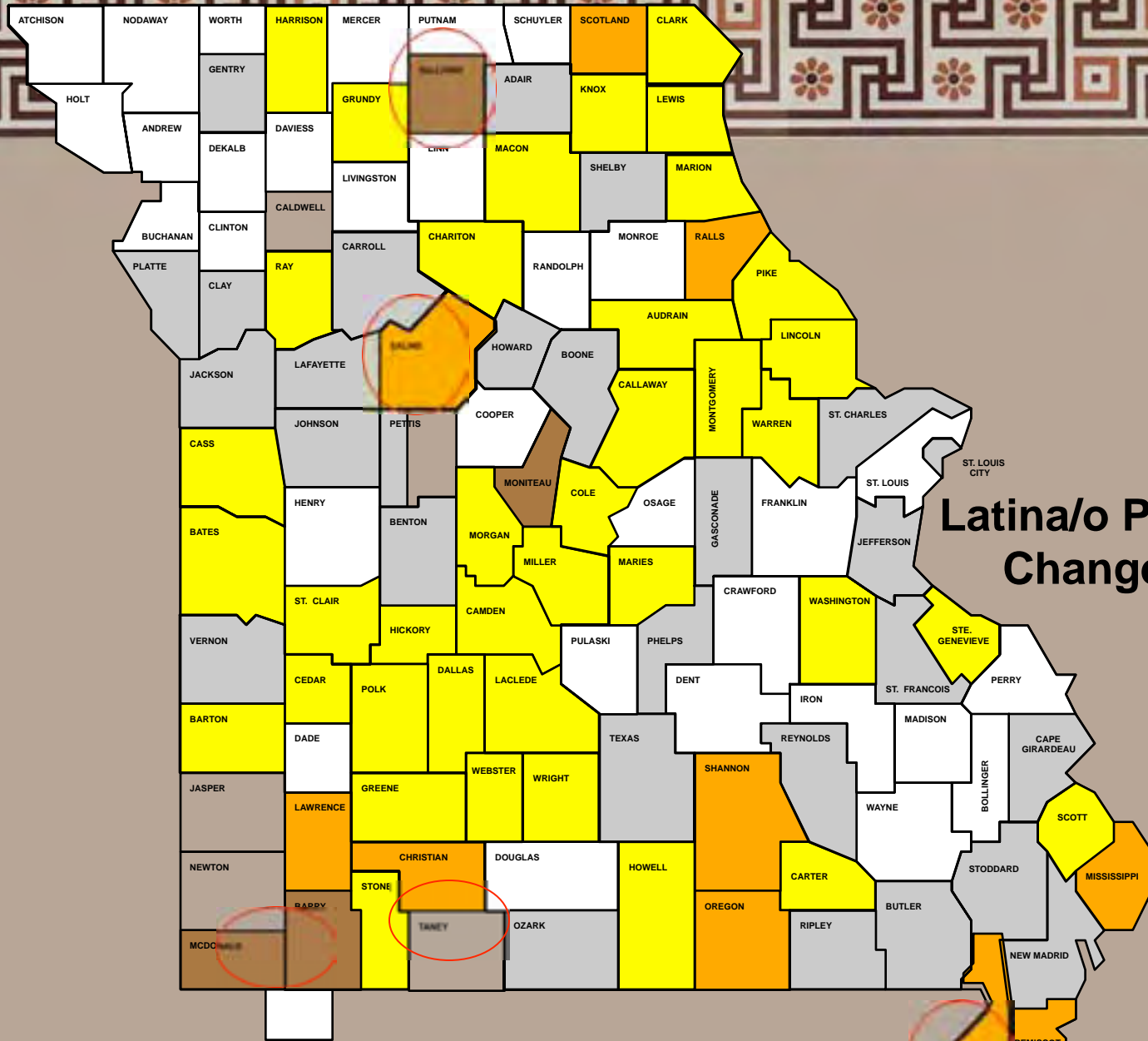
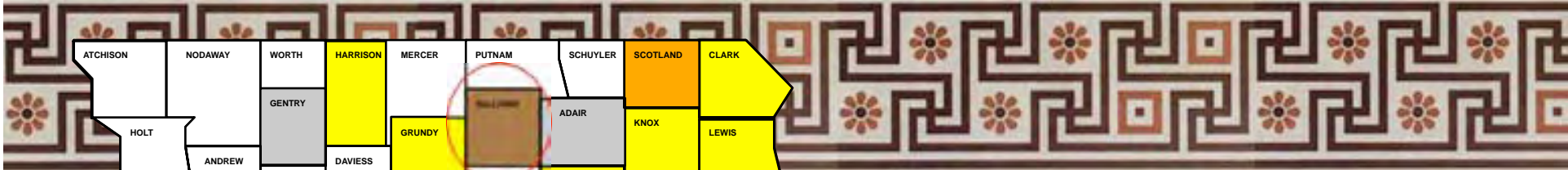
This new orientation shifts us away from a deficit model for thinking about how individuals of different cultures gain and lose in the process of integration to recognizing the multiple ways that individuals can adapt in new and ever changing environments without suffering loss of identity in the process. This approach shifts our attention to looking at what the newcomers offer and leads us to ponder how we can engage them in the future development and prosperity of the new settlement communities.” (Asset Accumulation Strategies, 2006)



# Vision

Newcomers and their families integrated  
to their new settlement communities

Thriving communities - Pluralism



- Less Than National Average
- Higher Than National Average
- More Than 2x Growth
- More Than 4x Growth
- More Than 8x Growth

# Latina/o Population Growth Change: 1990 to 2000





# Social Capital

- Measuring Social Capital in the Immigrant community
  - Bonding Social Capital--social capital as connections within the immigrant community
  - Bridging Social Capital--strong links to other groups and institutions in the community





# Focus Group Process

- Purpose of the Focus Group Project
  - Develop a picture of how immigrants are integrating economically and socially
  - Develop a sense of immigrant perceptions on community climate and identity
  - Develop an understanding of their perspectives on culture, identity and how the immigration process has affected those perceptions.
  - Develop a framework for further analysis of social relationships and their effect on economic and social integration and community climate.



# Focus Group Process

- Observations on the process so far...
  - Connecting to community partners
  - Diversity of the participants
  - Relationship between the facilitators and the participants
  - Differences between the men and women's groups
    - Women's Isolation
    - Perspectives on differences in culture and discrimination
    - Attitudes towards sharing in a group
  - Time and Place are important