



IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION & SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT LINKING RECEIVING & NEWCOMER COMMUNITIES

Corinne Valdivia, Steve Jeanetta, Lisa Y. Flores, Alejandro Morales & Domingo Martínez— University of Missouri



www.cambio.missouri.edu

The past 20 years have seen a dramatic increase in Latino newcomers in Midwestern states, drawn by employment opportunities in agro-processing, manufacturing and the service sector. This change has led to a number of integration issues for rural places. The project aims to identify processes of integration by incorporating the perspectives of both groups of residents.

This project uses a mixed-methods research design to study acculturation of both newcomer and long term residents in Midwestern communities. The interdisciplinary strengths-based model developed is informed by sustainable livelihoods, acculturation theories, ecological model and action research theory.

Acculturation profiles are developed in Phase I using focus groups, photovoice, and surveys. In Phase II, communities identify and implement strategies to address any problematic or conflictual acculturation outcomes through an Appreciative Inquiry process. For more information visit: www.cambio.missouri.edu/integration

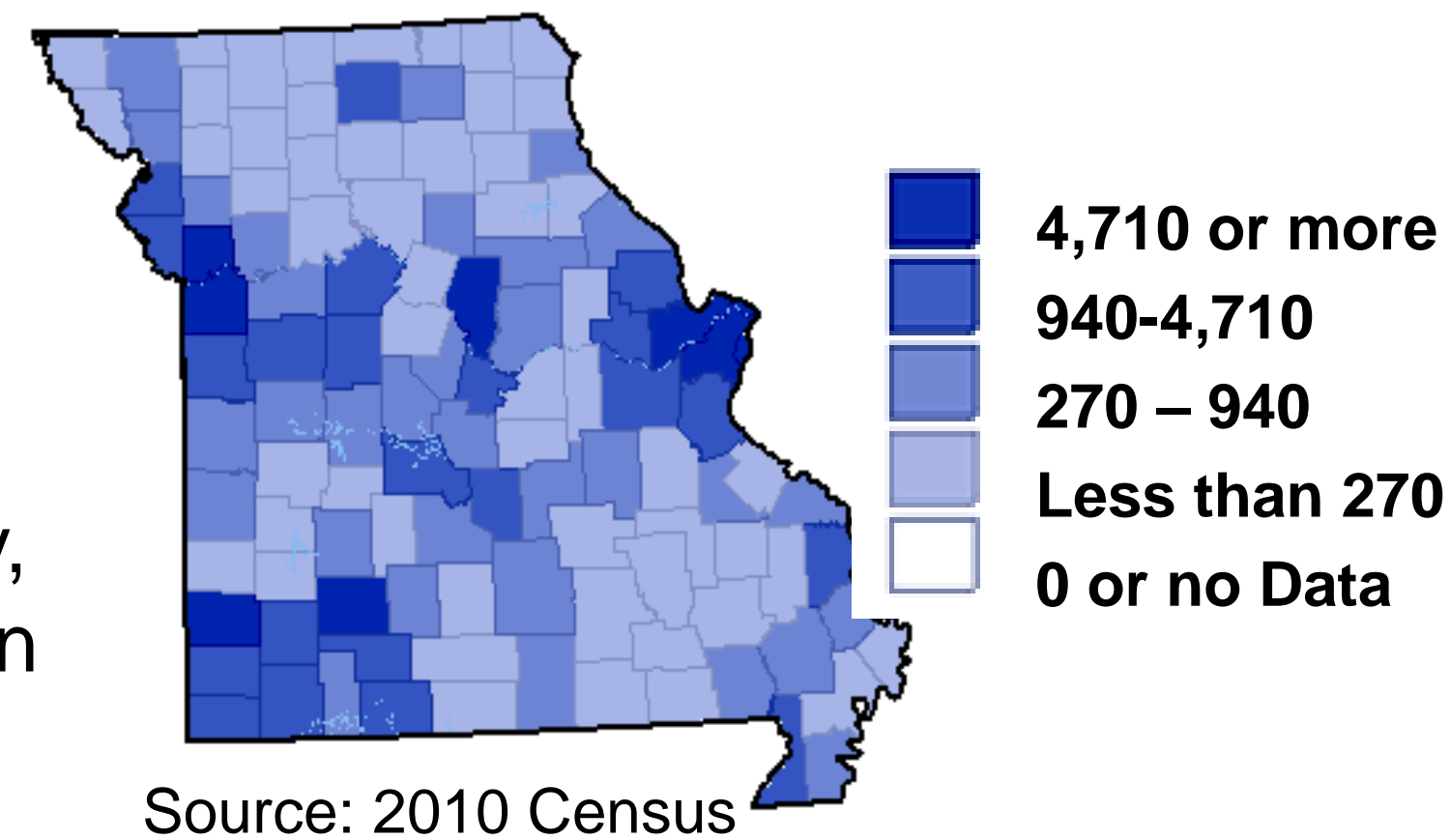
Communities & Theories

Region 1 is an area with small towns and large corporate agriculture and processing plants.

Region 2 has a diverse economy with manufacturing plants, services, and retail.

Region 3 has a significant recreation industry, employing workers in hospitality, services, construction and landscaping.

Hispanic population, by county in 2010

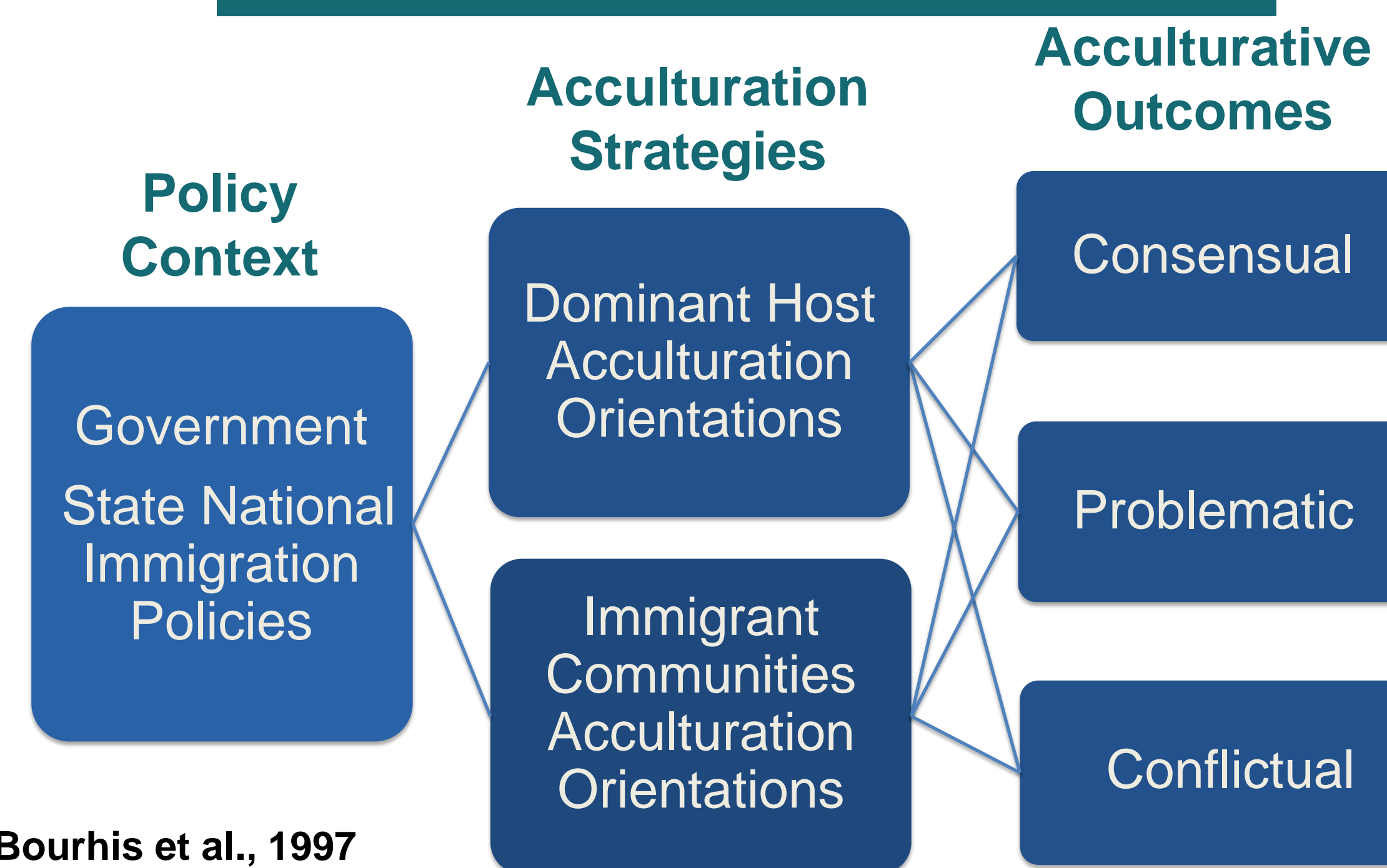


The research design draws from the following theoretical frames:

- **Sustainable livelihoods**, specifically theories of capitals and capabilities
- **Acculturation theories** to understand human agency and adaptation strategies of newcomers and long term residents adjusting to change
- **Human ecology** to assess individual interactions with the context of reception (interactions at the micro-, meso- and macro-systems)
- **Participatory research methods** and an **appreciative inquiry** process to engage the decision makers

Project Framework

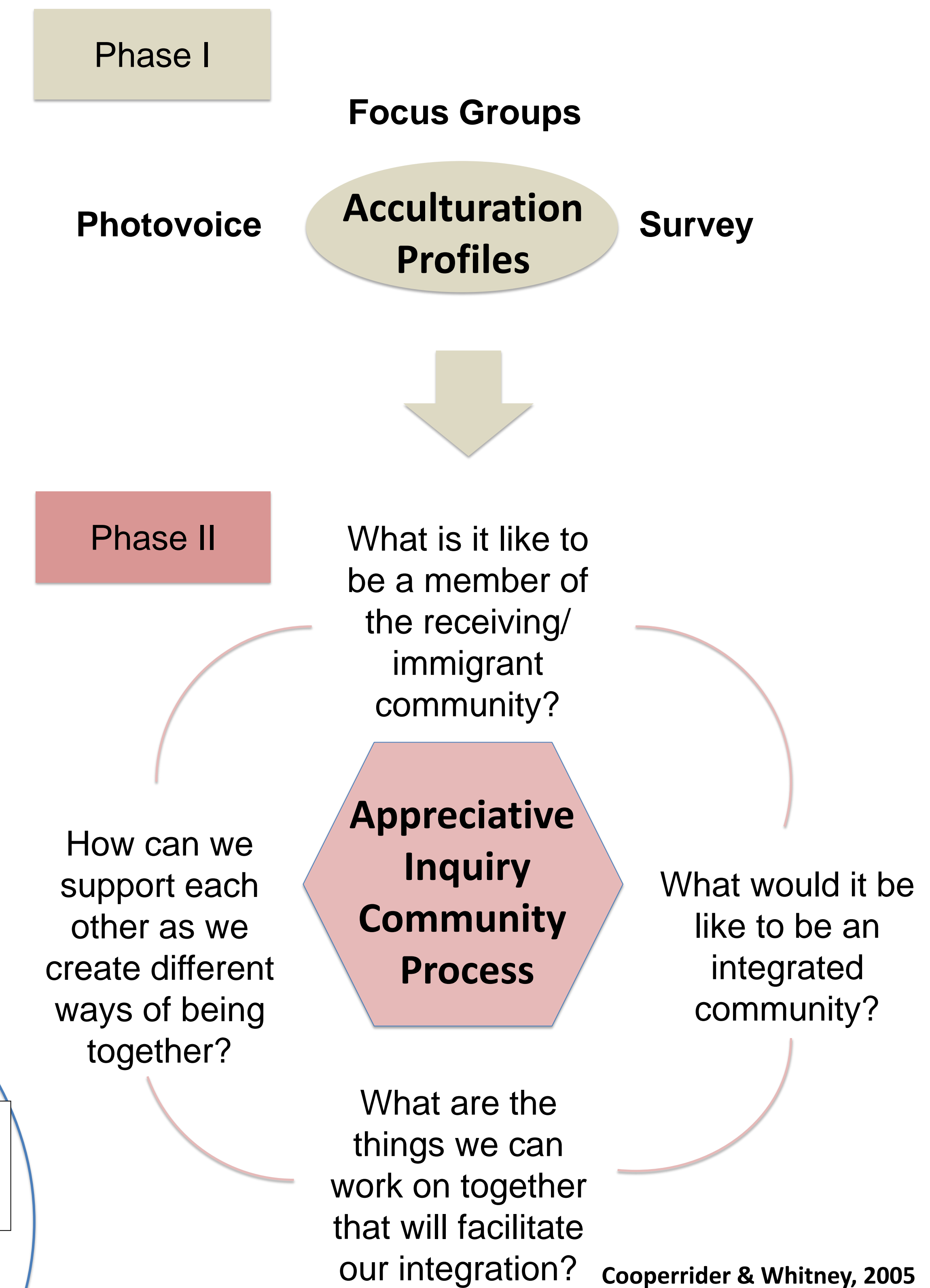
Interactive Acculturation Model



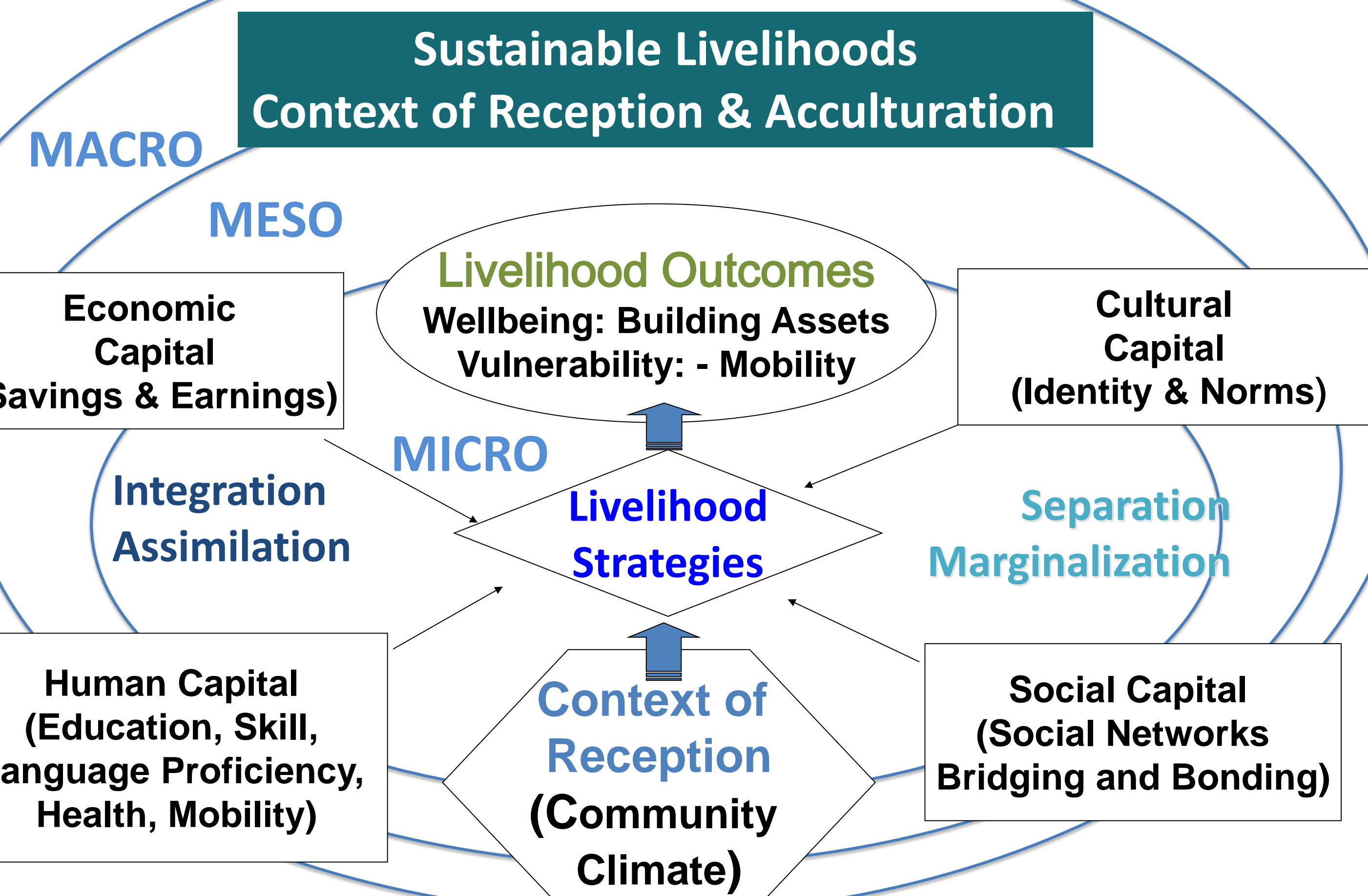
Bourhis et al., 1997

To evaluate the acculturation of decision makers and communities and develop profiles that inform the appreciative inquiry process.

Phases & Process



Cooperrider & Whitney, 2005



Berry, 2003; Valdivia et al, 2008, 2012

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United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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