

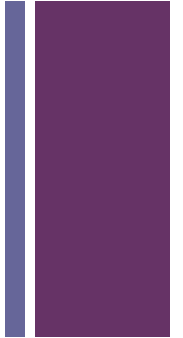


Property of the State: Locked Up, Locked + Out, and in Need of Treatment

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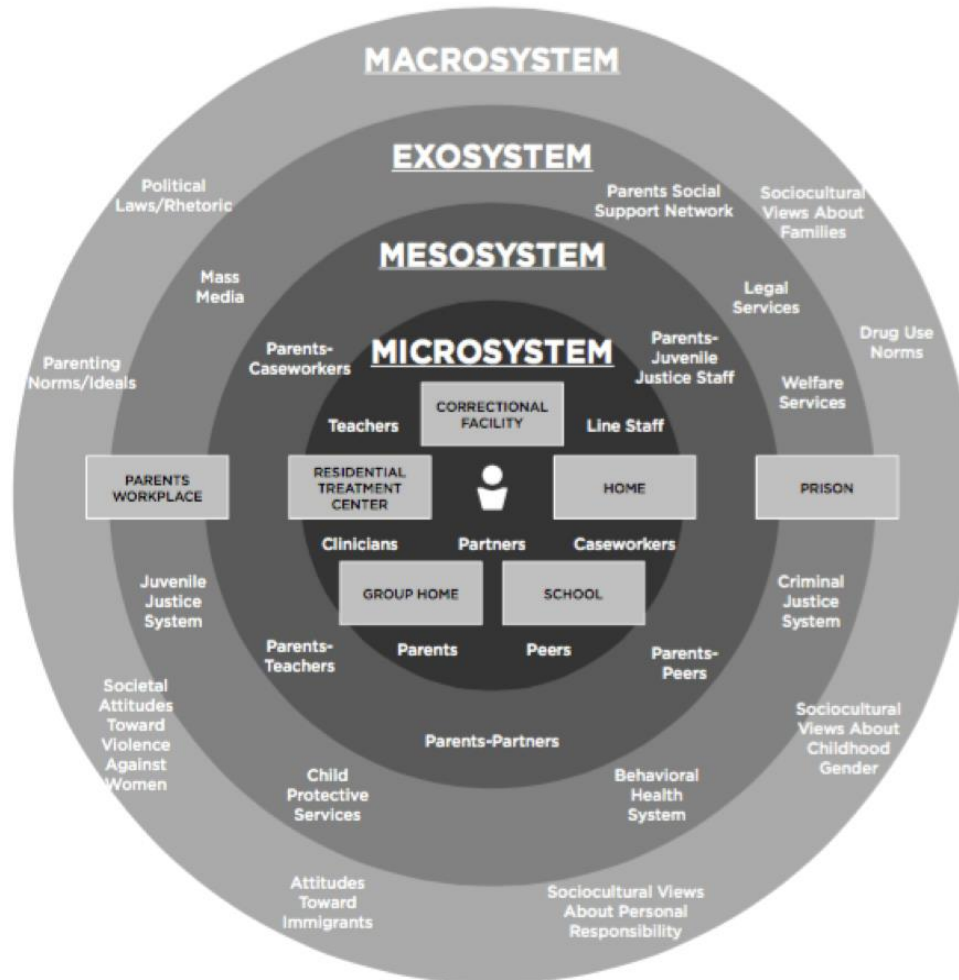
Talk Outline



- Conceptual Framework Overview: From Macro to Micro
- Sociocultural Views of Youth by Race/Ethnicity and Gender
- Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment by Race/Ethnicity and Gender
- Youths' Views of Counseling and Treatment
- Youths' Views of Going it Alone
- Moving Beyond the Individual Toward Programmatic, Systemic, and Policy Solutions

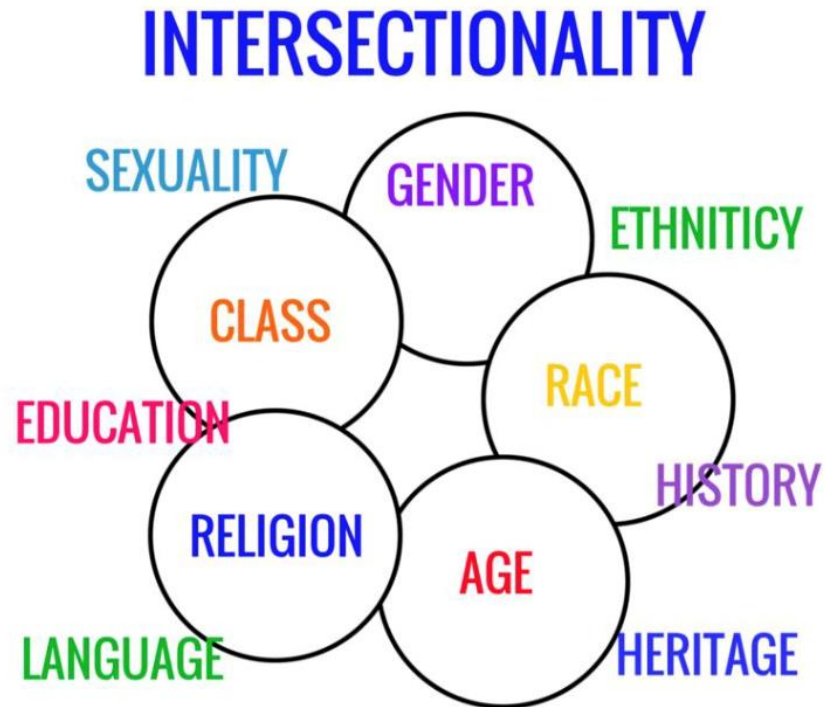


Ecological Systems Framework





Intersectional Approach



"overlapping or intersecting social identities and related systems of oppression, domination, or discrimination."



Sociocultural Views of Youth



- Saving Wayward Youth (1900s-1980s)
- Punishing Dangerous Youth (1980s-Present)
- Treating Youth (2000s-Present)



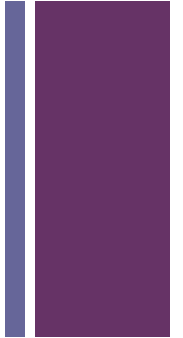
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment by Race and Ethnicity



- Many youth in juvenile justice system do not receive adequate treatment by trained mental health professionals.
 - 64% of youth with a diagnosed mental health disorder receive treatment
 - 35% of youth with a diagnosed substance use disorder receive treatment (Skowrya & Coccozza, 2007)



Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment by Race and Ethnicity



- Youth of color are less likely to receive treatment than white youth (Hertz, 2005; Teplin et al., 2005).
- African American youth receive harsher sentences than white youth with similar mental health problems (Dorhn, 2004; White, 2015).
- While white youth are more likely to be placed under community supervision, Latino and African American youth are more likely to be confined (White, 2015).



Juvenile Justice Professionals Perceptions of System-Involved Latinas

Description of Latina Juvenile Offenders	Number Reporting Out of 62 (Interviews)	Number Reporting Out of 8 (Focus Group)
Quiet/Has Difficulty Opening Up	53	--
Sexually Promiscuous/Always Pregnant	40	8
Resistant to Programming	49	6
Gang Member	45	6
Tough, Violent, Willing to Fight	43	4
Uncooperative	34	--
Strong Family Ties	30	6
Distrustful/Manipulative	14	--



When Perceptions Influences Decisions



- I know we are particularly harsh on Hispanic girls. Not just the assumptions...but without alternatives for them, without having a proper placement or even knowing the full extent of what is going on with them... it's tough. I do feel like they just sit in detention way more than the Caucasian girls I send (to detention). I feel like I get more of the story from the Caucasian girls. I also feel like Caucasian girls have more medical and psychiatric problems, whereas Hispanic girls...I see more family problems, young families... gangs, drugs...cannot send that to treatment. That requires more security. (Juvenile Court Judge, Pasko & Lopez, 2015)



Property of the State-Case Observations of Treatment Within a Juvenile Correctional Facility



- College Campus or Youth Prison?
- Neglected and/or Abused Youth? Or Dangerous and Manipulative Youth?



Inadequate Treatment, Lack of Trained Staff, & Limited Resources



■ Structural Barriers-Lack of Funding & Resources

- Reliance on line staff to provide mental health and substance abuse “treatment”/ “counseling”

(Decker, Taylor, & Katz, 2013, Lewis, 2006,; Sedlack & McPherson, 2010; Tosouni,

2010, 2014) ■

■ Systemic Barriers—Competing Orientations

- Punitive Vs. Rehabilitation Tensions



Youths' Views of “Counseling” and Going it Alone



- Going to School and Getting a Good Job
- Keeping Busy and Staying Away from “Negative Influences”
- It's All Going To Be Up To Me



Moving Beyond the Individual Toward Programmatic, Systemic, and Policy Solutions



- Alternatives to Court Involvement & Confinement
- Alternatives to Out-of-Home Placements
- If Confinement Cannot Be Avoided, Need
 - Enhanced and evidenced-based programming in juvenile correctional facilities (and associated settings)



Moving Beyond the Individual Toward Programmatic, Systemic, and Policy Solutions



- Aftercare Services & Follow-Up that are multi-level
- Gender-responsive and culturally tailored interventions and programming when possible



Moving Beyond the Individual Toward Programmatic, Systemic, and Policy Solutions



- Adopting a System-Wide Social Justice Critical Caring Approach
 - Avoiding Stigma & Developing Trust
 - Avoid Cultural Stereotypes and Deficit Thinking
 - Moving Beyond Cultural Competency Training
 - Intersectionality plus context and structural factors matter
 - Intergenerational approaches needed

**See Gonzalez & Ayala-Alcantar, 2008 for more on critical caring pedagogical approaches.



Moving Beyond the Individual Toward Programmatic, Systemic, and Policy Solutions

- Family & Community Perspective - Involves analyzing a policy, program, or practice in terms of the impact that it can have on a family's and community's well-being
- Policy & Practice Devoid of Stigma, Shaming, & Blaming





Complicated Lives

Girls, Parents, Drugs, and Juvenile Justice

VERA LOPEZ