



Cyprus  
Psychology  
Association

Communicate, educate  
about diversity and provide  
support options.

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# We will discuss about...

- \* Culture and communication differences
- \* How are students different?
- \* How can I provide support options?
- \* Schools and families as inclusion partners
- \* Personal stereotypes and prejudices
- \* Exercises and stories-> Do it with your students



# Exercise: Icebreaking



1. Form into pairs

2. Look each other closely enough to identify subtle physical features.

3. Exclude hair, eyes, height, race and gender.

4. Tell to each other what cultural traces you see and hear.

Educators really have to look closely to  
see individual differences within  
ethnic and cultural groups and teach  
this lesson through experience!

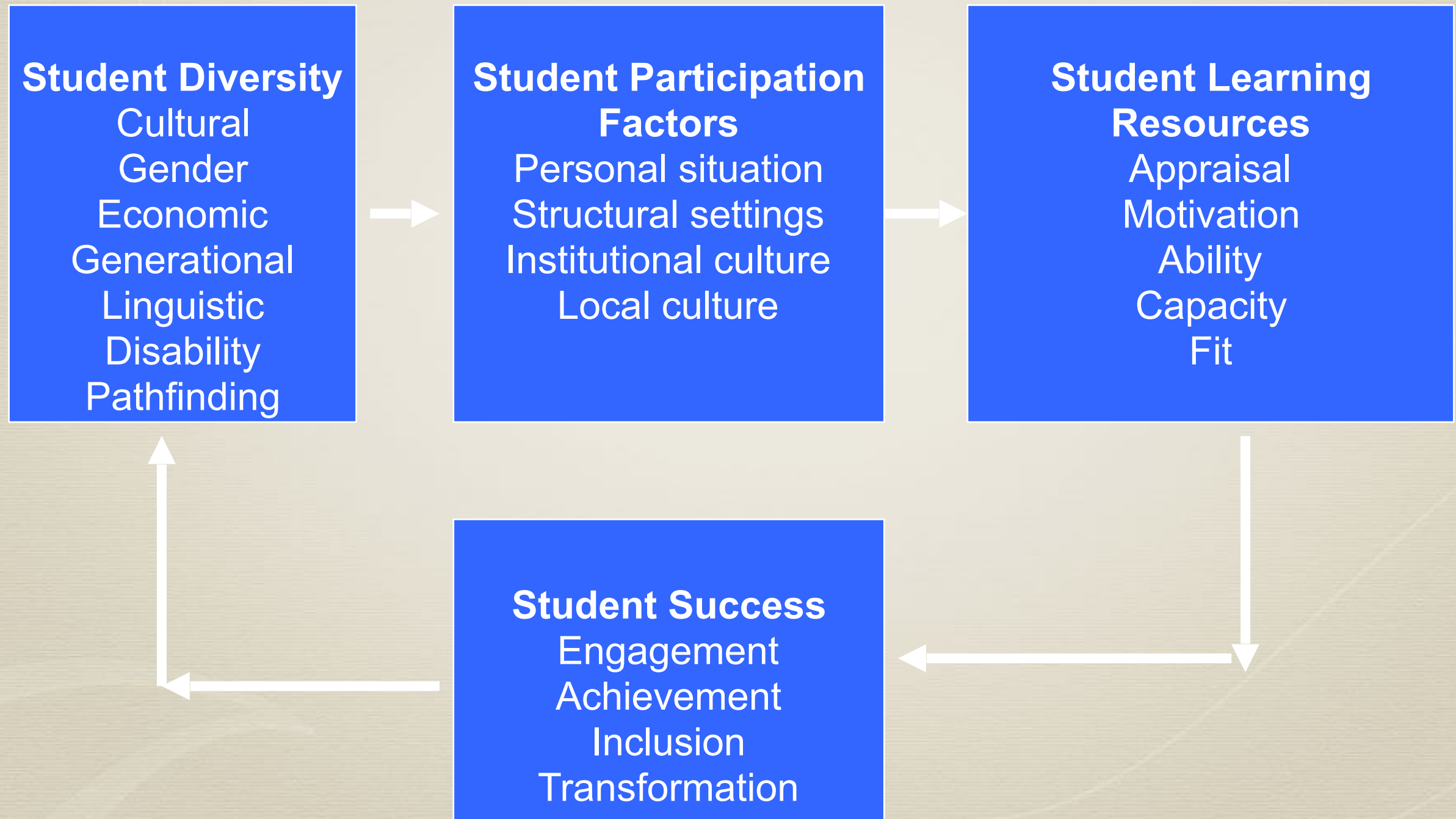


# Culture and Communication differences

**Culture** is a group which shapes a person's values and identity. Cultural identities can stem from the following differences: race, ethnicity, gender, class, religion, country of origin, and geographic region.

We **communicate** the way we do because we are raised in a particular culture and learn its language, rules, and norms. Different cultures (and subcultures) may have different rules and norms. Understanding the other's culture facilitates cross-cultural communication.

# *How are students different?*



Video!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?  
v=tPutAPc9gB8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPutAPc9gB8)



# Potential traits for effective multicultural communication

- \* Positive contact (Allport, 1954)
- \* Rapport-Close relationships
- \* Respect
- \* Awareness of individual cultures
- \* Demand mutual acceptance
- \* Keep talk simple
- \* What else?



# *How can I provide support options?*

Increase Contact

Cooperation

Active Learning

Feedback

Increase Time on Task

High Expectations

Respects Diverse Talents and Ways of  
Learning

But my parents say this stuff about diversity is a waste of time and will interfere with me getting a good quality education...

Despite of what you hear, tell them a story!

«You are learning to play a new game. There are ten rules to follow, but at home you decide to play by only five. You learn these five rules very well and you win a lot. Later on you go to a friend's house to play the same game. He has learned all of the rules. You lose and lose but can't figure out why. Not having all of the information prevented you from playing the game as well as you might have once you were outside of your home. It might even have caused you to argue with or distrust your friend. Once you learn the other rules of the game, you find that you win some of the time and have much more fun playing the game.

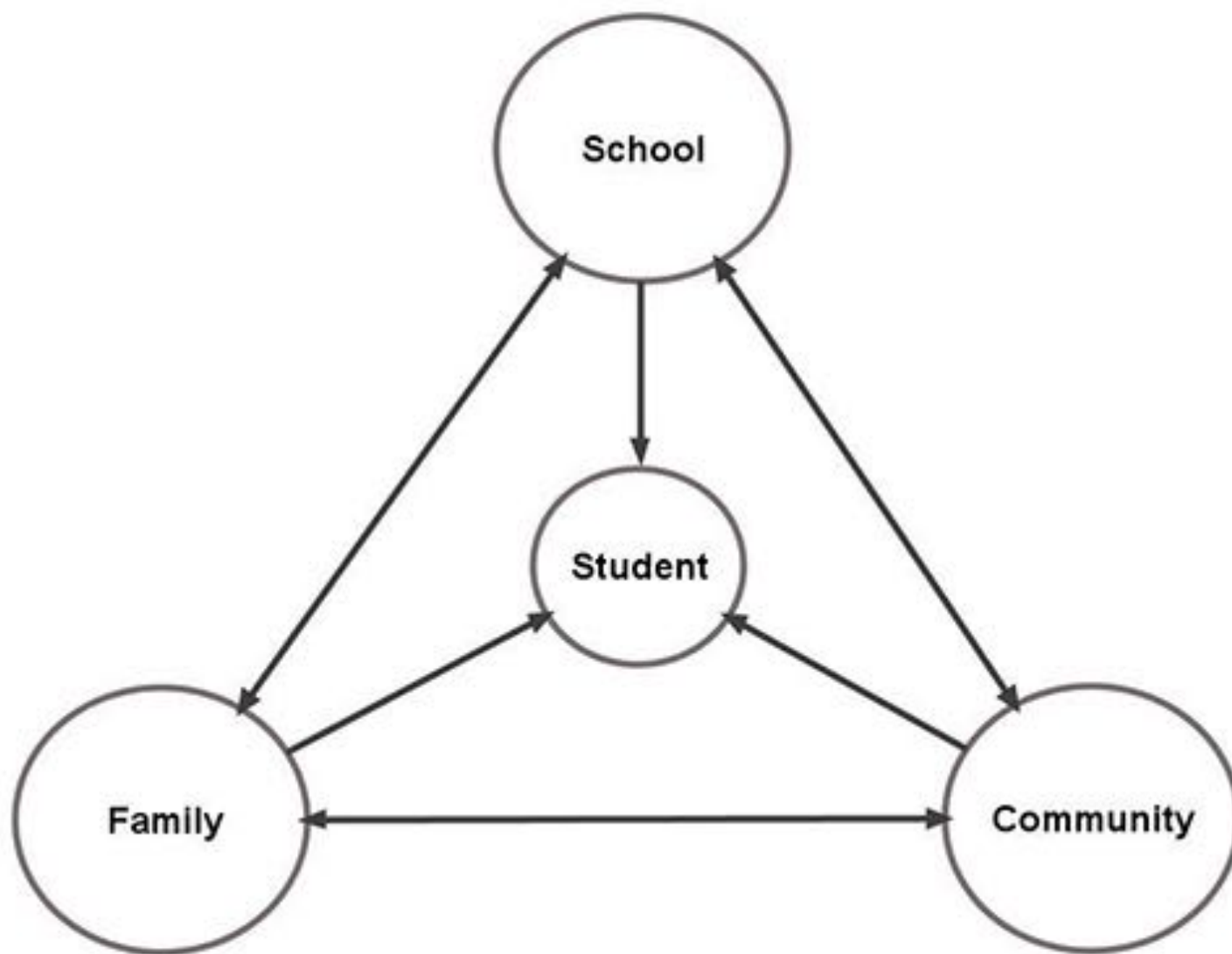
In this class, we want to look at a lot of different information around us. We want to think about the stories we read and hear. We want to look at pictures of many different experiences and people, and talk about them. We want to speculate about how others feel and why. We want to try different things in different ways. We want to learn in ways that will better[...]».



# Exercise: Read the story

1. Read the story to your colleagues and try to convince them how powerful is that story.
2. Write down your special extras you want to add it. Make it yours.
3. Ready to do it! Share it in your classroom.

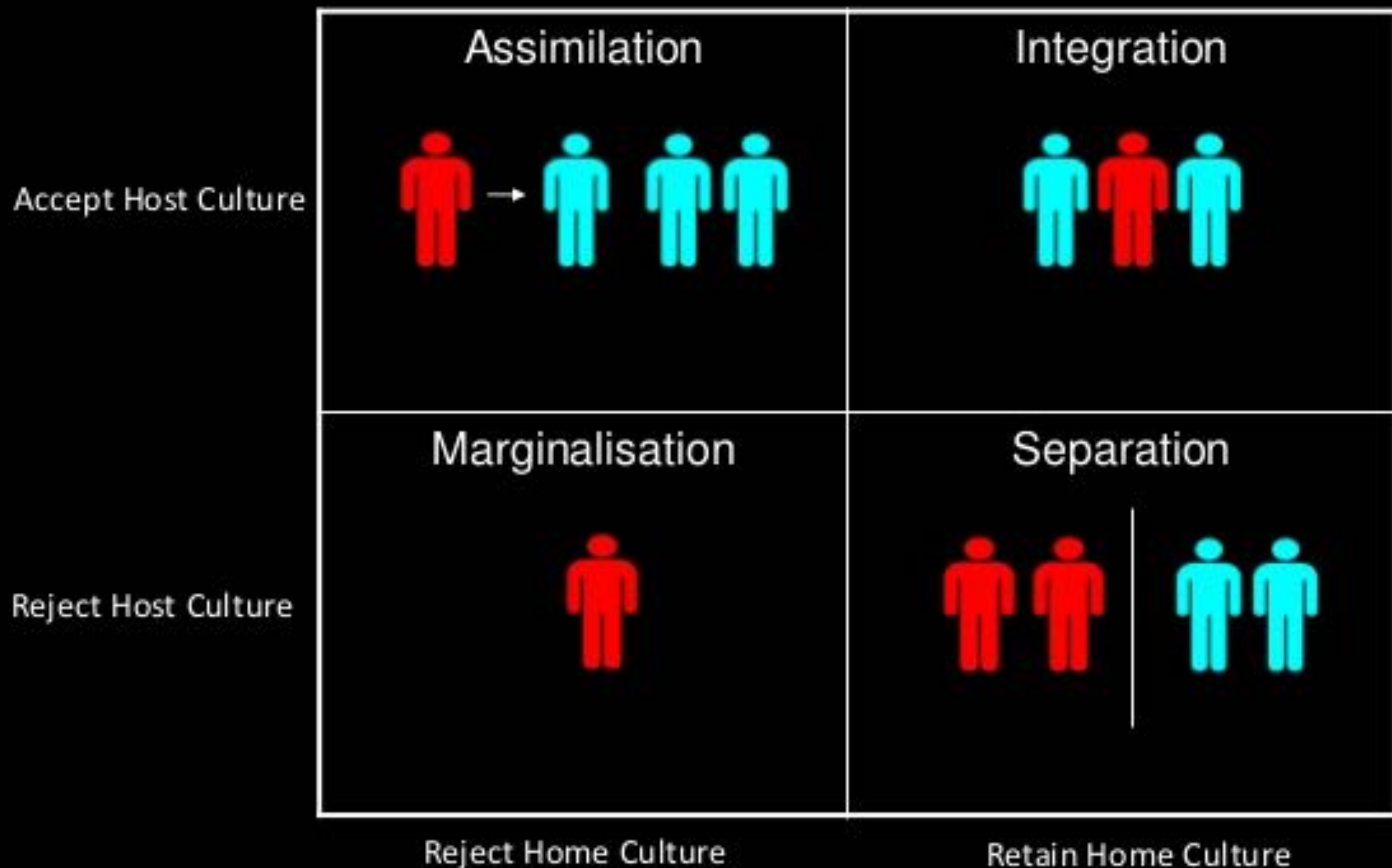
# Schools and families as inclusion partners



- Build strong family-school relationships through regular meetings
- Map your students cultural profiles and assess their needs
- Engage migrants with school system <https://schoolsequella.det.nsw.edu.au/file/e439885d-a9f4-41d4-aa60-3a0bf317cb1c/1/Opening-the-school-gate.pdf>
- Introduce multicultural events.
- Don't leave anyone alone!



# Berry's Acculturation Model



# Personal stereotypes and Prejudices

- \* *What are stereotypes?* A **stereotype** is a popular belief or types of individuals. Stereotypes are standardized and simplified conceptions of groups based on some prior assumptions
- \* *What is Prejudice?* A **prejudice** is a prejudgment, an assumption made about someone or something before having adequate knowledge to be able to do so with guaranteed accuracy. The word prejudice is most commonly used to refer to a preconceived judgement toward a people or a person because of race, social class, gender, ethnicity, homelessness, age, disability, political beliefs, obesity, religion, sexual orientation, or other personal characteristics. It also means beliefs without knowledge of the facts and may include “any unreasonable attitude that is unusually resistant to rational influence”.
- \* (Bias+Stereotypes) -> Prejudice (sometimes) /+ societal support -> Discrimination (sometimes)



# Exercise: Self-Growth contract

1. Write down some of the prejudices you recognize that you have against any minority.
2. Choose the two prejudices, which if you didn't have, you would have seen the biggest change in your behavior.
3. Now write a contract with your self about what is going to change.





# Conclusion comments

*Ultimately what we do and how far we are prepared to go depends on the extent to which **we believe in our students!***

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# Thank You

== For Your Attention ==

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