

Social Capital Theory

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Land Acknowledgement



We would like to humbly acknowledge that we are coming together to listen, and learn on the Ancestral, Unceded, and occupied lands of the Secwépemc people, specifically Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc. We ask that you practice patience and time, and learn with an open mind as we see in the FPPoL. We would like to give thanks to everyone who is here today and ask that you honor and carry forward Indigenous / Secwépemc teachings.

<https://tkemlups.ca/ttes-articles/>

Analyzing the inclusive Education for Children with Intellectual Disabilities in Canada

- Less than 50% of Canadian children with intellectual disabilities in inclusive schools
- 16% of such children attend special education schools, four times the rate for other disabilities
- Around 30% must leave their local schools for education
- In Ontario, 40-50% of principals have, at times, requested parents to keep children with disabilities at home.



(Inclusive Education Canada, 2020)

Definitions of Social Capital Theory



Pierre Bourdieu (1930-2002)

Bourdieu's social capital theory emphasizes the importance of social position and standing, arguing that it is not accessible to all group members but is primarily obtained through achieving authority, status, and goodwill, despite structural limitations and unequal access to institutional resources (Claridge, 2015).



Image source: Encyclopædia Britannica. (n.d).
Pierre Bourdieu [Image]. Encyclopædia
Britannica.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pierre-Bourdieu#/media/1/860434/241549>



James Samuel Coleman (1926 -1995)

Coleman argued that social activities are influenced by rational theories, balancing functionalist views and self-interest-maximizing aims. He believed social capital benefits everyone, not just those who invest in groups or networks(Claridge,2015).

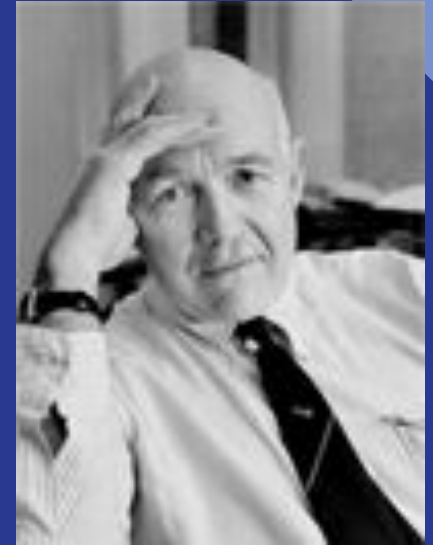


Image Source: American Sociological Association. (n.d.). [Image]. Retrieved from <https://www.asanet.org/james-s-coleman/>



Robert David Putnam

Putnam's work has influenced academic and public policy discussions on the importance of social capital in democratic countries and community well-being. Social capital, characterized by participation potential, civic orientation, and confidence, is a public asset that influences individual behavior rather than individual properties (Claridge,2015).



Image Source: Encyclopædia Britannica.
(n.d.). Robert D. Putnam [Image].
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Social Capital Theory in the Domain of Inclusive Education

According to Brown (2019), academics have recognized that good intergroup contact is essential for children to feel included in school and to build prosocial and inclusive classroom norms, frequently with the help of educators.

Various resources of interconnectedness encompass culture, human capital, economic assets, and social governance, eventually affecting career prospects, corporate success, and democratic growth (McCrimmon, 2015).

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2009 emphasized inclusion in international educational reform, calling for equal opportunities for individuals with disabilities in primary, secondary, and tertiary education (Christou et al., 2022).



Social Capital Theory in the Domain of Inclusive Education contd.

Knowledge sharing is crucial in inclusive education, with social capital theory playing a significant role (Bordogna, 2019; Fearon et al., 2018).

Social capital fosters an environment enriched with values, trust, networks, and norms that promote multicultural learning and tolerance (Mehrnoosh et al., 2014).

social capital supports families and societies, enhancing relationships and communication (Valentina & Milenkova, 2019)

It bolsters support for individuals with disabilities, leading to successful inclusion and increased participation in public life. Social capital also supports families and societies, enhancing relationships and communication (Zdzisława & Janiszewska-Nieścioruk, 2019).



Inclusion in Schools = Sense of Belonging

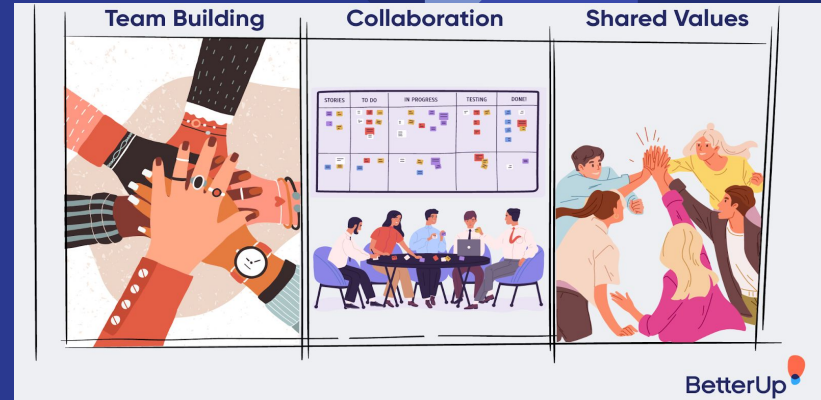


“Sense of belonging and social capital are theoretically and empirically intertwined” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).

“Sense of belonging ... important element for generating social capital” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).

“Social interactions between people, and it influences their participation in the community” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).

“shared norms and values, trust and reciprocity” & “contribute significantly to a healthy, happy, safe and effective society” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).

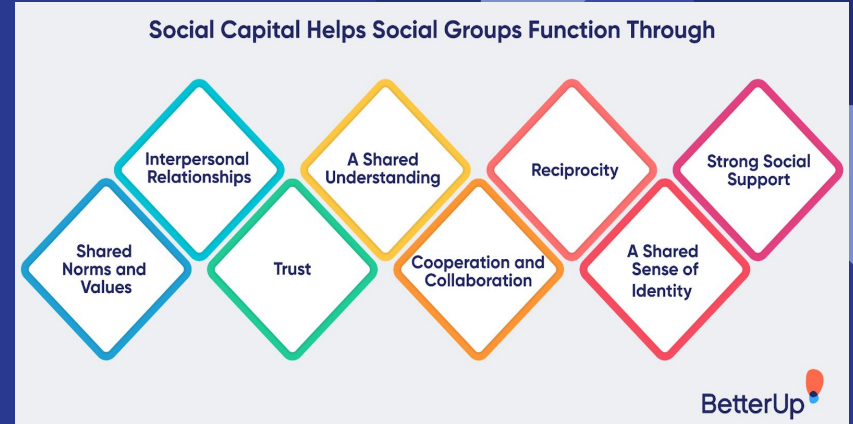


<https://sam4qe.com/bridging-bonding-linking/>



“Social ties with fellow students and their emotional and physical support based on shared identity as members of the same institution” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).

“Concrete and reciprocal social relationships generate trust in other individuals as well as the wider society” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).



<https://www.betterup.com/blog/social-capita>



“students who do volunteering are more likely to have large social networks, strong social interaction and participation, higher belonging and life satisfaction” (Ahn & Davis, 2020).

“In schools, it could have a role in reducing failure by forging a greater commitment to others because ‘relationships matter’. An implication is that better recognition of, and responsiveness to, others could lead to a more effective engagement with diversity.” (Allan & Catts, 2014).

Bonding, Bridging and Linking



Bonding - the connections between individuals with similar characteristics and has value in the promotion of solidarity between people sharing values. Seen within families, school classes and ethnic groups.

Bridging -people from different groups come together and may emerge in associations between people of different ethnicities, or between disabled and non-disabled groups.

Linking -when individuals who have different amounts or forms of power connect. For example, representations by student led initiatives in schools.
(Allan & Catts, 2014).





Bridging Networks

Residents have broad connections that help them expand opportunities.

Residents with different social backgrounds engage with each other.

Residents with different social backgrounds trust each other.

Engagement

Trust

Efficacy

Residents believe they can make a difference

Residents with a common social background trust each other.

Residents with a common social background engage with each other.

Linking Networks

Residents have connections to organizations and systems that help them gain resources and bring about change.

Residents engage with organizations and systems.

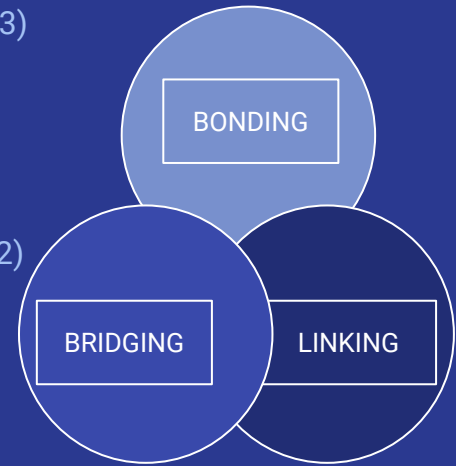
Residents trust organizations and systems.

Bonding Networks

Residents have close connections that give a sense of belonging and help them get by.

How does social capital theory impact inclusion in schools?

- IEP's, Education Assistants, differentiated instruction, personalised learning programs, resources/materials, etc. (Hrabéczy et al., 2023)
- Network offered IN school (Hrabéczy et al., 2023)
- School catchment areas (Kauppinen et al., 2022)
- Universal Design for Learning (Capp, 2017)
- Electives, extra-curricular activities (participation) (Florian, 2012)
- Involving the parent/caregiver (Baker et al., 2016)
- Diverse educator workforce (U.S. Department of Education, 2023)



Advantages of Social Capital

- Social capital nurtures a profound feeling of belonging for individuals and making them perceive themselves as vital members of the academic community. (Bye, Muller, & Oprescu, 2020)
- it fosters the creation of trust and support networks through collaborative efforts. (Bye et al.,2020)
- Social capital serves as a conduit to valuable university resources.(Bye et al., 2020)
- One of the remarkable benefits of social capital within the educational context is its profound impact on both academic achievements and the overall wellbeing of students. (Bye et al., 2020)



Disadvantages of Social Capital

- Bonding social capital, which prioritizes close connections, can unintentionally isolate newcomers and suppress innovative ideas, fostering social seclusion (Baycan & Öner,2022).
- Kinship networks, while crucial for social ties, have the potential to restrict opportunities and impede progress for both individuals and entire communities (Baycan & Öner, 2022)
- When social capital takes precedence over government regulations, it can lead to problems in reducing fairness, thereby upholding the authority of local leaders (Baycan & Öner, 2022).
- Elevated trust levels can facilitate unethical behavior, and social networks can support organized crime, presenting dangers to community well-being (Baycan & Öner, 2022).





Thank you, Hiy Hiy,
Kukwstsétsemc

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