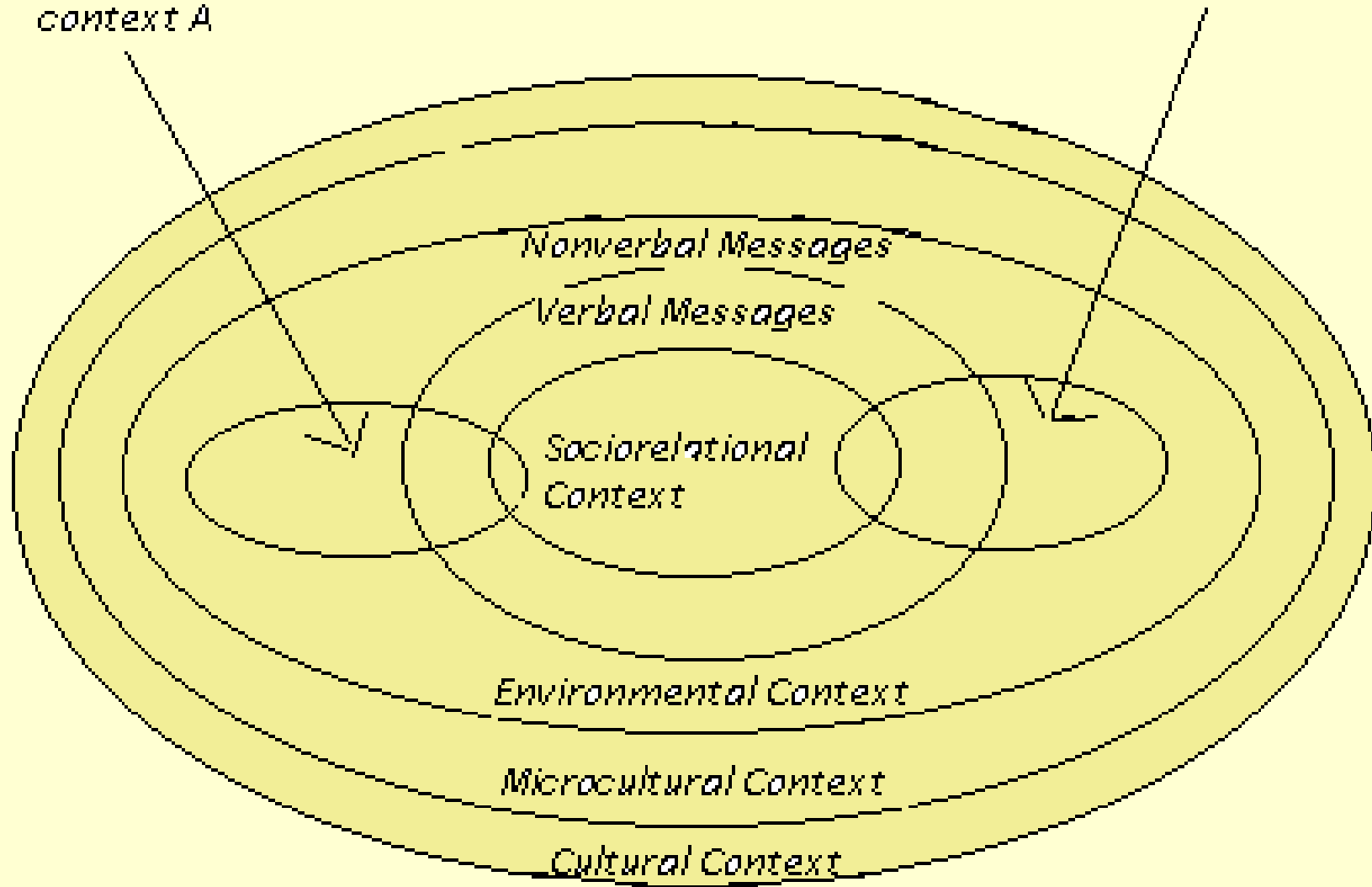

Roles IN FAMILY

*Perceptual Context
of person from
context A*

*Perceptual Context of
person from culture B*



A Contextual Model of Intercultural Communication

Roles

- A role is a person's relative position/rank in a group
 - Roles do not exist in isolation
 - Roles relate to other roles
 - Dictate communication
 - With whom
 - About what
 - How
 - Roles= expected behaviors
- Formal
 - Defined
 - CEO
 - Parent/Grandparent
 - Congressman
 - Contractual
 - Informal
 - Less explicit
 - Behaviors must be learned through experience
 - Varies across cultures

Roles

- Four dimensions
 - Personal vs. Impersonal
 - Formality vs. Informality
 - Hierarchy
 - Deviation from ideal role
- **Family**
- Social
- Occupational



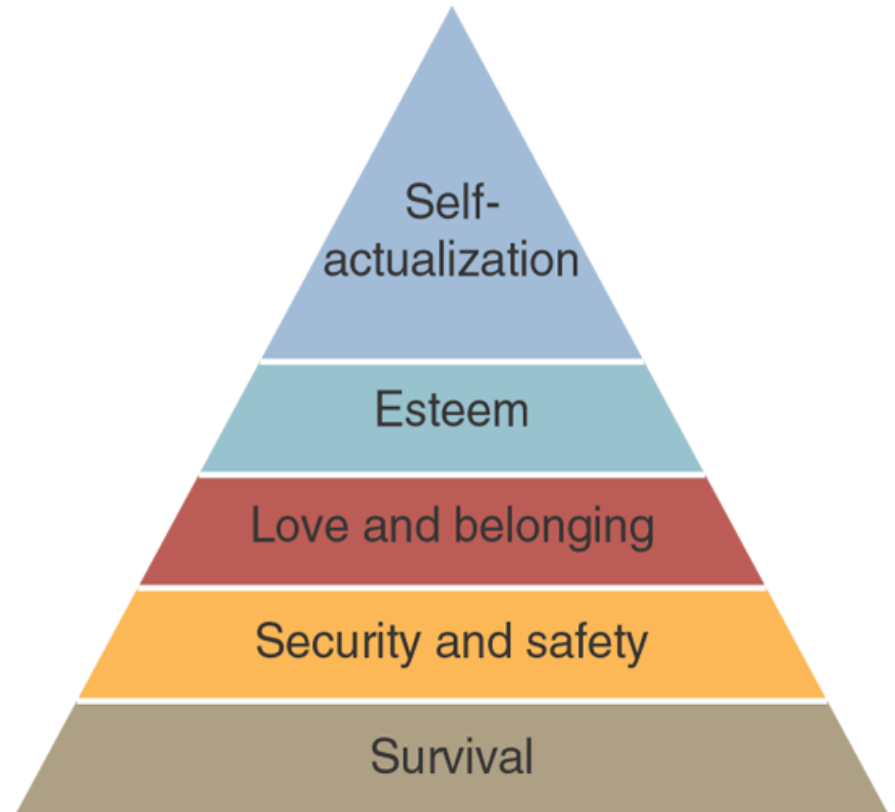
Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Self Actualization: *Living life to its fullest. Function as autonomous beings*

Esteem Need: *The need for respect or esteem from self, or others*

Belongingness Need: *The need to be a part of a group*

Survival Needs: *Physiological/Safety*



All In The Family

■ Transmits

(Samovar and Porter)

□ Culture

- Culture is transmitted to the family from the wider cultural context (environment/history)
- Major institutions of a culture are tied together/interact with each other
- Family is primary caretaker of cultural values/worldview
 - ***“Families do not develop their rules, beliefs, and rituals in a vacuum. The family provides the environment within which human values and morals develop and grow in the new generation; these values and morals cannot exist apart from the family unit.”***

□ Identity

- ***“The family is not only the basic unit of society, but also affords the individual the most important social identity”***
 - Family history
 - Traditions/customs/language
 - Culture and ethnicity

All In The Family

- Hierarchy
 - Patriarchal
 - Matriarchal
 - Each with its own cultural responsibility
 - Legitimate roles
 - Father/Mother
 - Default roles
 - Oldest child/Relative
 - “She wears the pants in the family”
-

Family roles: Individual/peer work

Role Survey

- Work with peer
 - Choose five roles you each perform
 - List at least 8 behaviors expected of you for that role

 - Compare with your partner
 - What similarities and differences were there between you?
-

Family roles

- Expectations made clear by culture/religious values

Father & Husband

- Leader
 - Directs family per roles each holds
- Provider
 - Wage earner
 - Bill payer
- Strength
- Disciplinarian
- Handyman

Social/Symbolic

■ Mother & Wife

- Follower
 - Take direction
- Nurturer
 - Teach manners
- Taxi driver
- Counselor
 - Listen to problems
- Chef
- Shopper

Family roles

Social/Symbolic

- ❑ Expectations made clear by culture/religious values
 - ❑ Ultimately based in trust
-

Trust

- Trust must be earned
 - Trust develops when
 - you can predict how another will behave under certain circumstances
 - they actually do as expected
 - Trust is always a gamble
 - Previous experiences influence ability to trust
-

All In The Family : Gender Roles

- 24 months of age: male/female differentiation learned

 - *Often linked to religious beliefs and values*
 - Value statements:
 - She wears the pants in the family
 - Woe to the house where the hen crows and the rooster is still

 - Cultural
 - Men: Task functions/superior gender
 - Dominant role/Income earner/Undisputed authority
 - Oldest son assumes authority in absence of father

 - Female: Social and cultural tasks/subservient gender
 - Domestic role/Need protection
 - Represent purity
 - Sacrifice self for family/Saintly
-

Power Bases

- Legitimate Power
 - Those elected/chosen
 - Referent Power
 - Those we allow to have power because we admire them
 - Expert Power
 - Those with knowledge/experience
 - Reward Power
 - Those able to reward other's performance (grades)
 - Coercive Power
 - Those able to use threats/blackmail
-

High Status

- Shown more deference
 - Are listened to more often
 - Asked for advice more often
 - Rewarded with greater share of goods
 - Home: Place at the table/size of personal space
 - Community: Table at restaurant/Name in news
 - Work: Bigger car/office/salary
 - Receive more recognition for contributions
 - High Status people talk more often to other high status people
 - Are more likely to have a leadership role-person with the highest status is usually the leader
 - Have more influence than low status people
-

Low Status

- Direct conversation to high status, not low status people.
 - Communicate more positive messages to high status people
 - More likely to complain about the task they have been assigned (victim mentality)
 - Are more likely to have comments ignored
 - Communicate more irrelevant information
-

Status

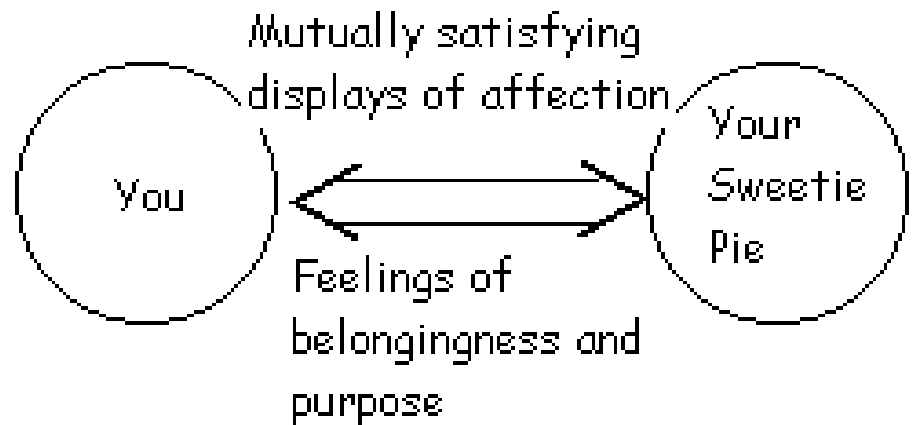
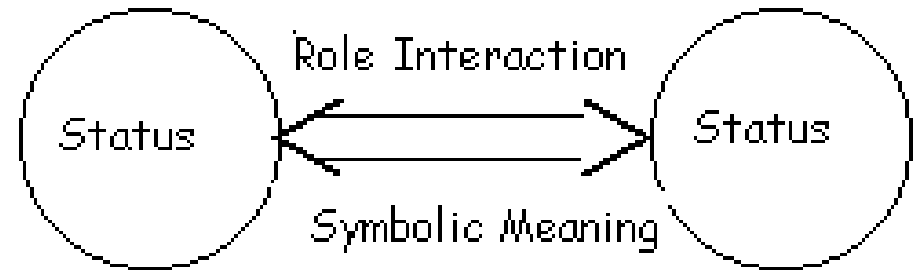
Status is a position in society that carries with it certain distinct behaviors and abilities.

- High Status
 - Age/Beauty
 - Position
 - Talent (celebrities)
 - Low Status
 - Age/Beauty
 - Gender
 - Introverted/Social unease
 - Position
 - Cultural hierarchy application
 - Men = high status
 - Women = low status
-

- **Role** is the behavioral definition required by persons occupying certain statuses.

Thus,

Gender Roles are the behaviors required by persons occupying the **Male or Female Status**



Gender

- Gender *is* part of culture
 - *has its own* culture
 - gender **norms**
 - Gender as status:
 - "tomboys"
 - "sissies"
-

The Cause of Gender Roles - Biology or Culture?

- most truckers are male, most nurses female (although there *are* male nurses and female truckers).
 - most cooks are women, most chefs are men.
 - the primary caregivers of children are usually women.
 - men make more money for the same job than do women.
 - women as a group consistently score lower on mathematics and science achievement tests men score lower on verbal ability and language facility.
 - men are prone to aggressive, assertive, inexpressive actions, while women are prone to passive, expressive ones.
-

Biology Argument

- Predetermined appropriate sex based behavior
 - Thus:
 - Musculature - women are physically weaker than men
 - Brain function - women are more verbal, where men are more oriented to actions
 - Style - Women are more diplomatic, men are more direct.
 - Affection - Women are more nurturing, men are more instrumental (task oriented)
-

Culture Argument

- Appropriate gender behaviors learned from those around us
 - Conventional wisdom.
 - Women are weak
 - Thousands of years of evolution
 - Consistent performance of physically less demanding tasks
 - Women are verbal and scheming
 - Men social, political, and economic resources.
 - Women must align themselves with a powerful man to achieve in those arenas.
 - Women are nurturing
-

Genetic Difference

- Girls "xx"
 - Boys "xy"
 - Hormonal Difference
 - testosterone (aggression) and androgen are higher in males
 - estrogen and others are higher in women.
 - Physical differences
 - Gonadal Difference - ovaries and testes
 - Genital Difference
 - Reproductive Difference - babies/cigars.
 - Brain Function difference.
-

Differences in motivation

- Culture exacerbates differences at birth
 - Acculturation into the appropriate role
 - Constant
 - Powerful
 - *Traditional male and female behavior in American culture is not traditional in other cultures*
 - *"feminine" and "masculine" behaviors are culturally affected.*
-

Different **value** placed on gender.

- Males most often inherit power
 - ...and keep it (rarely is this not the case).
 - This is known as PATRIARCHY
 - men have afforded themselves most of the social power in almost every society known.
 - **Social Learning Theory**
 - Children are rewarded for conforming to their parent's (i.e., society's) expectations
 - Children are punished for behavior that meets with disapproval.
 - Disapproved behavior is extinguished.
-