

status

construction

theory

status

construction

theory



DR. RIDGEWAY



CECILIA L. RIDGEWAY

An American sociologist and the Lucie Stern Professor of Social Sciences, Emerita in the Sociology Department at **Stanford University**

Known for work on **gender** and **social status**

University of Michigan (BA)
Cornell University (MA)
Cornell University (PhD)

status

construction

theory



DR. RIDGEWAY

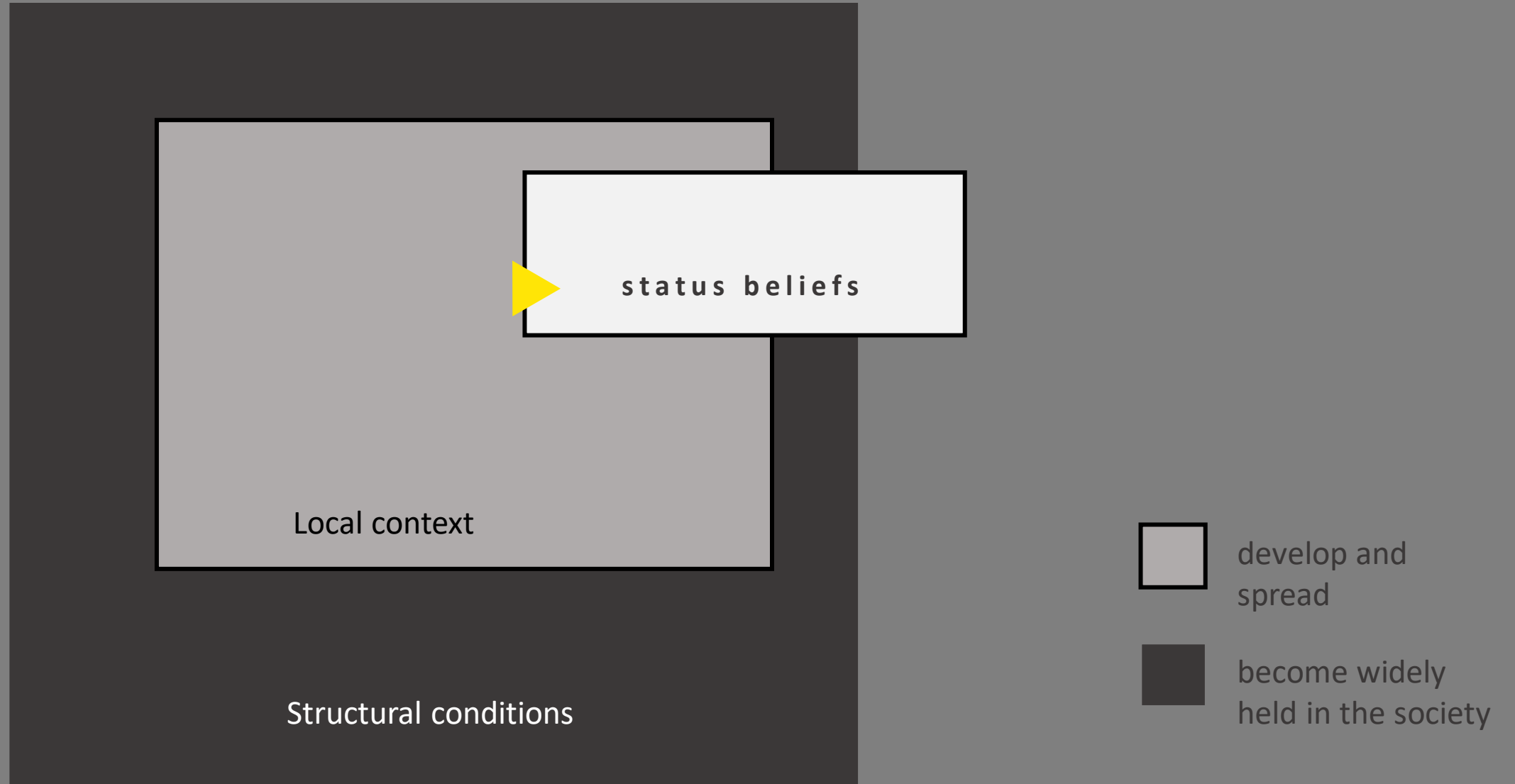
So the theory
explains what?

How **status beliefs**
are constructed
and shared

How **inequality**
is created and re-created
in society

Hmm...

status construction theory



we're gonna discuss this in the end...

CHINESE
VIRUS

 **Donald J. Trump** 
@realDonaldTrump

CHINESE VIRUS FACT CHECK



♡ 208K 9:53 PM - Mar 21, 2020

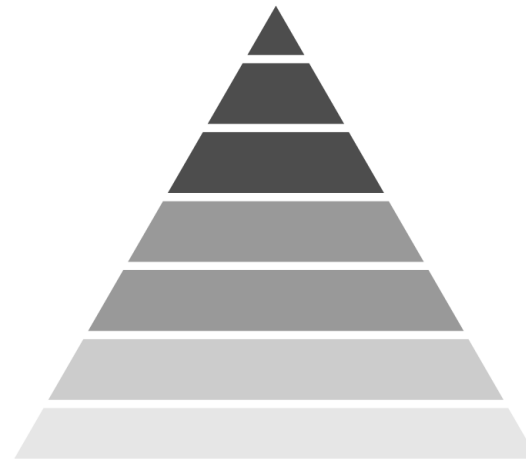
💬 118K people are talking about this



we're learning

status beliefs

an influence hierarchy



we're learning

status beliefs

groups



we're learning

status beliefs



individual



we're learning

status beliefs



group



we're learning

status beliefs



we're learning

status beliefs

Let's find out...

🔊 🎵 END OF THE ROAD – MGK

#SELF-MADE

#COOL



MACHINE GUN KELLY

What does it mean for
MGK to be **#COOL** ?

we're learning

status beliefs

Let's find out...

🔊 NEW SLAVES – KANYE WEST

#SELF-MADE



I know that
we're the
new slaves

What does Kanye mean
by **#NewSlaves**?

Do many people share
this belief?

we're learning

status beliefs



DR. RIDGEWAY

Think about
structural conditions that
shape the terms

where **biasing factor** exists

**Status beliefs favoring the
structurally advantaged
group** will emerge and
spread to become widely
shared in society



KANYE WEST

#SELF-MADE



I know that
we're the
new slaves

#SELF-MADE



#COOL



MACHINE GUN KELLY

we're learning

status beliefs

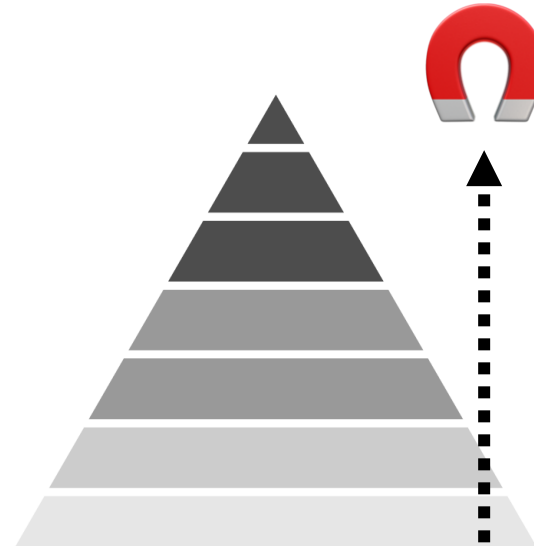


DR. RIDGEWAY

Think about
structural conditions that
shape the terms

where biasing factor exits

Status beliefs favoring the
structurally advantaged
group will emerge and
spread to become widely
shared in society



we're learning

status beliefs

status beliefs

types

1st-order beliefs

“I respect this group
more than that one”

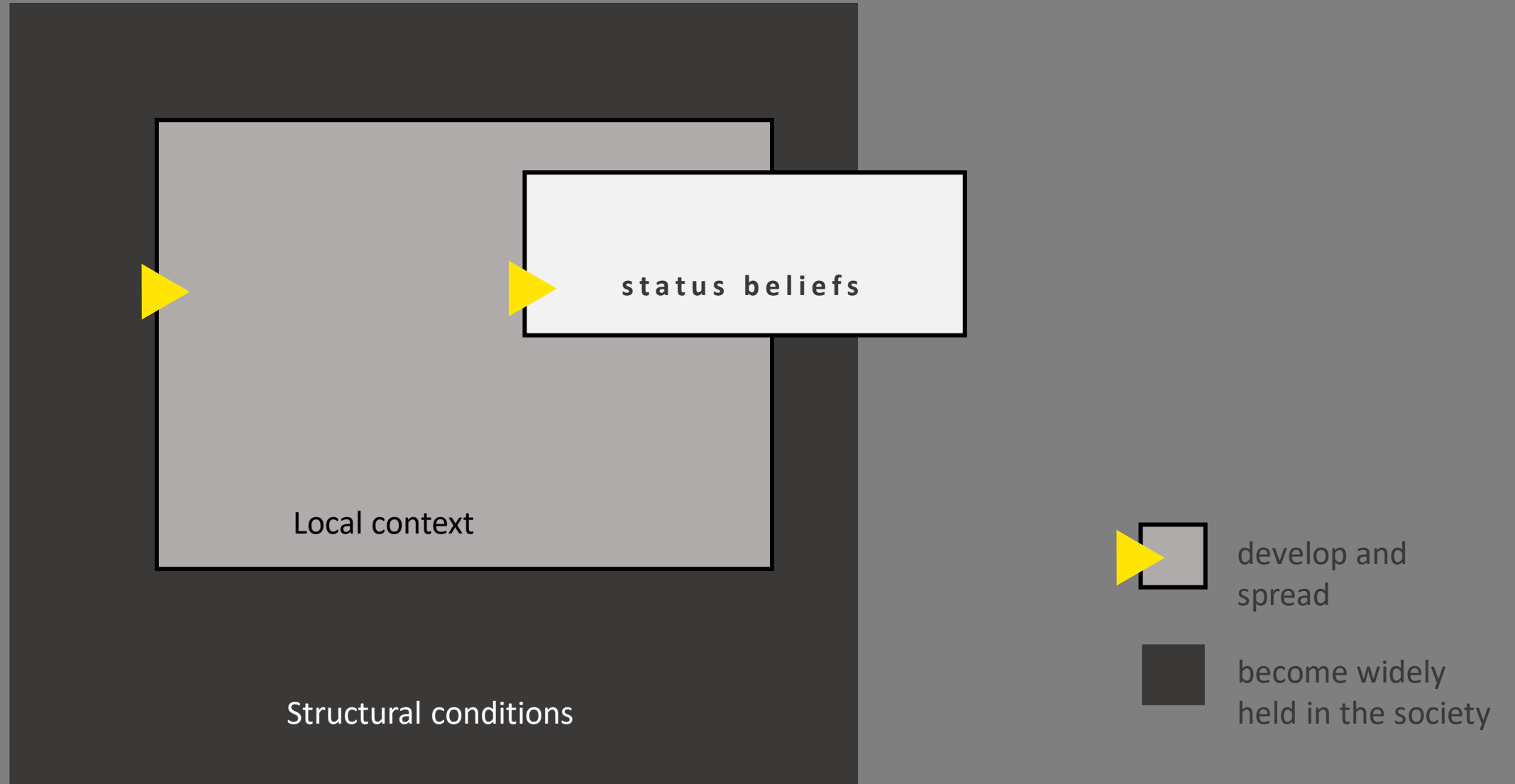
2nd-order beliefs

“my partner respects
this group more than
that one”

3rd-order beliefs

“most people respect
this group more than
that one”

status construction theory



we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

status beliefs

change

**1st-order
beliefs**

"I respect this group
more than that one"

**2nd-order
beliefs**

"my partner respects
this group more than
that one"

**3rd-order
beliefs**

"most people respect
this group more than
that one"



we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

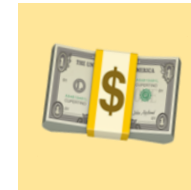
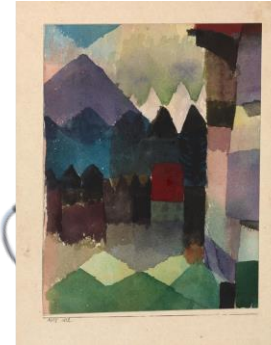
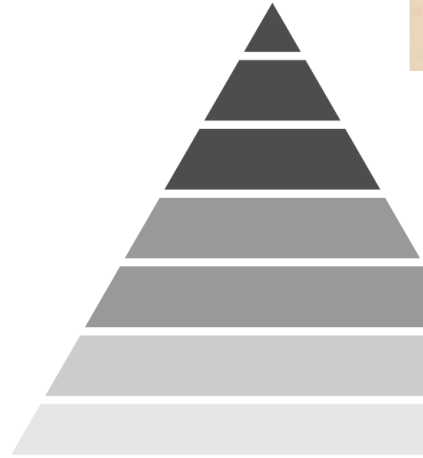


DR. RIDGEWAY

From repeated goal-oriented encounters, we learn the effects of resources on status beliefs.

Resources shape the influence hierarchy.

How come people **accept** an influence hierarchy?



categorical
distinction



resource
levels

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

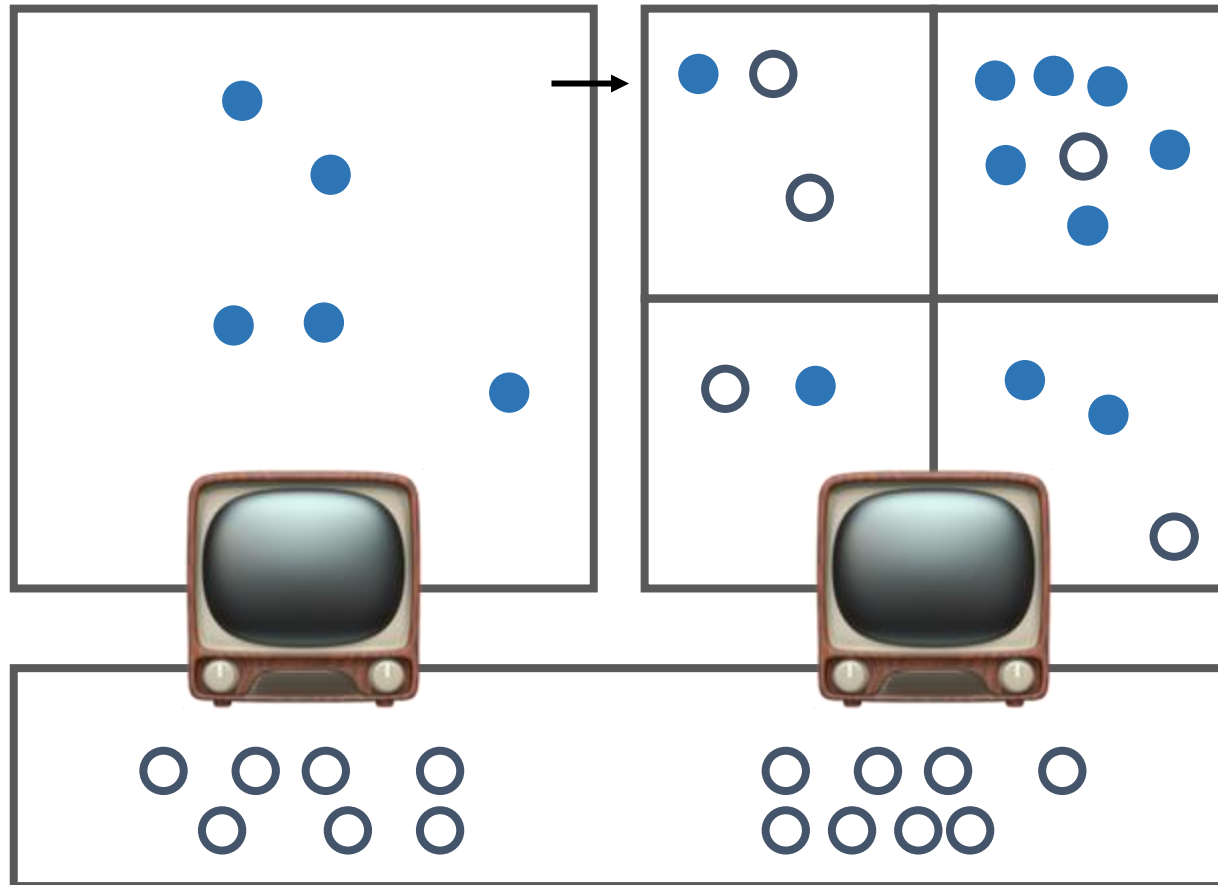


DR. RIDGEWAY

People **form generalized status beliefs** about the categorical distinction

They carry them to the **next encounters**, and act on them there.
They teach the beliefs to others.

People also learn **from repeatedly observing** the status-evaluated treatment



we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

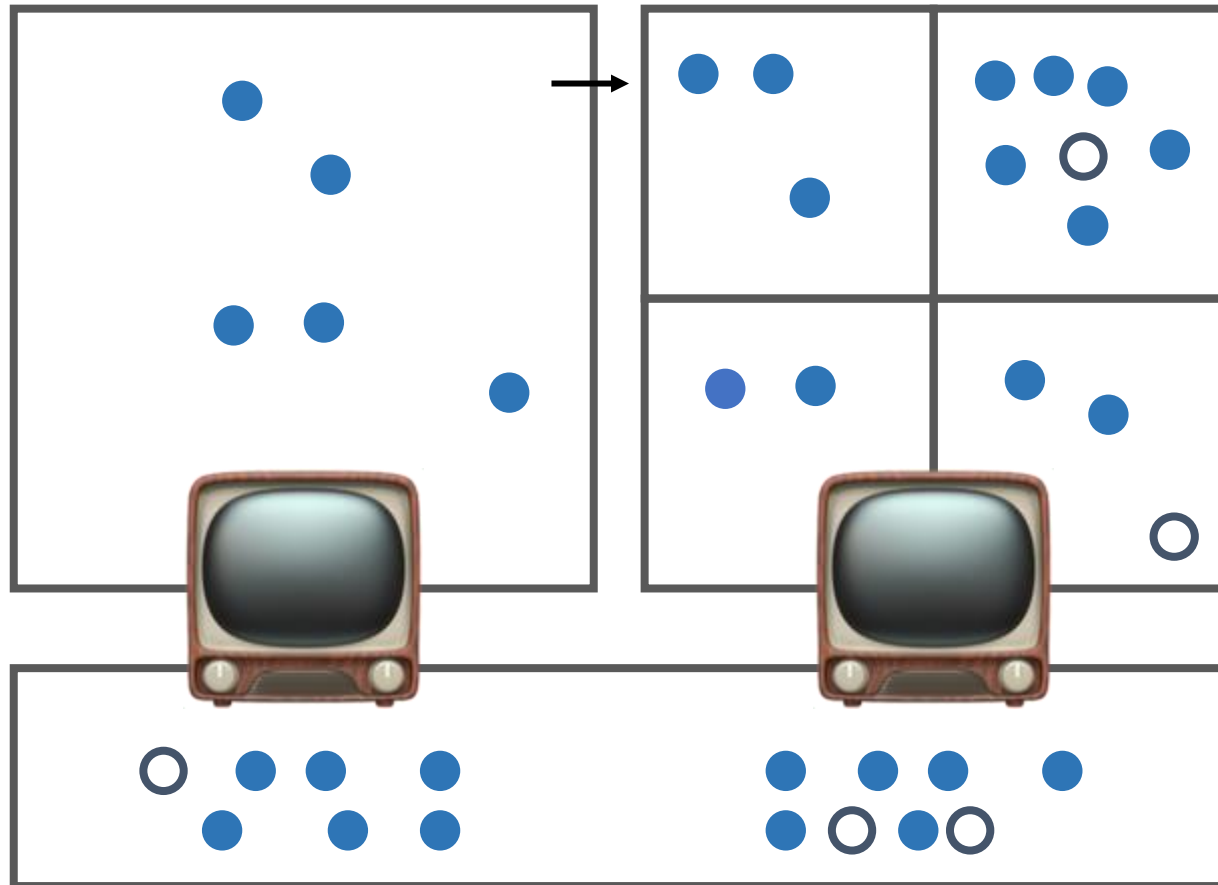


DR. RIDGEWAY

People **form generalized status beliefs** about the categorical distinction

They carry them to the **next encounters**, and act on them there.
They **teach the beliefs to others**.

People also learn **from repeatedly observing** the status-evaluated treatment



we're learning

status beliefs

in local context



DR. RIDGEWAY

**Not all social differences
become status differences
and axes of social inequality.**



categorical
distinction

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context



DR. RIDGEWAY

What is appropriate for society now?

social validity

& the formation of
status beliefs



**Not all social differences
become status differences
and axes of social inequality.**

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context



Martin Luther King Jr. and other black civil rights leaders arm-in-arm with leaders of the Jewish community during the March on Washington on August 28, 1963

What is appropriate for society now?

social validity

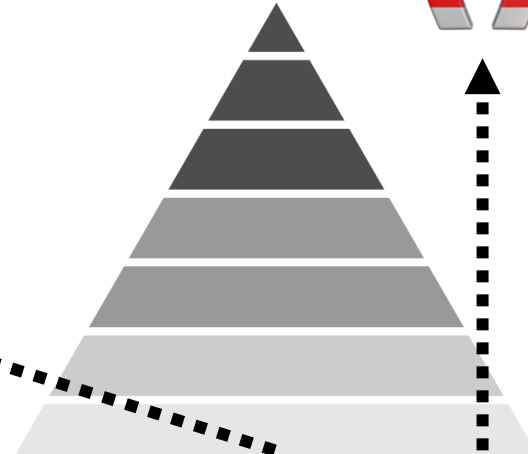
& the formation of status beliefs



new status beliefs

with authority backing

would display behavioral makers of higher status/competence



new status beliefs

without authority backing

would base on the presumption that most people would also accept it and, would be made valid through local consensus



The Morning Show

The news is only
half the story.

Apple tv+





Lizzo

Cuz I Love You Album Cover

Juice

If I'm shinin', everybody gonna shine

(yeah, I'm goals)

I was born like this, don't even gotta try

(now you know)

I'm like chardonnay, get better over time

(so you know)

Heard you say I'm not the baddest, bitch,
you lied

It ain't my fault that I'm out here gettin'
loose

Gotta blame it on the Goose

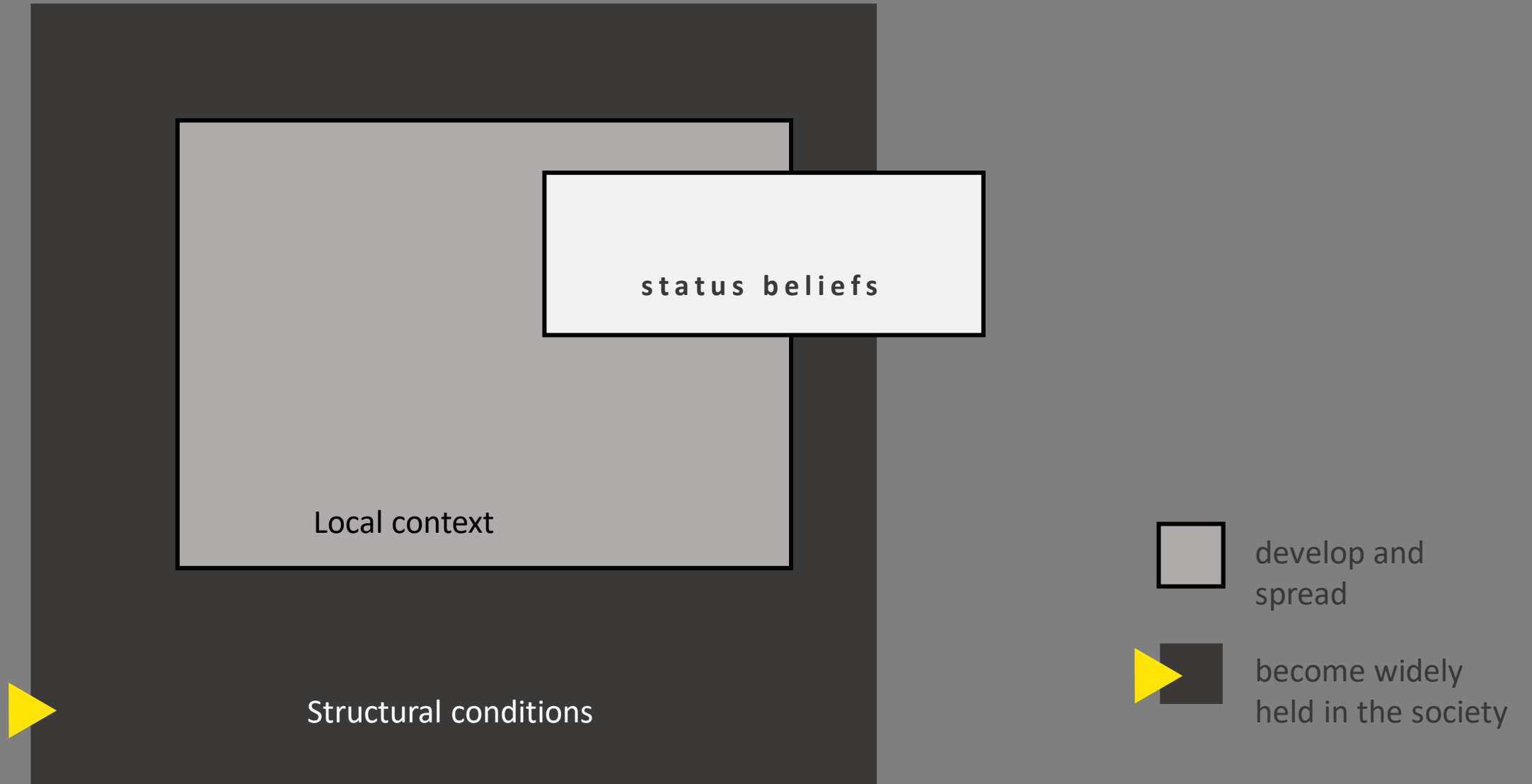
Gotta blame it on my juice, baby

It ain't my fault that I'm out here makin'
news

I'm the pudding in the proof

Gotta blame it on my juice

status construction theory



we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

**structural
conditions**

Think about
structural conditions that
shape the terms

where **biasing factor** exits

**Status beliefs favoring the
structurally advantaged
group** will emerge and
spread to become widely
shared in society



KANYE WEST

#SELF-MADE



I know that
we're the
new slaves

#SELF-MADE



#COOL



MACHINE GUN KELLY



**JOBS
FOR ALL
NOW!**

**END SEGREGATED
RULES IN PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**



**RACE MIXING
IS
COMMUNISM**

In 1959, photographer John Bledsoe captured this image of the crowd on the steps of the Arkansas state capitol building protesting the federally mandated integration of Little Rock's Central High School.

Martin Luther King Jr. and other black civil rights leaders arm-in-arm with leaders of the Jewish community during the March on Washington on August 28, 1963

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

**structural
conditions**

Which new status beliefs will survive
and successfully spread to others?

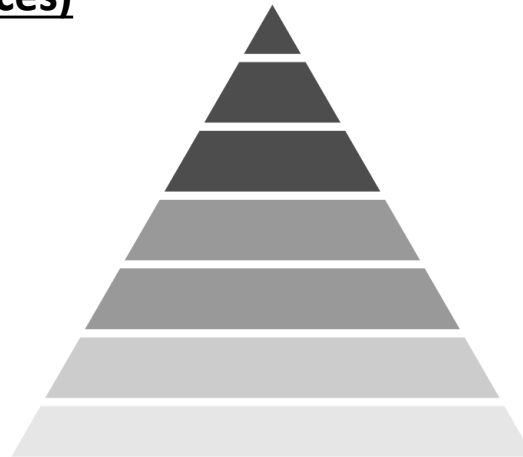
#viral

Biasing factors (resources)

is unequally distributed

The strength of bias

can only slow down the
spread of new beliefs



Interdependence among groups

people must regularly interact

**Relative distribution
of the population**

is important

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

**structural
conditions**



DR. RIDGEWAY

A society's status distinctions have social histories after all.

Think about this **example of gender**

**a status
advantage**

“Men are stronger than women.”

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

structural
conditions



DR. RIDGEWAY

A society's status distinctions have social histories after all.

Think about this **example of gender**



a status
disadvantage

1950s—If women are able to vote, from *The History Greeks* (Facebook)

we're learning

status beliefs

in local context

**structural
conditions**



DR. RIDGEWAY

A society's status distinctions have social histories after all.

Think about this **example** of gender



a status
disadvantage

1950s—If women are able to vote, from *The History Greeks* (Facebook)

status

construction

theory



DR. RIDGEWAY

How **status beliefs**
are constructed
and shared

How **inequality**
is created and re-created
in society



CHINESE VIRUS FACT CHECK



♡ 208K 9:53 PM - Mar 21, 2020

💬 118K people are talking about this

Ethnicity does not
cause the virus.

Bias against
Chinese Americans

**CHINESE
VIRUS**

