

Integration of Theory, Research, and Practice: A Social Cognitive Perspective

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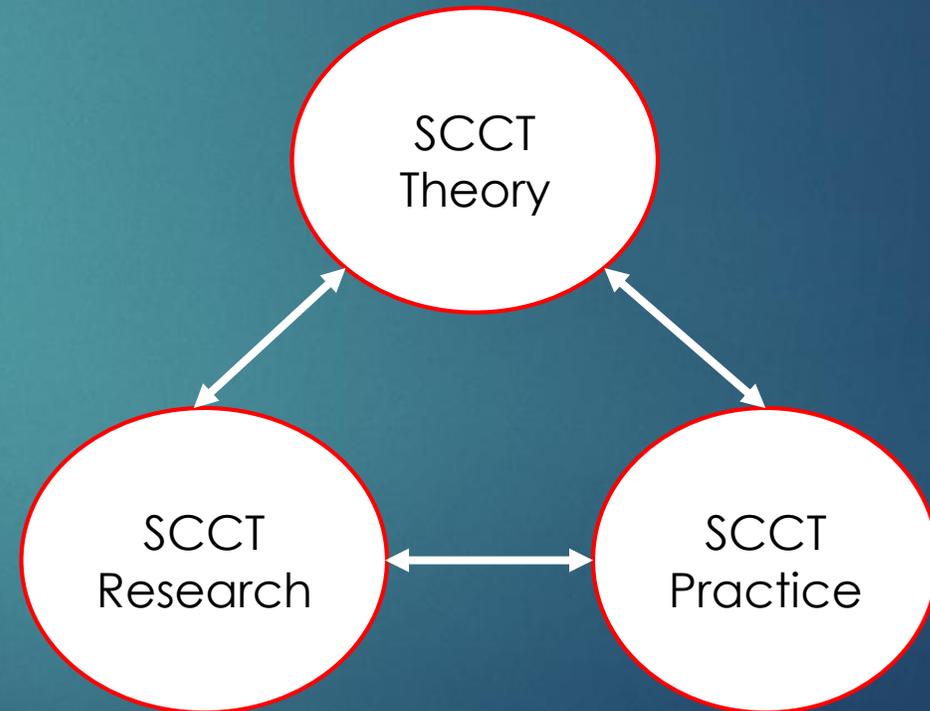
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Integration... What do we mean?

► Integration *across* theories versus...



► Integration *within* theories



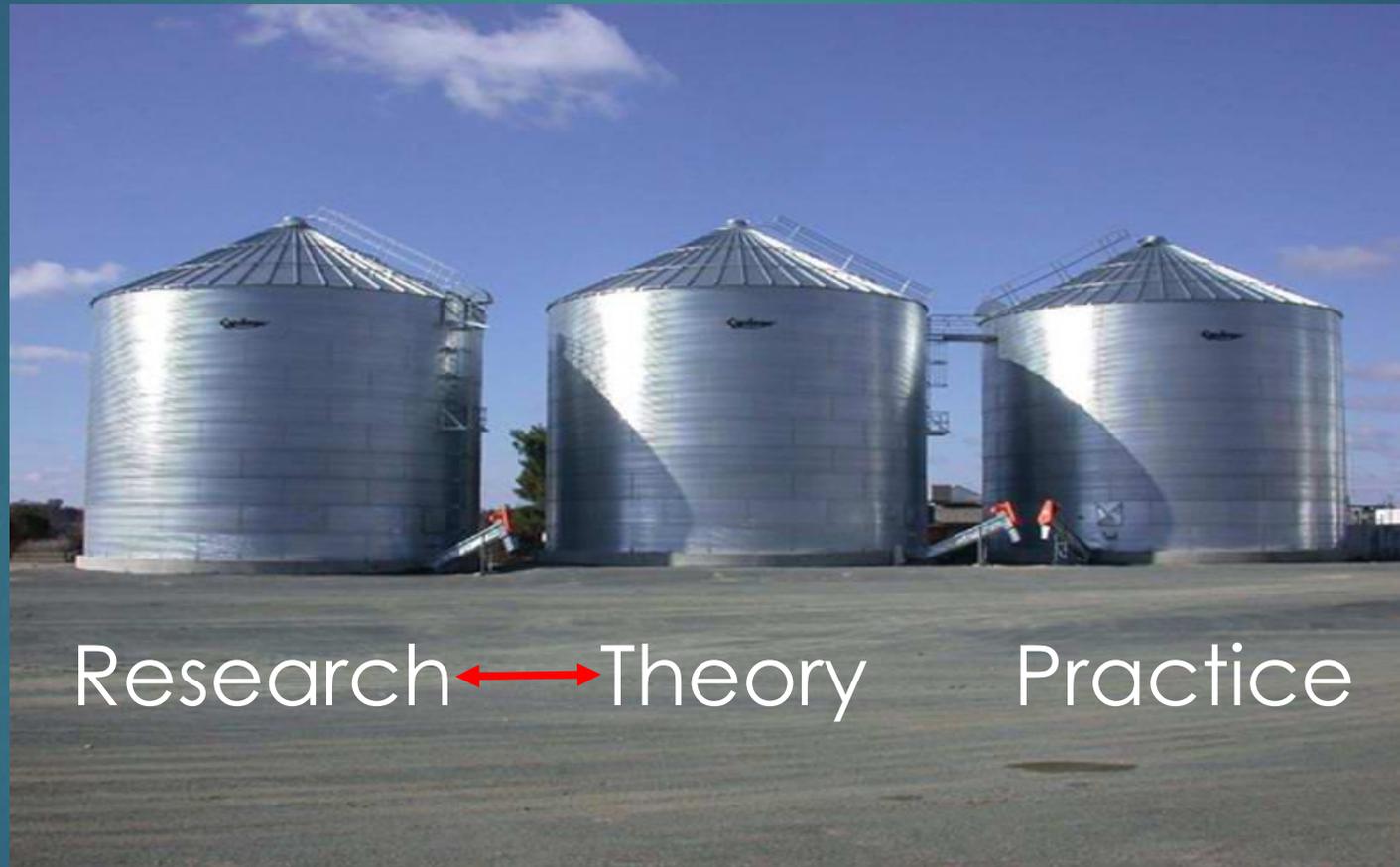
Important Aspects of Theories

- ▶ Explanatory system
- ▶ Testable hypotheses to guide research and, potentially, practice
- ▶ Immediate implications for practice are a plus, not a necessity

What are the Barriers to Theory- Research-Practice Integration?



Beware the Silos

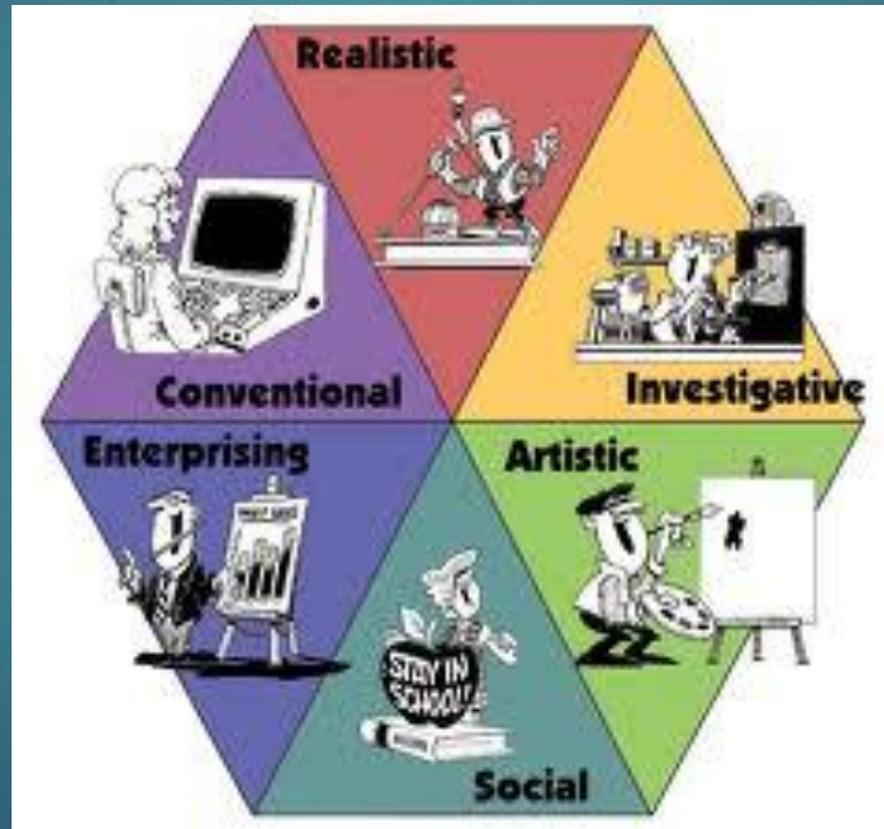


“Birds of a feather...”



Bridging the Investigative/Artistic – Social Gap

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Some Solutions – None really original

- ▶ *Theory-Research Linkages* – theorists need to provide:
 - ▶ Clear definitions of central concepts
 - ▶ Testable hypotheses
 - ▶ Research showing how the theory can be tested
 - ▶ Accessible and (ideally) free measures

Some Solutions

- ▶ *Theory-Practice Linkages* – facilitated by
 - ▶ Provision of case examples by theorists
 - ▶ Research creating and testing theory-based interventions
 - ▶ Theorists working with creative practitioners

Some Solutions

- ▶ *Research-Practice Linkages* – facilitated by
 - ▶ Researchers avoiding pursuit of complexity as an end in itself
 - ▶ Practitioners seeing “practice-far” research as part of programmatic inquiry
 - ▶ Collaborations, dialogues, attendance at same conferences