GLOBE
GLOBAL OBESITY CENTRE

Group Model Building and Shared Measurement

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

WHO Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention

CPHR
CENTRE FOR POPULATION HEALTH RESEARCH

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

My background – obesity and… family violence??

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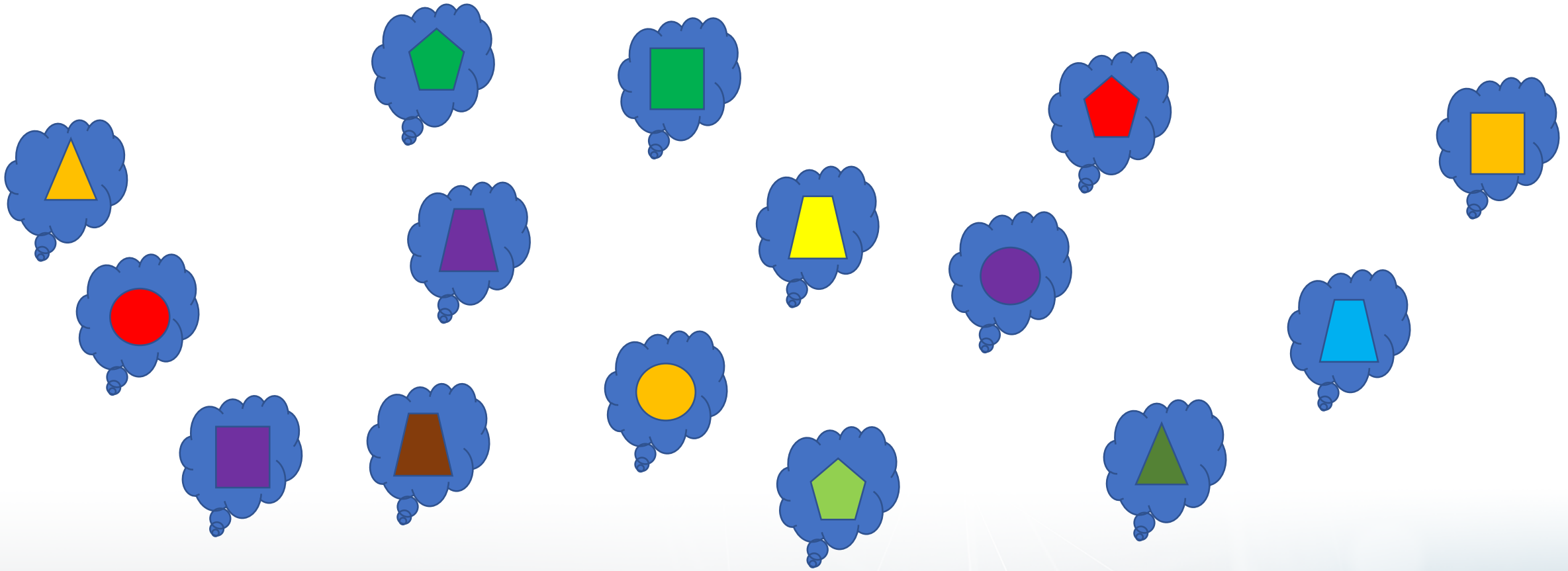
Why do Group Model Building?

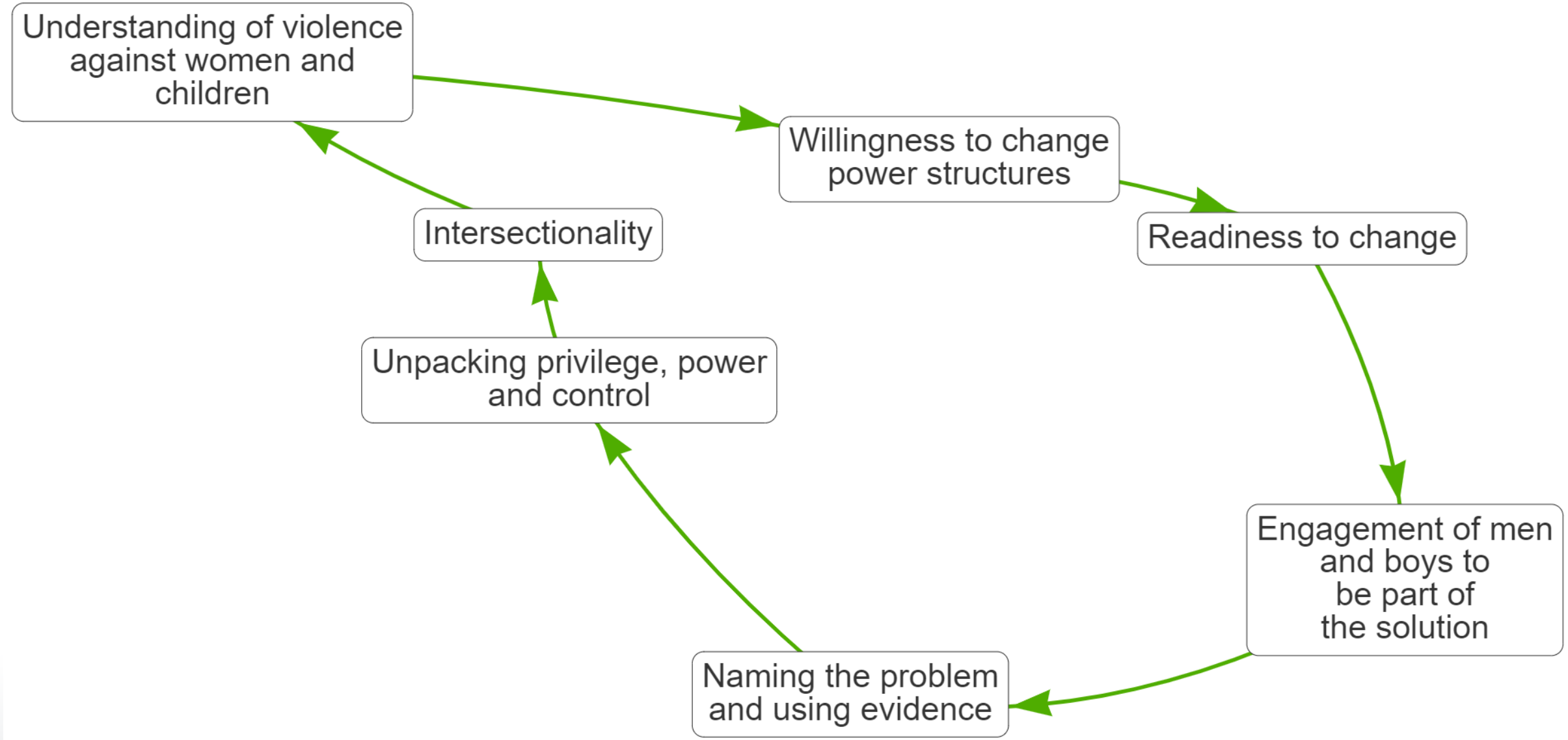


Why do Group Model Building?

- Build a shared understanding
- Engage new and diverse stakeholders
- Motivate people to identify new, better action

Stages of a Group Model Building project

1. Establish facilitation team
2. Define your dynamic problem
3. Recruit a diverse group to draw your initial causal loop diagram
4. Generate potential areas to intervene
5. Iterate


Understanding of violence against women and children
Willingness to change power structures
Readiness to change
Engagement of men and boys to be part of the solution
Naming the problem and using evidence
Unpacking privilege, power and control
Intersectionality

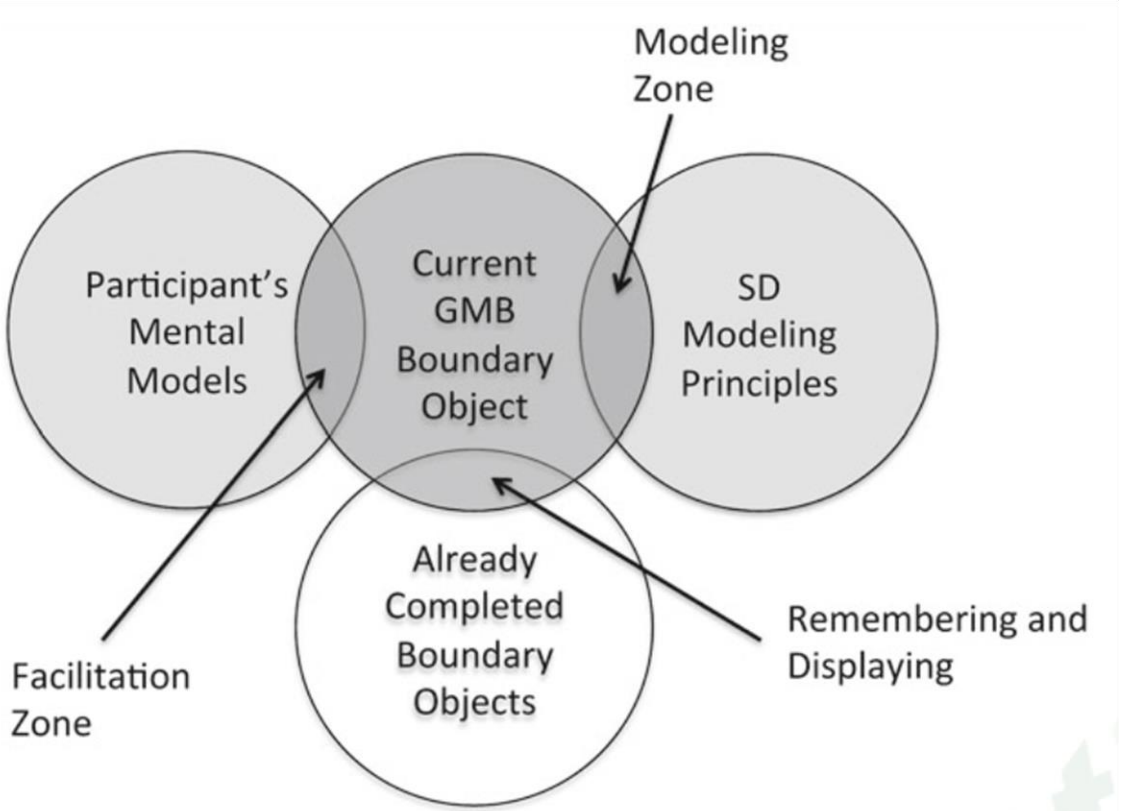
Family violence, language, and group model building

- Family violence, violence against women and children, intimate partner violence, …
- Resistance, backlash
- Misogyny, gender stereotypes, sexism, gender equity, discrimination, intersectionality, …
- Causal pathways from gender inequity to family violence

Group Model Building and Data

- Connection with mind mapping – but distinct
- Rules on naming variables allow for questions about “how to measure?”
- Feedback perspective – distinct from reductionist paradigm (ie, breaking a problem down into many parts)

Group Model Building Facilitation



- Hovmand, Peter S. 2013. *Community Based System Dynamics*. New York, NY: Springer.

Group Model Building Facilitation: Boundary Objects

- “A boundary object, most simply, is a representation—perhaps a diagram, sketch, sparse text, or prototype—that helps individuals collaborate effectively across some boundary, often a difference in knowledge, training, or objective” (Black 2013)

- Graphs over Time, Connection Circles, Causal Loop Diagrams

Group Model Building, Technology, and Community Voice

- Traditional group model building incredibly expert driven
- Community based system dynamics
- STICK-E (Systems Thinking in Community Knowledge Exchange)
- Provides support for the technical side of map building
- “Google Drive” style sharing of maps – iterate over time