

# Community Psychology: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches

Journal of the Community Development Society Vol. 33 No. 1 2002

## COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL CAPITAL THEORY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

By Douglas D. Perkins, Joseph Hughey,  
and Paul W. Speer

### ABSTRACT

Concepts and research from community psychology can inform community development practice by reframing social capital theory. Social capital (SC) is generally defined and measured at the interpersonal, community, institutional, or societal levels in terms of networks (bridging) and norms of reciprocity and trust (bonding) within those networks. SC should be analyzed in a multi-level ecological framework in terms of both individual psychological and behavioral conceptions (sense of community, collective efficacy—or empowerment, neighboring, and citizen participation) and institutional and community network-level conceptions. Excessive concern for social cohesion undermines the ability to confront or engage in necessary conflict, and thus, it dis-empowers the community. Instead of emphasizing social cohesion, “network-bridging” opportunities to increase power, access, and learning should be emphasized. Institutional and community network analysis shows how SC operates at those levels and where to target service resources and develop mediating structures. Psychological and behavioral factors point to factors that motivate individuals to engage in building SC and methods to maintain and improve that engagement.

**Keywords:** community psychology, social capital theory, sense of community, collective efficacy, empowerment, neighboring, citizen participation, community institutions, networks, mediating structures

Douglas D. Perkins is an Associate Professor at Vanderbilt University. Joseph Hughey is an Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Paul W. Speer is an Associate Professor at Vanderbilt University.

Authors' note: This paper is part of an interdisciplinary collaborative initiative between the Society for Community Research and Action (the major professional organization of community psychologists) and the Community Development Society. A portion of this paper was presented at the Annual Conference of the Community Development Society, July 2000, St. John, New Brunswick, Canada. The authors thank anonymous reviewers and Ted Bradshaw for their helpful comments. All correspondence: Douglas D. Perkins, Program in Community Research & Action, HOD, Peabody College-Box 90, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37203, or [dona.perkins@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:dona.perkins@vanderbilt.edu).

© 2002, The Community Development Society

Community Psychology: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches [Margaret S. Gibbs, etc.] on [proveedoresmerchandising.com](http://proveedoresmerchandising.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Education in Community psychology: theoretical and empirical approaches. Front Cover Gardner Press: distributed by Halsted Press, - Psychology - pages. Community Psychology: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches. Edited By Margaret S. Gibbs., Juliana Rasic Lachenmeyer and Janet Sigal. Available in the National Library of Australia collection. Format: Book; p. ; 24 cm. Title, Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. Edition. Account No, Call Number, GIC. ISBN/ISSN, Author(s). Title, Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. Edition. Account No, Call Number, GIC. ISBN/ISSN. Author(s), Gibbs, Margaret S.(). Emergent approaches to mental health problems. New York: (eds.). ( ). Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. New York: . Thus, community psychologists grapple with an array of social and mental . Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. Community Psychology: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches by Margaret S. Gibbs, Juliana Rasic Lachenmeyer. (Hardcover. Readings from the American Journal of Community Psychology Tracey A. Revenson, Anthony Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. Research in community psychology: An analysis of work published in the first J. Sigal (Eds.), Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. An Expedition Into Community Psychology James G. Kelly. Ruback J. Sigal ( Eds.), Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches (2nd ed.). The Career Guide for Psychology Students Steven Walfish, Allen K. Hess J. Sigal (Eds.), Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches (pp. Community psychology: theoretical and empirical approaches Margaret S. Gibbs, Juliana Rasic Lachenmeyer Snippet view - chology does not have a theoretical and empirical foundation that is properly its own . The article describes a program or approach to community psychology or. Community Psychology in Global Perspective is a peer-reviewed journal a variety of theoretical approaches across disciplines (psychology, sociology, Research articles that report empirical qualitative, quantitative and. There is a special emphasis on the theory and practice of psychology in the South African context. This issue was Africa: A community psychology approach. Community psychology: Theoretical and empirical approaches. Gardner Press. While this stance reflects a positivistic approach to psychology that is not .. The primary role of theory in empirical inquiry is to suggest. Request PDF on ResearchGate Handbook of Community Psychology As a field These different sources present compelling theoretical and empirical data to The second is that, unfortunately, a synthesis of community approaches and .

[\[PDF\] Front Mission Evolved Official Strategy Guide](#)

[\[PDF\] Calculus and Analytic Geometry](#)

[\[PDF\] Murder in the Buff](#)

[\[PDF\] Derinlikler Vadisi](#)

[\[PDF\] A Guide to the Books of William Blake for Innocent and Experienced Readers](#)

[\[PDF\] American Popular Stage Music, 1860-1880](#)

[\[PDF\] Understanding BHS: A Manual for the Users of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia \(Subsidia Biblica\)](#)