



VOLUNTEERING CONGRESS – ‘Volunteering & Social Capital: What’s the link with migrants?’

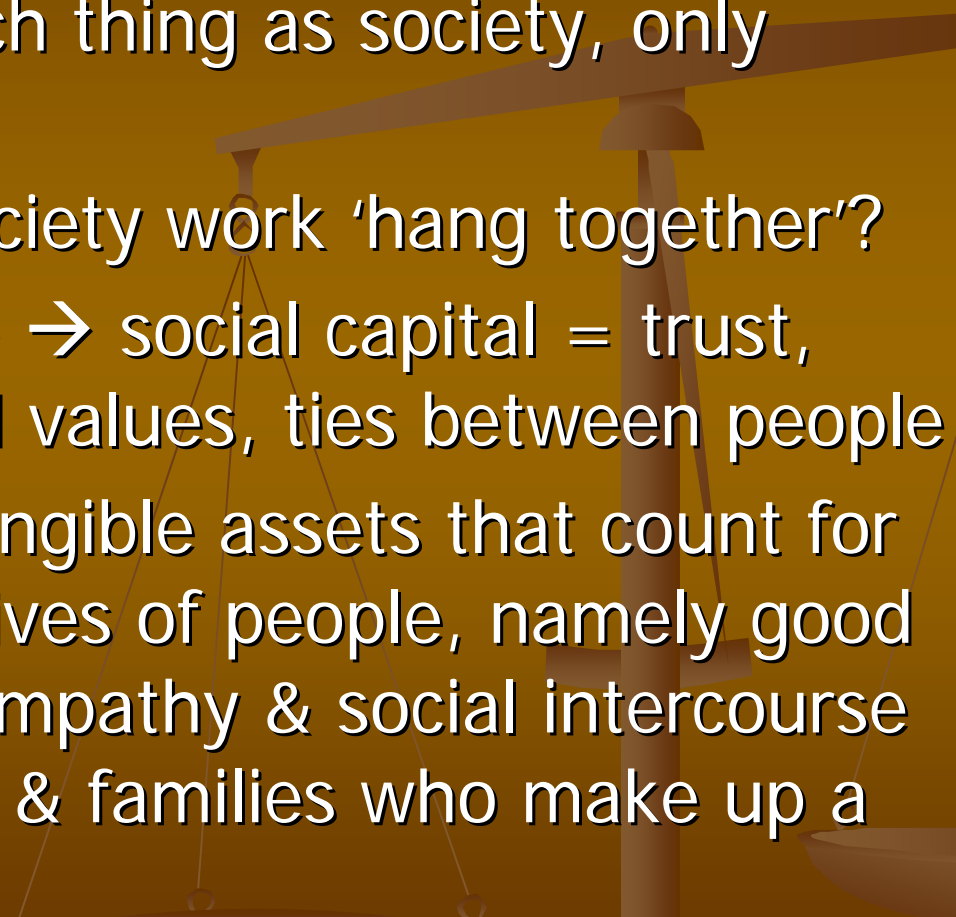
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OVERVIEW

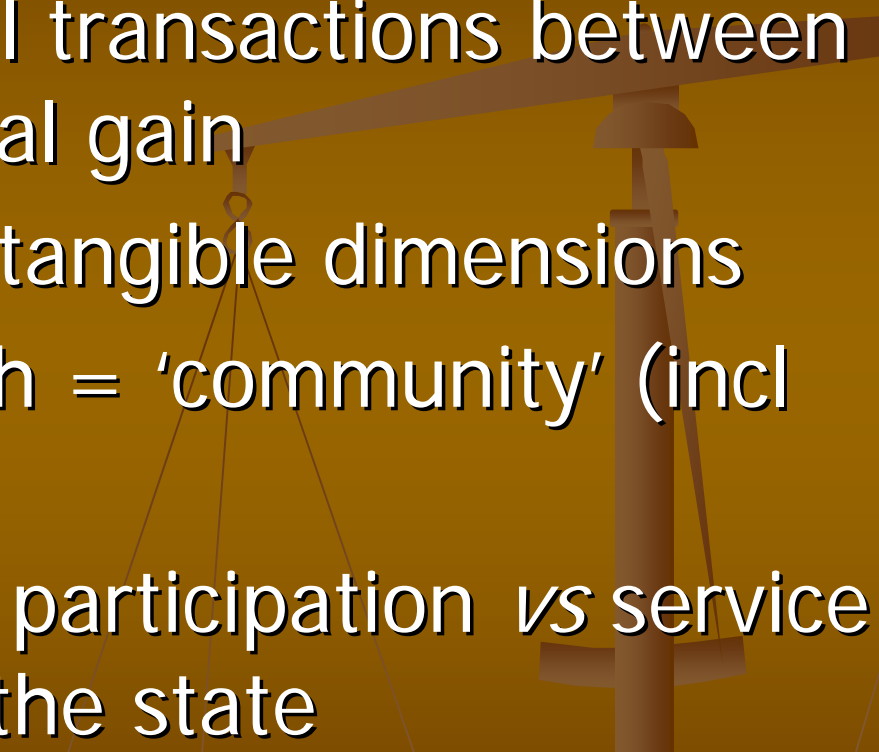
- Talking about social capital & communities
- Inclusion & exclusion
- Talking about volunteering
- Where do migrants 'fit'?
- Challenges for us all



Social capital & 'communities'

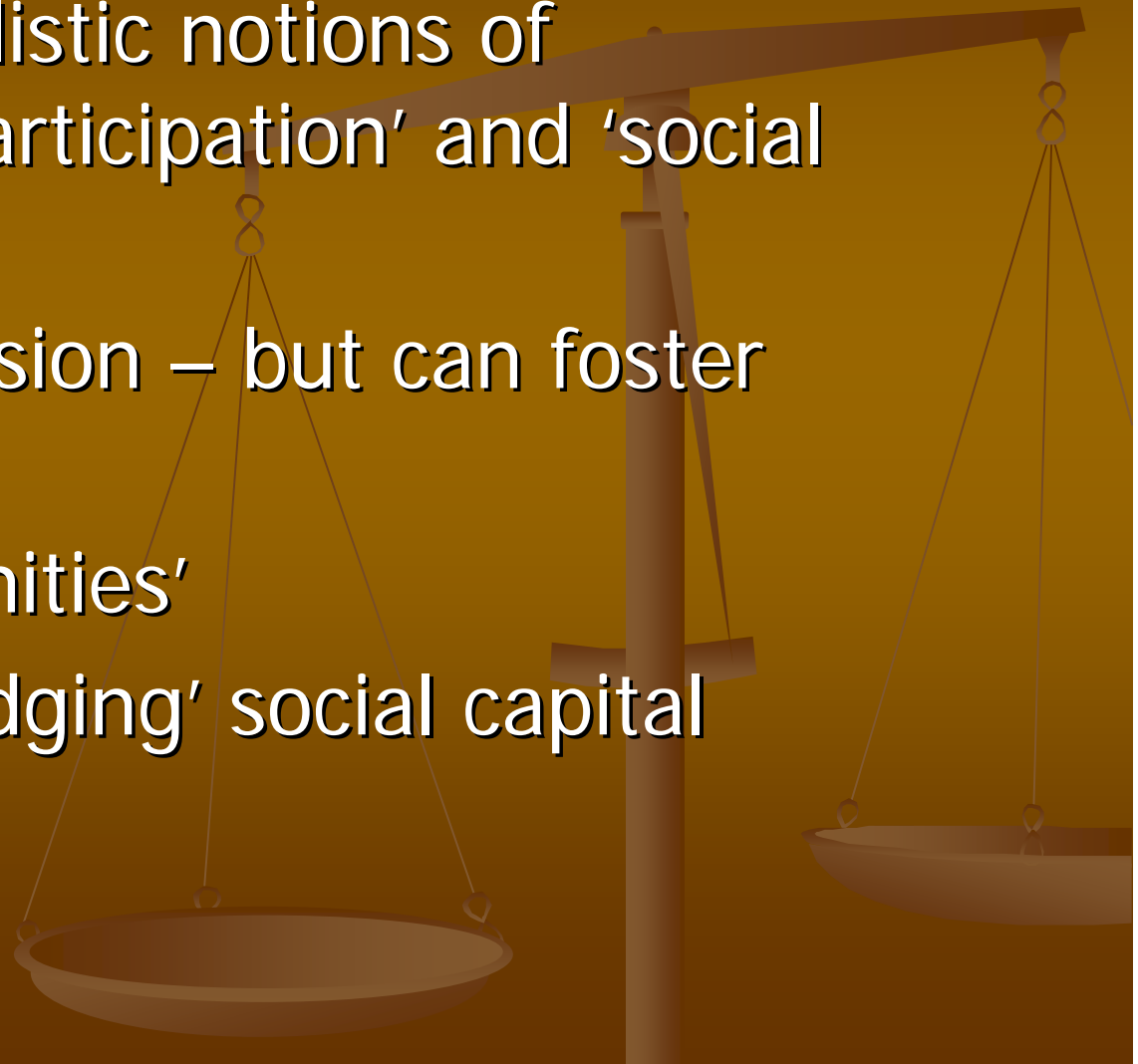
- Thatcher – 'no such thing as society, only individuals'
 - How then does society work 'hang together'?
 - Debates over time → social capital = trust, reciprocity, shared values, ties between people
 - Hanifan – 'those tangible assets that count for most in the daily lives of people, namely good will, fellowship, sympathy & social intercourse among individuals & families who make up a social unit'
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Social capital cont...

- Function – social transactions between people for mutual gain
 - Tangible & non-tangible dimensions
 - Weaving through = 'community' (incl volunteers)
 - Caution – social participation *vs* service delivery arm of the state
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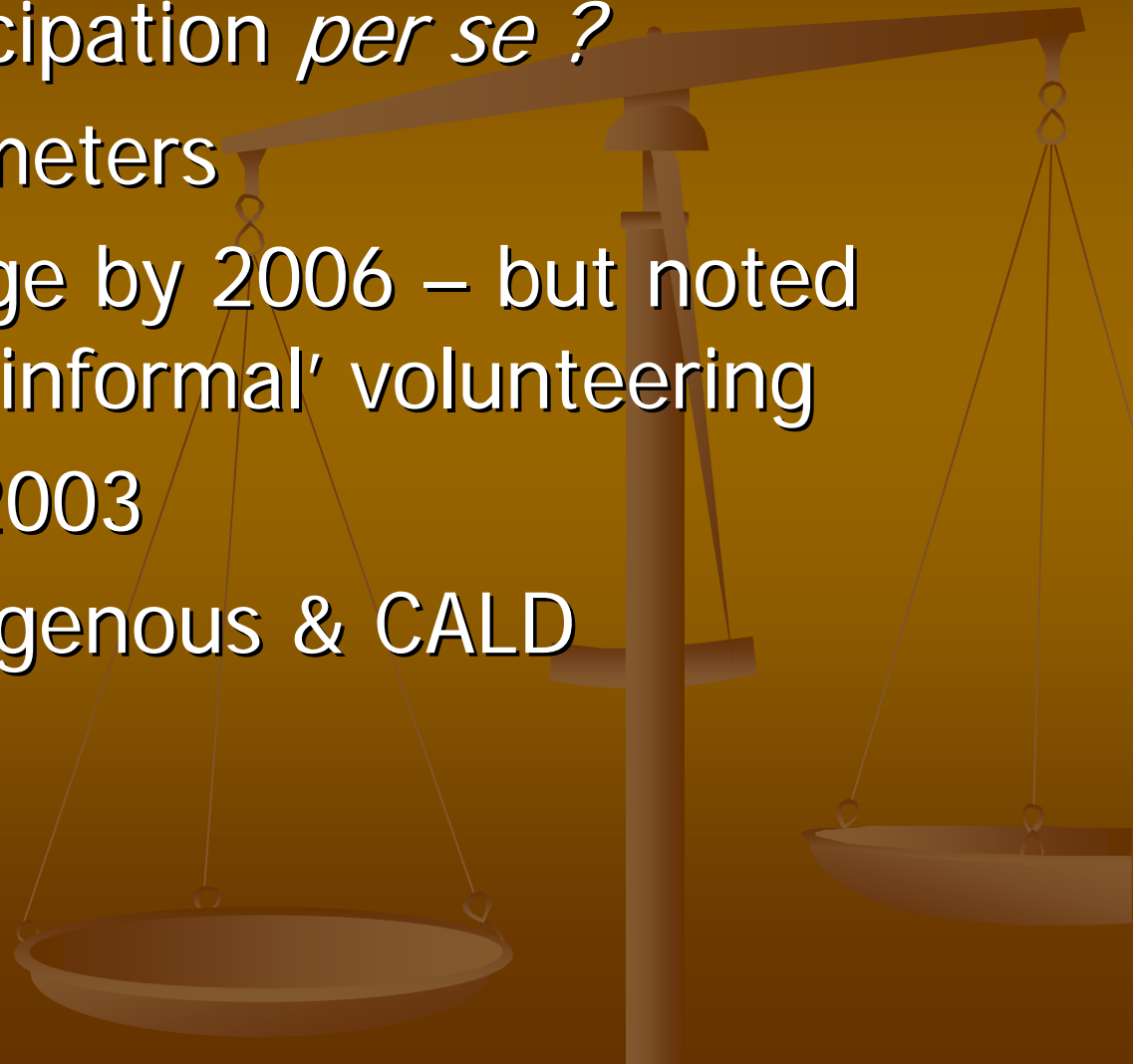
Social capital – the ‘dark side’

- Overcome simplistic notions of ‘community’, ‘participation’ and ‘social capital’
- Can foster inclusion – but can foster exclusion
- ‘Closed communities’
- ‘Bonding’ & ‘Bridging’ social capital

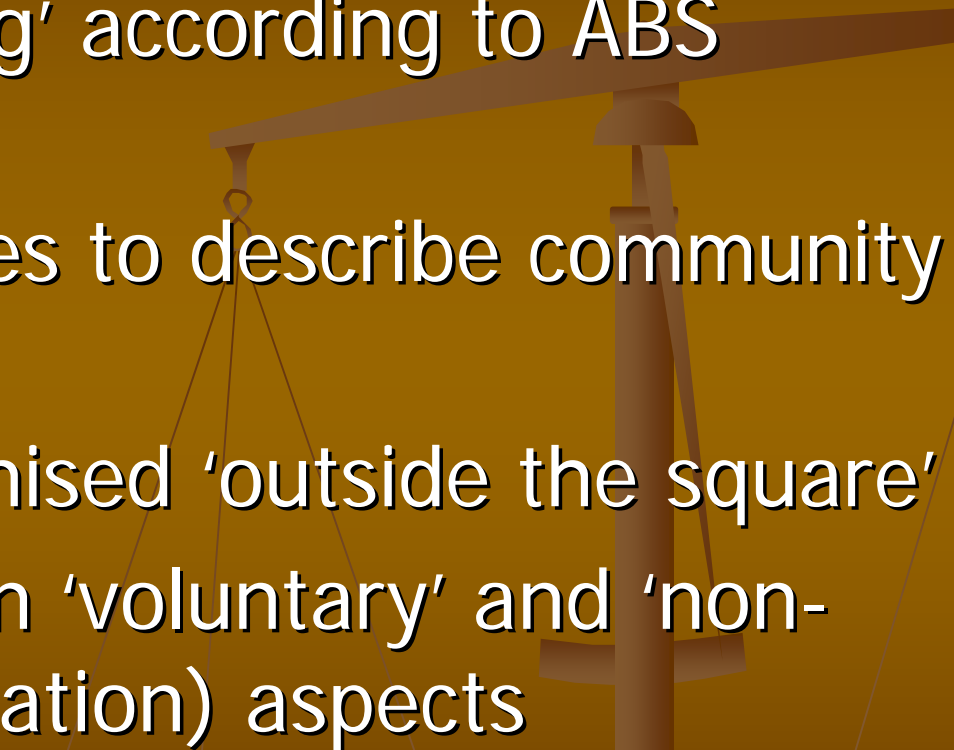


Volunteering – what is it?

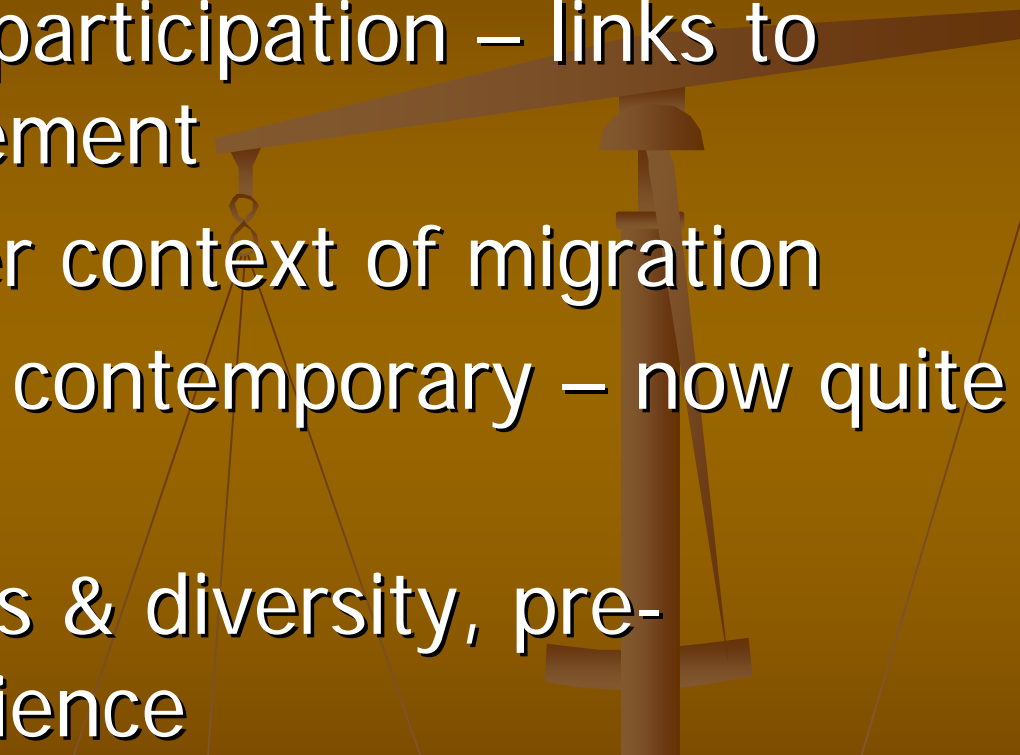
- Links with participation *per se* ?
- ABS 1995 parameters
- Not much change by 2006 – but noted contribution of 'informal' volunteering
- SA – Compact 2003
- → study of Indigenous & CALD communities



Research project

- Not 'volunteering' according to ABS parameters
 - 37 words/phrases to describe community effort
 - Much not recognised 'outside the square'
 - Blurring between 'voluntary' and 'non-voluntary' (obligation) aspects
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Where do migrants 'fit'?

- Social capital – participation – links to successful settlement
 - Need to consider context of migration
 - Past patterns cf contemporary – now quite different
 - Current numbers & diversity, pre-migration experience
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'Bonding' & 'Bridging' – Our challenges

- Patterns of participation/volunteering
- Current focus on 'assimilation' – reduce 'quota' of 'high needs' migrants
- Structural barriers – 'assimilation' *vs* acknowledgement of need for 'bonding' first
- Provision of 'bridges'

