Collective Action
consulting
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# It's All Connected:

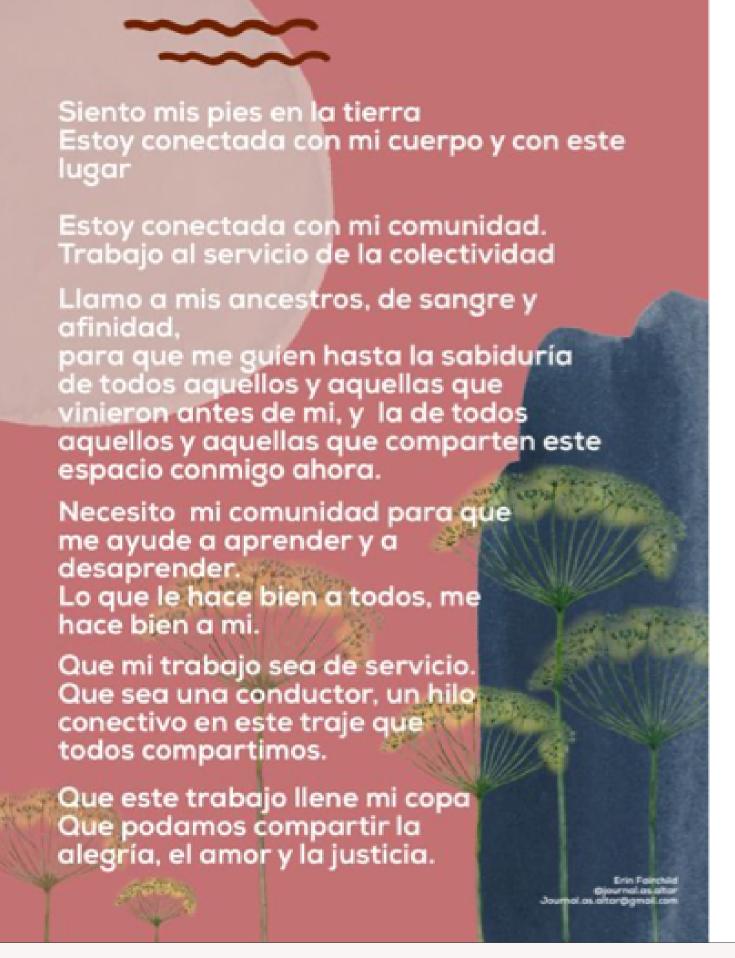
Intersectional Approaches to Preventing Violence Before it Occurs

#### Violence is preventable.

"Even a fist was once an open palm with fingers." - Yehuda Amichai









### My work is informed by many

adrienne maree brown Angela Davis Chani Nicholas Charlene Caruthers Cherrie Moraga Desiree Adaway Ericka Hines Gloria Anzaldua Guyatri Spivak Janet Mock Jerry Tello John Biewen June Jordan Kimeberle Krenshaw Lama Rod Owens Mariame Kaba Resmaa Menakem Roxane Gay Sarah Gottessdeiner Shira Hassan Sonya Renee Taylor Tara Brach Tema Okun Tourmaline



This list is not exhaustive!



### YOUR GIFTS TO THIS WORLD ARE PRECIOUS, AND I AM IN AWE OF YOU.



There's only one you doing what you do, how you do it.

File that away for when self doubt creeps in.



We can be heart-led in a world that wants us to be productivity led.

Cherish and protect this characteristic.



You may not receive thank you's & accolades for the spaces you hold.

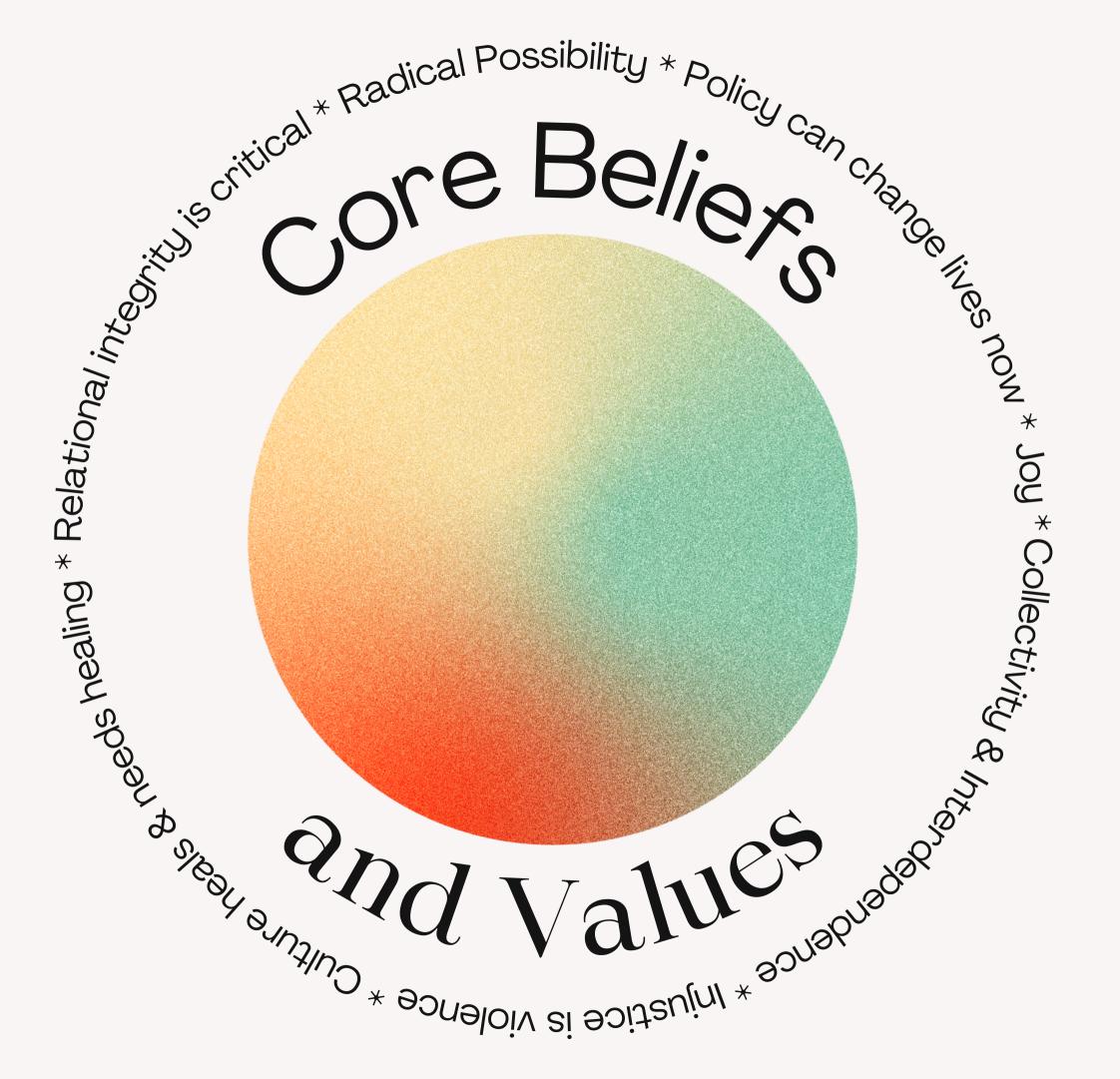
I want you to know that you are valued beyond measure.

### INVITING NERVOUS SYSTEM BALANCE

When engaging in violence intervention & prevention work, bringing intention to our well-being is critical.

• grounding practice that works for you (body, heart, mind)





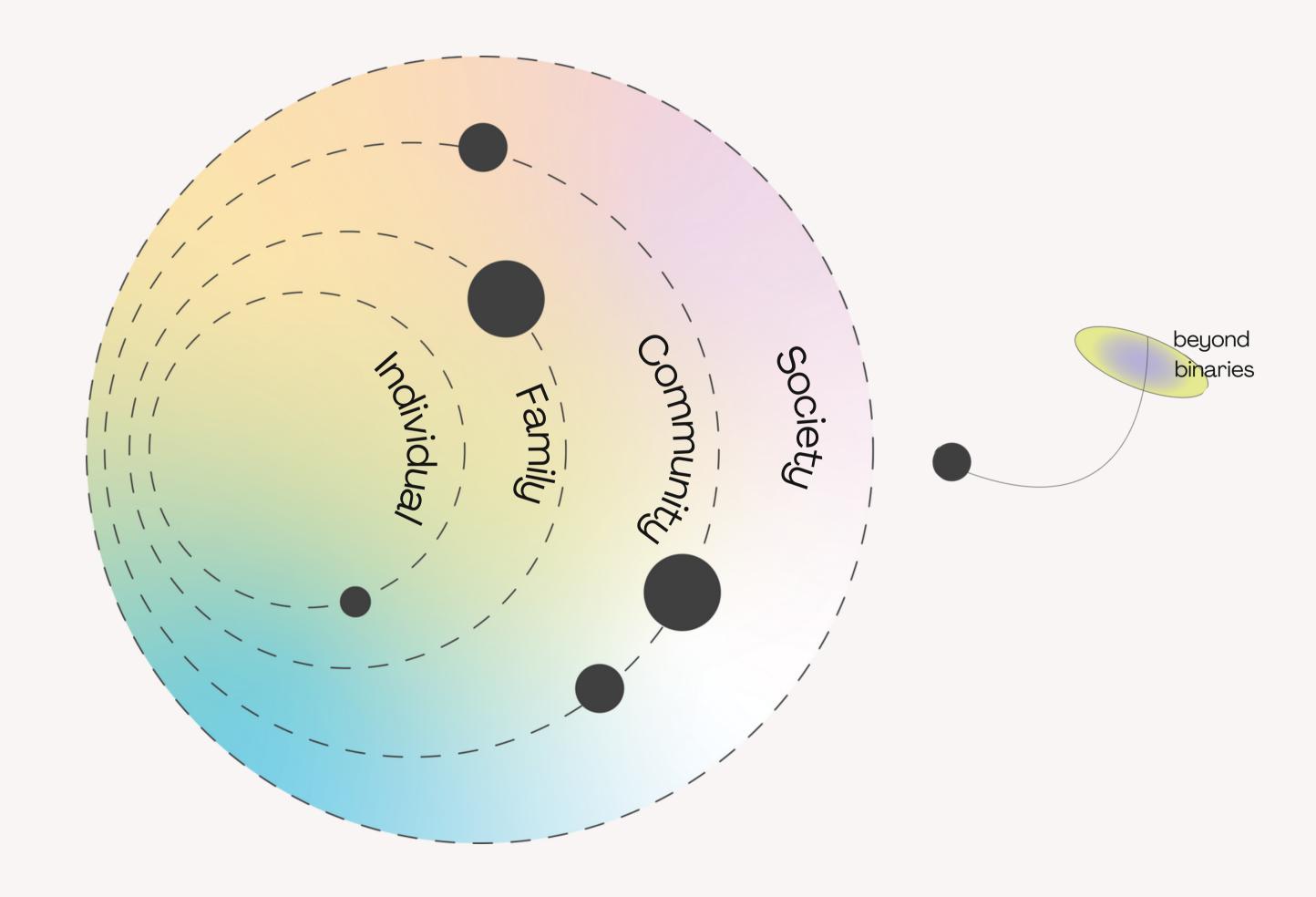


When you imagine a violence free world, what words come to mind?

We must employ both/and thinking

- binary thinking breeds supremacy
- immediate to long view
- being trauma informed helps

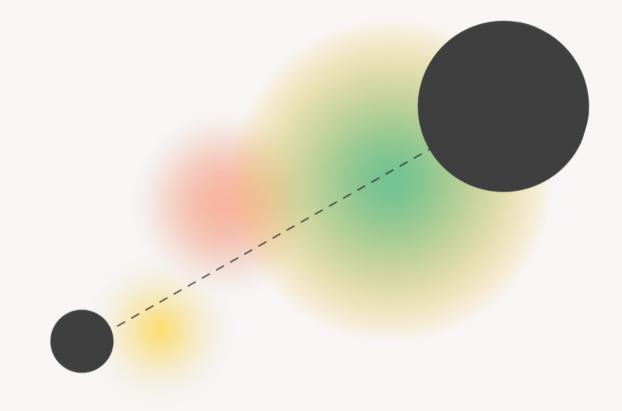
Identity.
Trauma.
Healing.

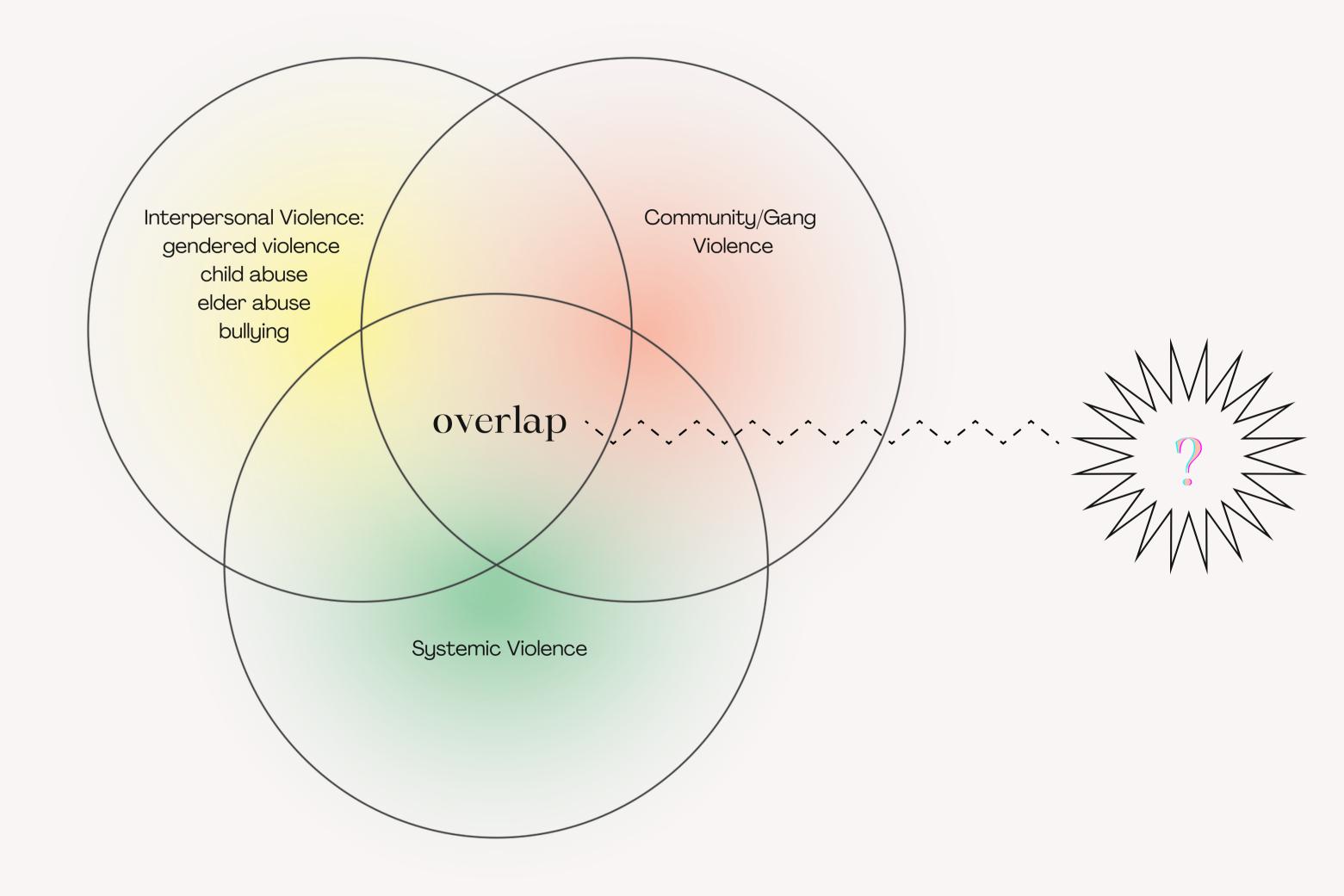




"Gang violence is connected to bullying is connected to school violence is connected to intimate partner violence is connected to child abuse is connected to elder abuse. It's all connected. We operate in these silos that we've got to break down."

Deborah Prothrow-Stith, M.D.1, Dean, Drew College of Medicine, From a Cycle of Violence to a Culture of Safety: Leveraging Connections to Prevent Multiple Forms of Violence

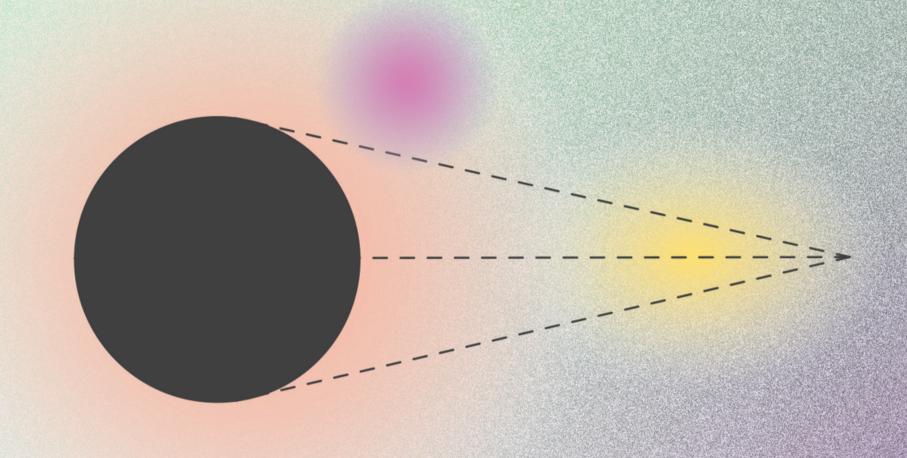




## Self-reflection moment

Why do you think we operate in these silos?

What might systemic violence and specifically white supremacy have to do with it?



## Shared understanding is critical. If we have differing definitions of "prevention," we may not be a support of the support of

If we have differing definitions of "prevention," we may miss the most dynamic solutions; justice oriented strategies require intentional planning across our systems so we can fill in gaps and grow together.

Shared risk factors

Share protective factors

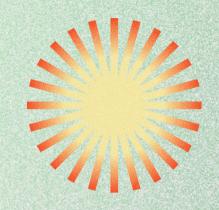
Primary prevention, secondary prevention, tertiary prevention





#### Shared Risk Factors

Multiple forms of violence are shaped by common structural factors such as racism, sexism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, policy enforced poverty - resulting in inequities in rates of violence.



#### Shared Protective Factors

Multiple forms of violence are also shaped by common protective factors, such as upward economic mobility, equitable access to dignity, safety & resources, strong cultural and interpersonal attachments.



## Spectrum of Prevention\*

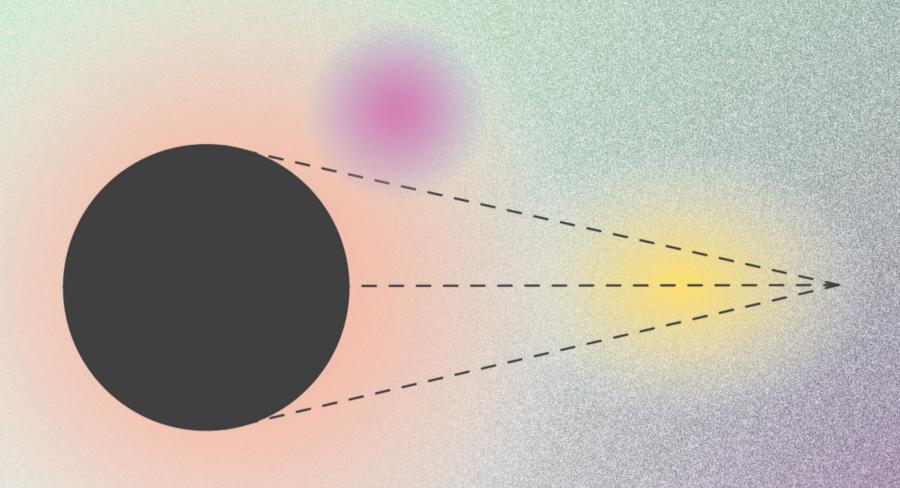
PRIMARY: changing conditions & environments to prevent violence *before* it occurs

SECONDARY: immediate responses to violence right before, during, and after that address short term consequences

TERTIARY: long term responses to violence that has already occured

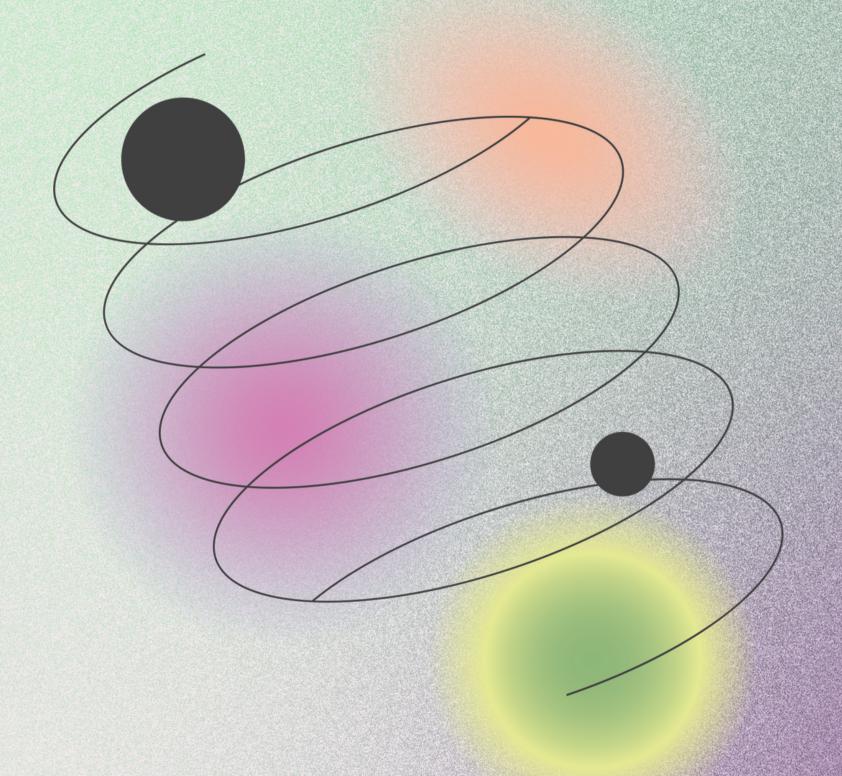
## Selfreflection moment

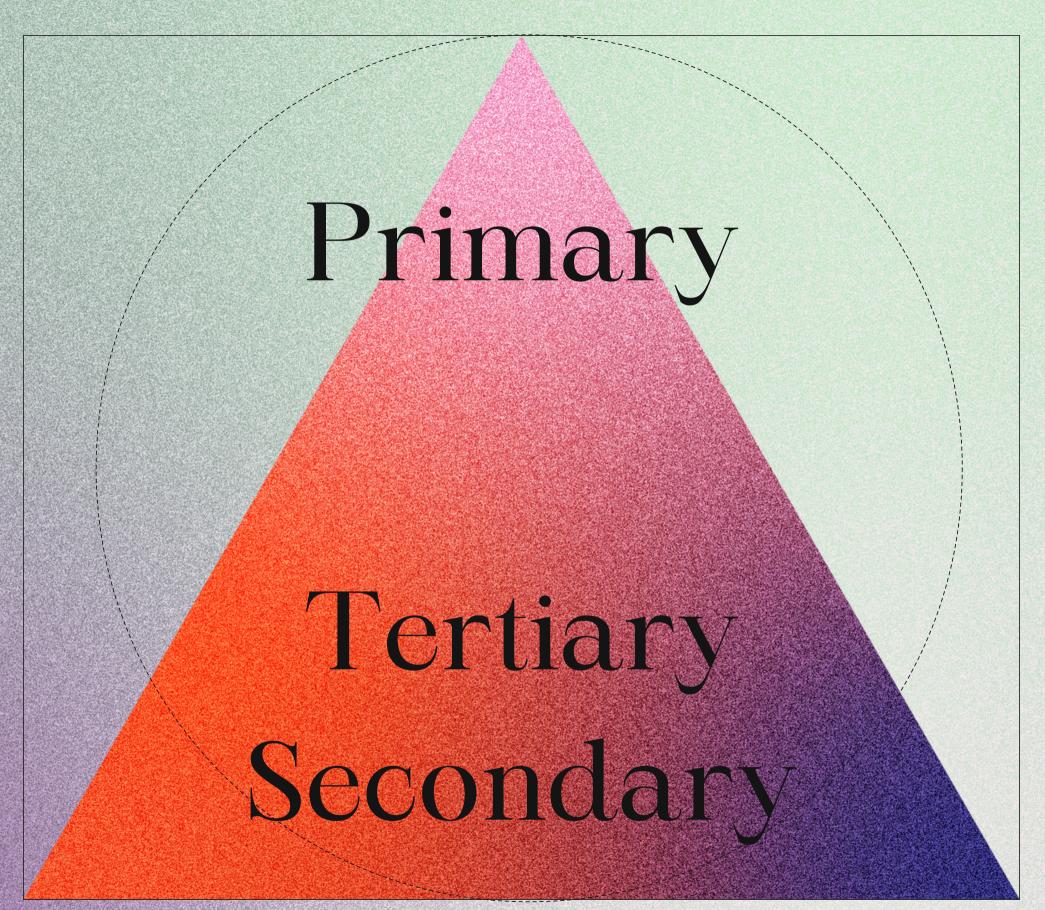
Where do you think the work you are currently tasked with falls?



## Break-out room moment

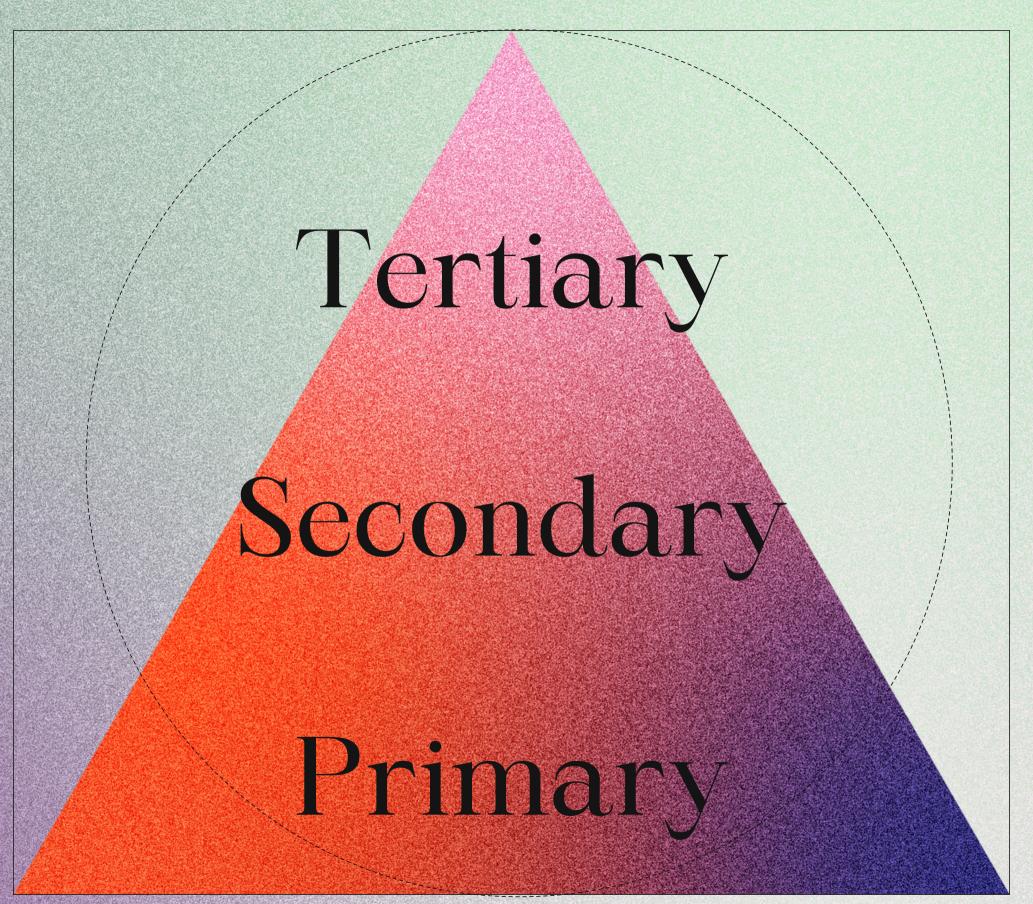
How might our violence prevention work look if every system and practitioner & policy maker shared these definitions of prevention?





The biggest investments are often in tertiary and secondary prevention efforts.

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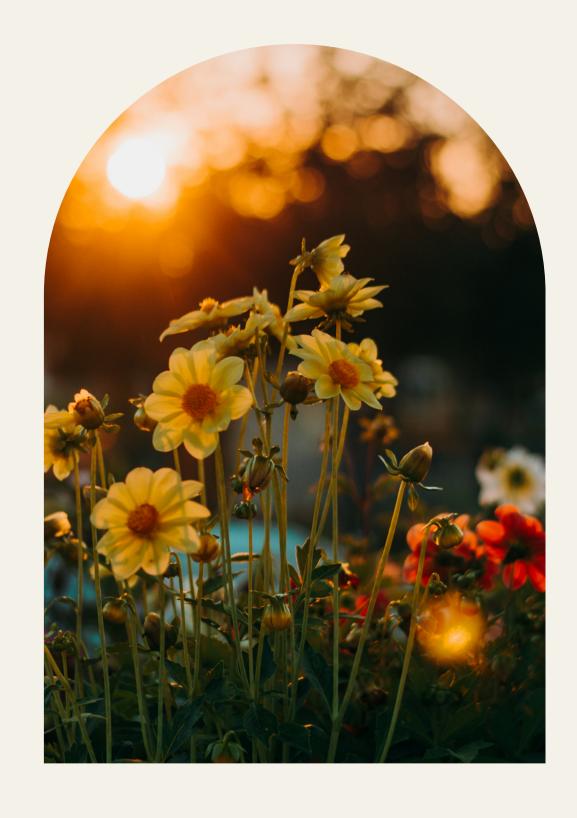
What would it look like if we flipped the script?

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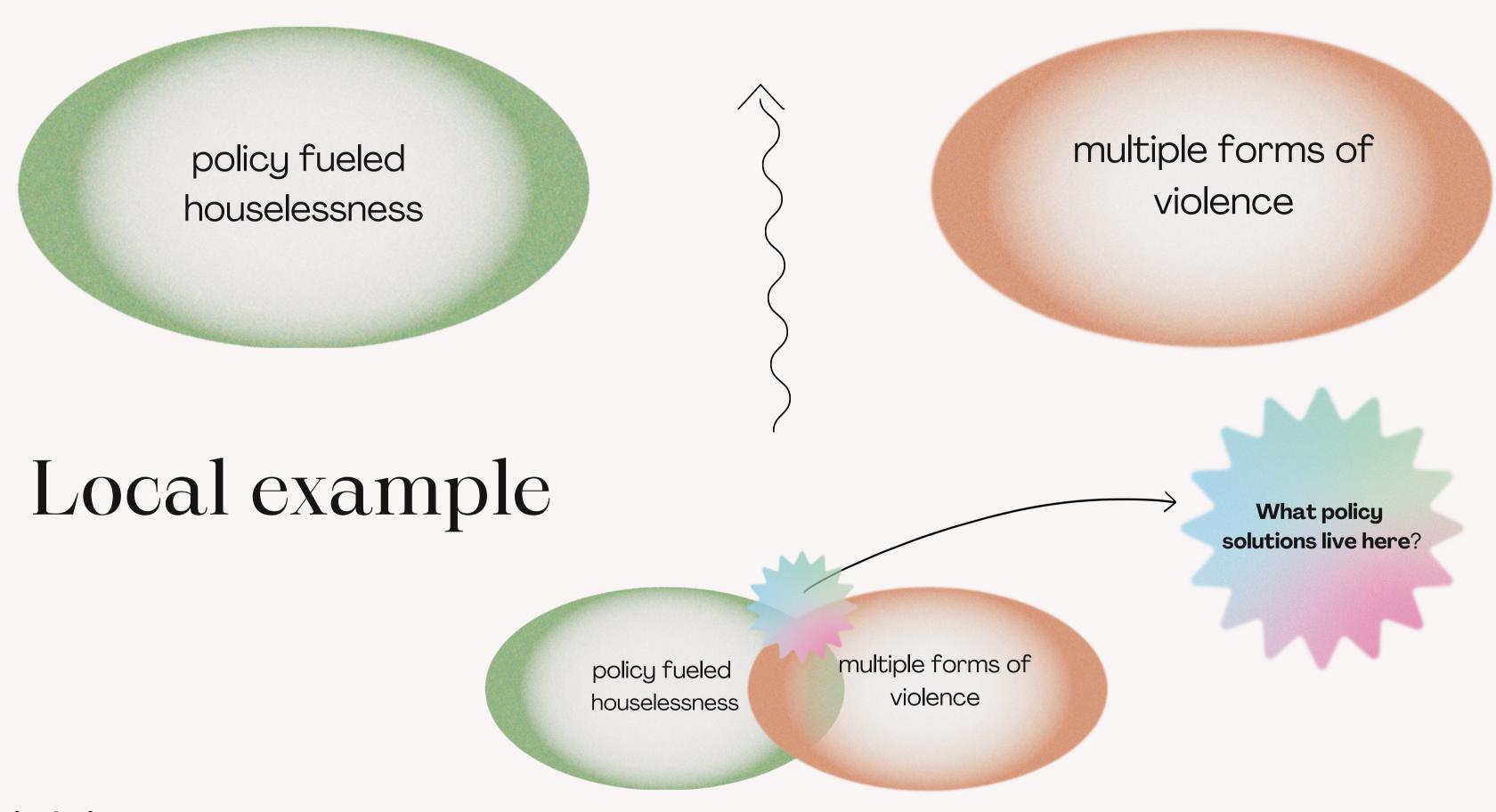


## Primary Prevention & Policy

"Neighborhoods where there is low cohesion, or where residents don't support and trust each other, are more likely to have residents that also experience child maltreatment, intimate partner violence, and youth violence."

Wilkins, N., Tsao, B., Hertz, M. F., Davis, R., & Klevens, J. (2014). Connecting the dots: An overview of the links among multiple forms of violence. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/The Prevention Institute.





#### What policy solutions live here? sample ideas



Housing & urban planning policy that caps corporate development profit in favor of affordable housing

Policy that elevates the expertise of currently and formerly unhoused people with different experiences, including with violence



Capping alcohol outlet density

Increasing equitable distribution of green space and other neighborhood investments

Policy that planfully fills gaps across the spectrum of prevention

Wage increases as violence prevention AND houeslessness prevention

Redesigning public school funding structures in favor of schools in marginalized neighborhoods

Universally accessible, free, trauma informed preschool

## Individual level interventions

...are necessary...and most often lead to individual level change rather than fundamental shifts in the conditions that fuel the problem.



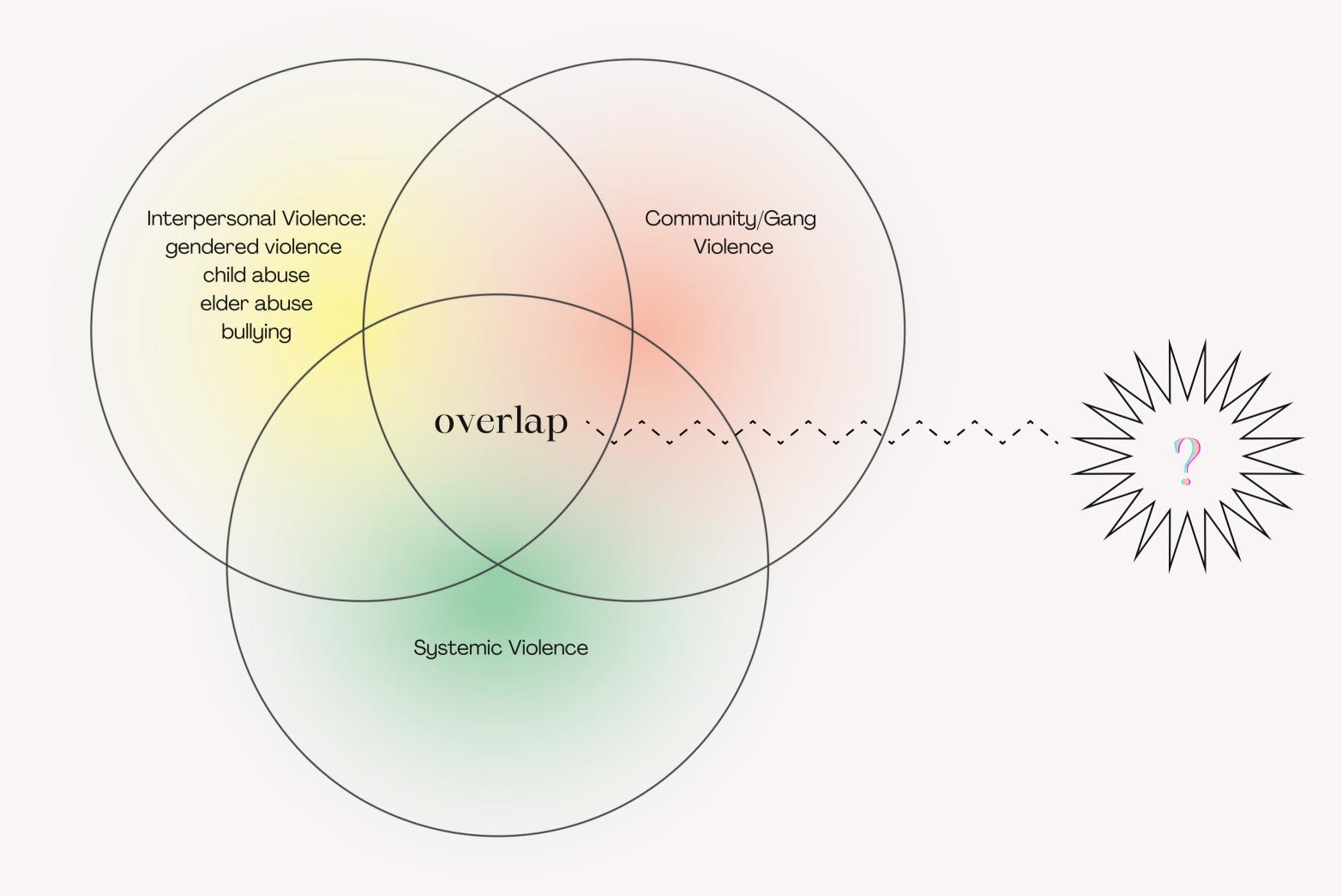
We must decenter white comfort to get to the most dynamic policy solutions.



#### Develop your primary prevention lens.

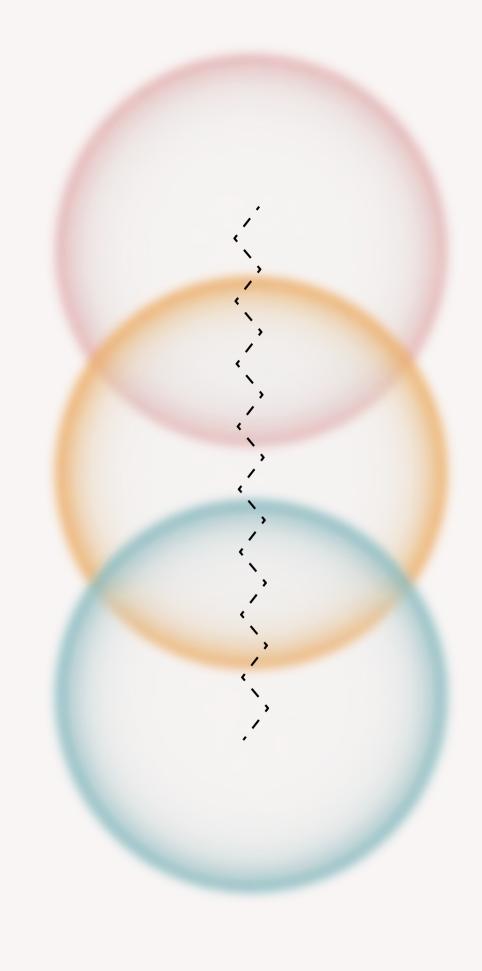
"Does this change the conditions that contribute to violence perpetration and victimization?





We can "advance critical justice frameworks that answer key questions about what we might invest in to keep individuals safe; how we might help neighborhoods thrive; and how we might create structural changes that shift power in our society such that violence and victimization are minimized. More than rhetorical questions and naively optimistic strategies, these are real issues that must inform any discussion of the future of justice policy."

Beth E. Richie; The Effects of Violence on Communities: The Violence Matrix as a Tool for Advancing More Just Policies. Daedalus 2022; 151 (1): 84–96. doi: https://doi.org/10.1162/daed\_a\_01890



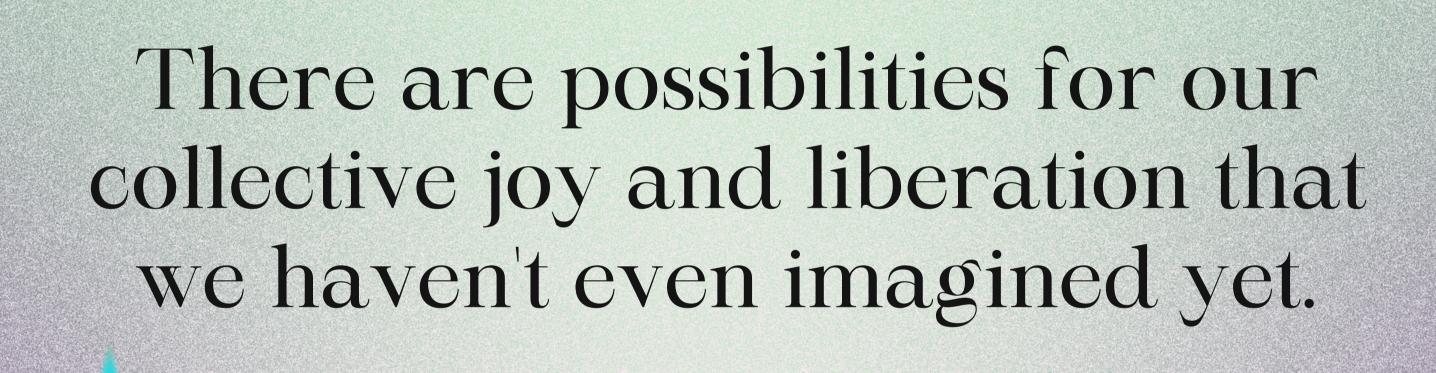
## creating environments where safety is achievable



- What's going on in our relationship & environment?
- How do we plan to navigate inevitable conflict?
- How do we set parameters for repairing harm?
- Can we foster both/and thinking?
- How do our people know that diversity of experiences & identities is an asset to our work?



- How are we centering JOY and well-being for marginalized survivors?
- What would it look and feel like if Black trans women had equal access to safety?
- Where and how can we get more intersectional?
- What does it look like to share power and material resources with diverse survivors?



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