

STORY OF US:

Using Transformative Storytelling to Promote
Diversity and Inclusion in Global Education

Presented by
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During today's session, we will be inviting you to engage in self-reflection and storytelling.

Some of the content may be deeply personal to some participants. We welcome each of you to share your lived experiences to the extent that you are comfortable doing so. As you are communicating with one another, remember that your experiences with societal structures may be different than someone else's.



Objectives:

- Identify obstacles to access and inclusion for International Students
- Define the five tenants of "whole school connectedness" and identify the role of connectedness in mitigating obstacles to access
- Explore storytelling programming as a tool to promote connectedness

Define your role.

What's your job title?

How does your job support students at your University?





What is effective global
education?

(Group Definition)



Identify obstacles to access and inclusion?

What gets in the way of academic success for students who participate in global education programs?

What might prevent students from building personal connections?



lack of familiarity

Language barriers

Lack of positive outreach from domestic students,
faculty, and staff

Navigation of systems within educational institutions

isolation

Culture shock

Microaggressions

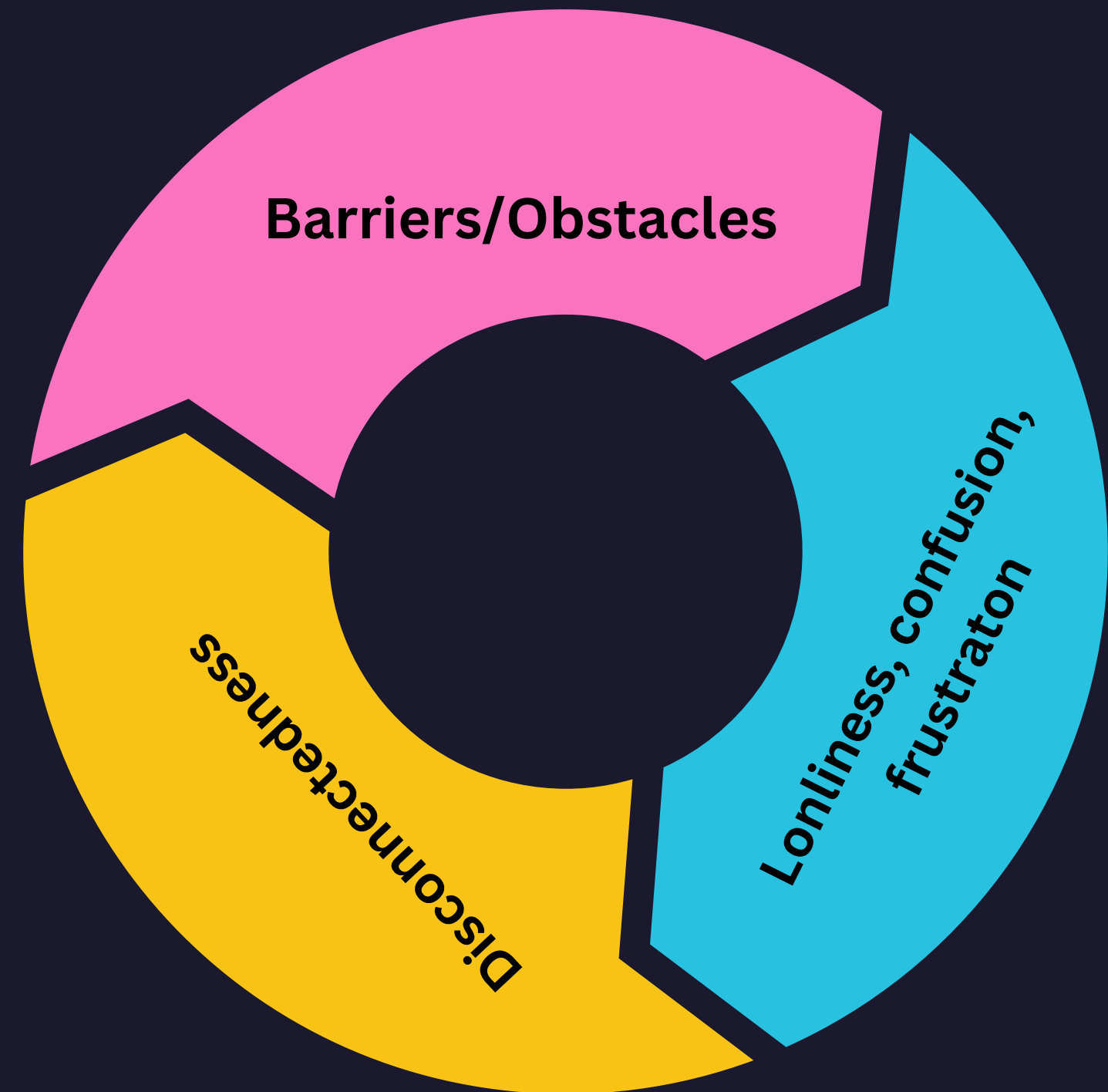
HOMESICKNESS

Bias and discrimination

difficulty coordinating
necessities

harassment

Disconnectedness:
status by which
students do not or no
longer feel a sense of
belonging to a
community, place or
value



Why connectedness?

Creation of stronger bonds between international and local students in the educational setting and helping international students to remake their own cultural maps on their own terms, is key to a forward move on loneliness.

Sawir, E., Marginson, S., Deumert, A., Nyland, C., & Ramia, G. (2007).

Cultural Connectedness:

a sense of connectedness to the host culture, values and language

Political Connectedness:

participation in the political aspects of the host country

Place Connectedness:

familiarity with a place; ability to negotiate everyday life within a physical space

Translocal Connectedness:

refers to the connectedness of international students to multiple locales simultaneously

Social Connectedness:

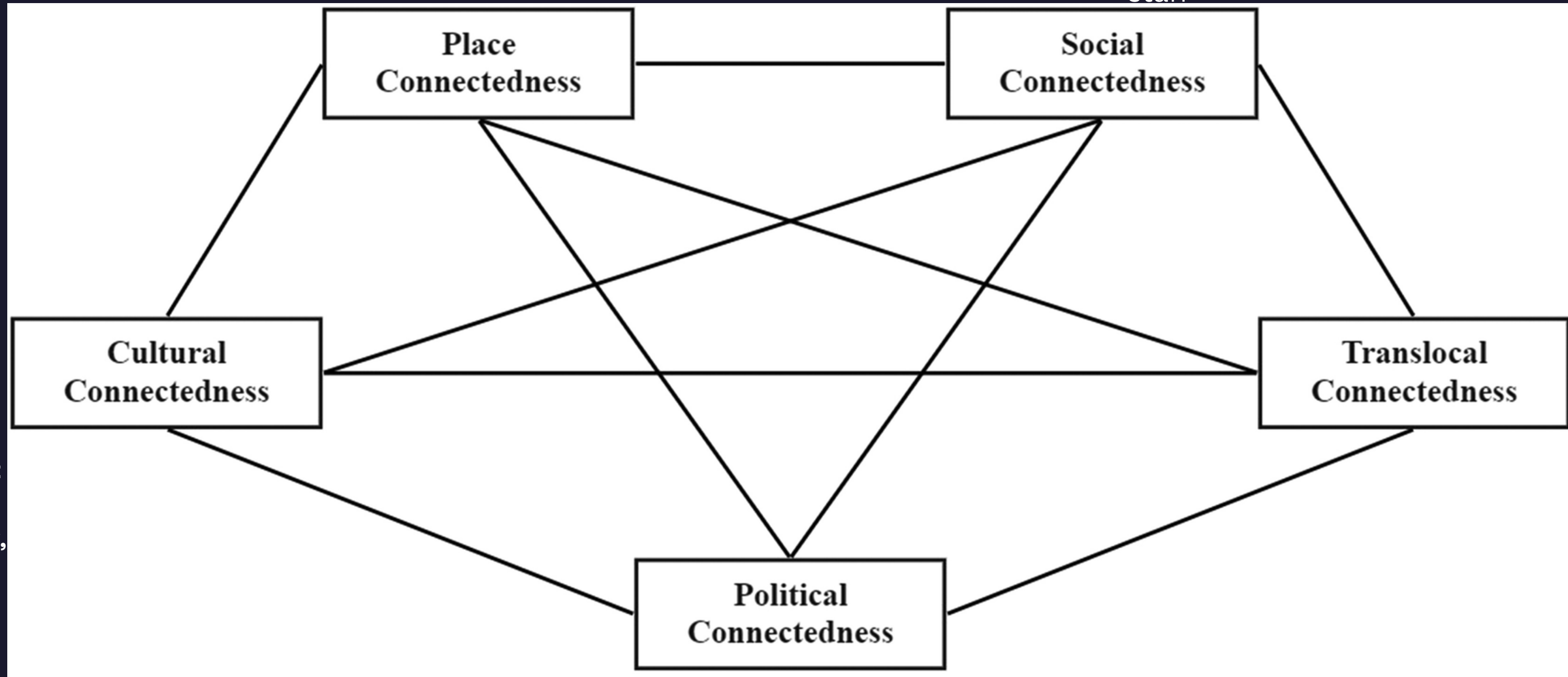
the experience of belonging to a social relationship or network

difficulty coordinating necessities

Navigation of systems within educational institutions

isolation **bias, discrimination, microaggressions**

Lack of positive outreach from domestic students, faculty, and staff



Language barriers

Lack of cultural humility/competence by domestic students, faculty, staff

isolation
Culture shock
HOMESICKNESS

HOMESICKNESS

Obstacles relating to cultural or geopolitical context

Lack of cultural humility/competence by domestic students, faculty, staff

Fostering Connectedness Through Storytelling



Storytelling

**Storytelling is the act of
transcribing past experiences
through communication**

see: Baudack, 2022



What is a story?

tone

theme

Conflict

Characters

Resolution



PLOT

Setting

Themes

Telling a Story

Story Teller: Questions to answer as part of your story

- What happened?
- What/whom did you see?
Hear? Touch? Smell?
- How did you feel - during and after the experience
- What made the experience important to you

Select a Prompt:

Tell me about the last lie that you told.

Tell me about the first time you fell in love.

Write about a memory that still makes your cringe.

Describe a memory of meeting your best friend.

Talk about a time you had to eat something that you don't like.



Write down your story.

Value of Storytelling

Relationships

**It's through stories
that we've come to
know each other. We know
each other through our
stories.**

see: Van Camp, 2021



Overview of appreciative listening

Story Teller: Questions to answer as part of your story

- What happened?
- What/whom did you see?
Hear? Touch? Smell?
- How did you feel - during and after the experience
- What made the experience important to you

Appreciative Listener:

Questions to answer as you listen deeply to a story

- Whom/what did you see?
Hear? Smell?
- What do you think is happening?
- What are you feeling?
- What do you notice about yourself while they are telling their story?

Pair up.

Person 1: Share your story.

Person 2: Engage as an appreciative listener.



Connectedness

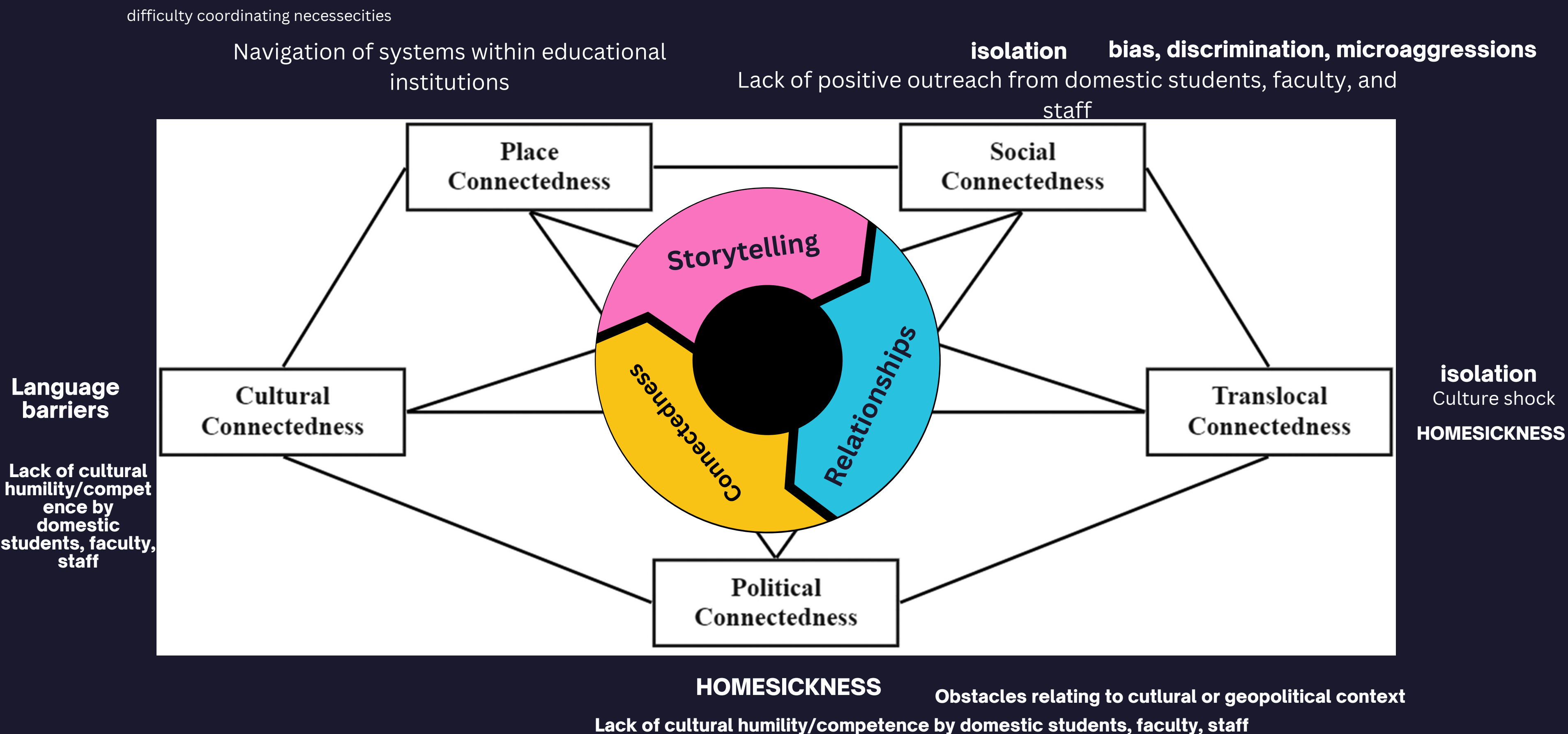
**We trust each other
because we've trusted
each other with our
stories.**

see: Van Camp, 2021



Swap roles.





Story of Us



Welcome
to
Story of Us:
An Open Mic Night




Story Of Us



Share



Watch on  YouTube

Learn more at: storyofwit.com

Citations

Bowins, B. (2021). States and processes for mental health: Advancing psychotherapy effectiveness. Academic Press.

Sawir, E., Marginson, S., Deumert, A., Nyland, C., & Ramia, G. (2007). Loneliness and international students: An Australian study. *Journal of Studies in International Education*, 12(2), 148–180. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1028315307299699>

Van Camp, R. (2021). *Gather: On the joy of storytelling*. University of Regina Press.

Baudach, L. (2022). Exploring the Effects of Mysterious Nature and Storytelling on Social Connectedness in Young Adults: An Experimental Study. <https://purl.utwente.nl/essays/91985>