* Constructivism/ Constructionism

Constructivism builds on grounded theory, proposing new definitions for knowledge and truth that form a new paradigm, based on inter-subjectivity instead of the classical objectivity, and on viability instead of truth.

Constructivism can be validated through experimentation, and data. It is pragmatic, not idealistic.

Critique of Modernism without being post-modernist:

Idea of universal theory, where the place of the researched and the researcher is the *'discovery of theory'*

Symbolic Interactionism

Understanding the world by interpreting human interaction, which occurs through the use of symbols, such as language.

- **The nature of experience and undergoing as continually evolving**

- **The active role of persons in shaping the worlds they live in**

- **Emphasis on change and process, and the variability and complexity of life**

- **Inter-relationships among conditions, meaning, and action**

In business, managers have used grounded theory to explain the ways in which organizational characteristics explain coworkers support.

Grounded theory

* Philosophical underpinnings

- You begin with an area of study and allow what is relevant within that area to emerge

- used when little is known about a topic, as opposed to one that is guided by previous research.

- Ecological validity: extent to which research findings accurately represent real- world settings.

- Constructs are context-specific, detailed, and tightly connected to the data.

- Novelty

* Strauss and Corbin 1990

- Parsimony

* Is there a clear chain of evidence linking the findings to the data?

* Are there multiple instances in the data which support the concepts produced?

* Has the researcher demonstrated that they are steeped in the field of investigation (Glaser, 1978)?

* Has the researcher created inferential and/or predictive statements about the phenomena?

* Has the researcher suggested theoretical generalizations that are applicable to a range of situations?

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* Evaluating grounded theory studies

A set of hypotheses and critical assumptions that intend to build a path for change.

Hypotheses are 'if-then' statements between different levels of the change pathway

Research accompanies and interact with the researched.

Looking for hypotheses to the questions:

1. what is the change we are working for

2. what needs (beliefs, activities, approaches) to happen for the change to come about?

needs to be regularly reviewed and adjusted (testing the assumptions, measuring breakthroughs and re-examining the pace of change).

RESEARCH DESIGN

* Why Theories of Change?

* Social change is a complex affair, rather than a predictable, linear process

* We have to be adaptive, non-linear – we have to seize opportunities and learn what works and what doesn't work.

* Areas in which change is essential to achieve an (impact) goal.

* A goal may have 2-4 domains of change

* A domain of change may be:
    * a relationship
    * behavior and/or structural change in a system or institutions
    * Laws and policies related to a specific issue

* Represent all outcome areas in an integrated Framework

* Domains of Change
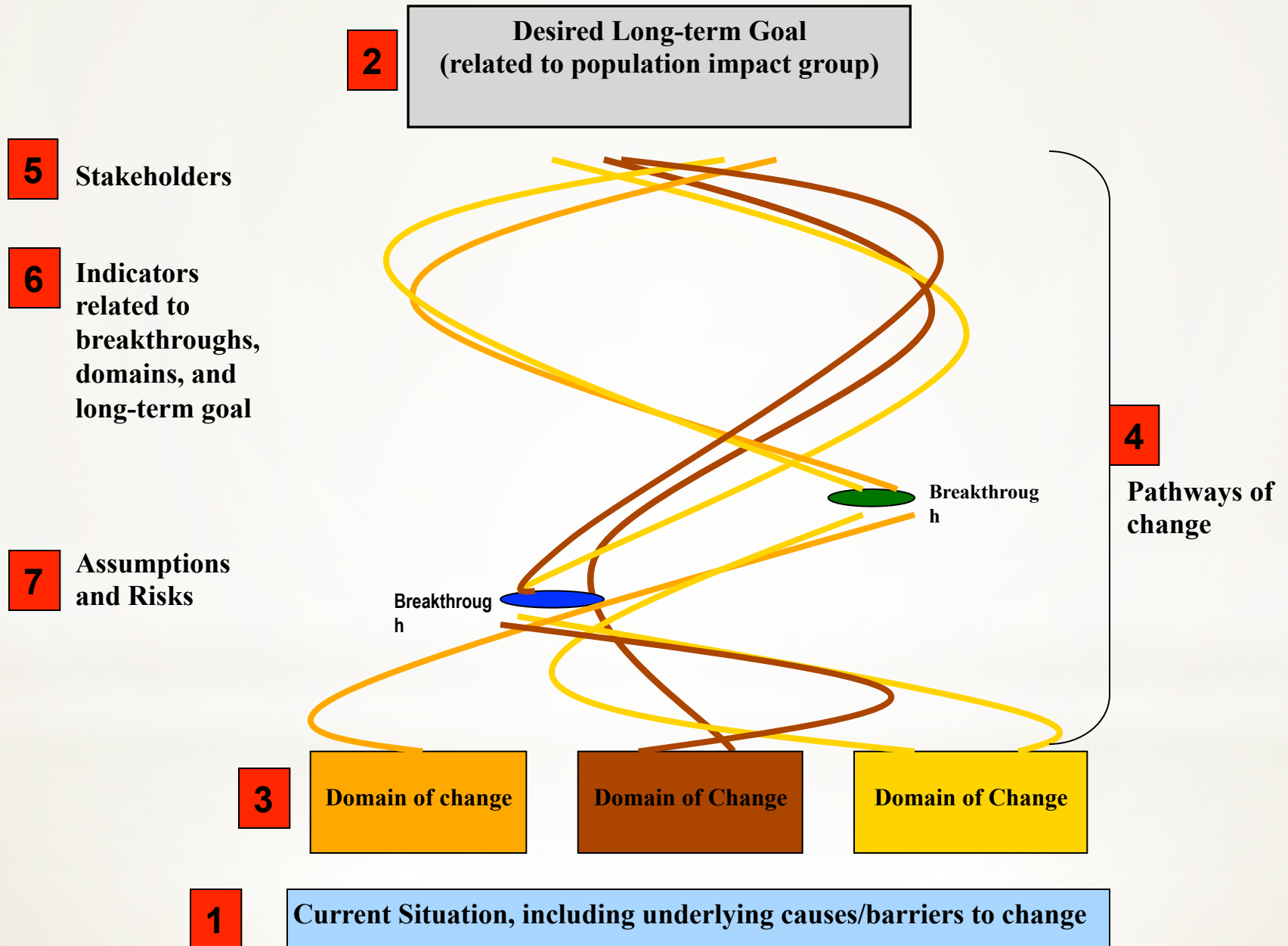
- A change that represents a leap on the pathway of change that is not easily reversed.

- In its most important form, it is a structural or systemic change. On a smaller scale, it can be something that happens for the first time

*Breakthrough

"Research is Hard Work, it's Always a bit Suffering. Therefore, on the Other Side Research Should be Fun"

Anselm Strauss in Conversation With
Heiner Legewie and Barbara Schervier-Legewie (2004)

Thank you! Any questions?