

Grounded Theory “In Action”

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Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

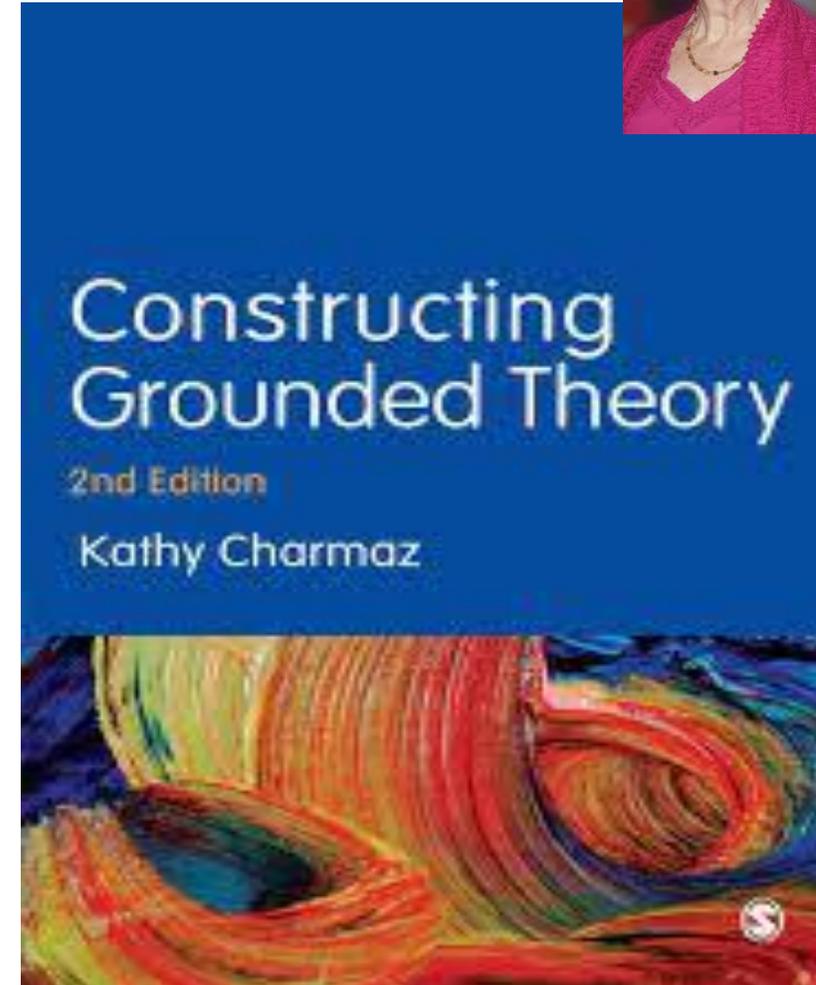
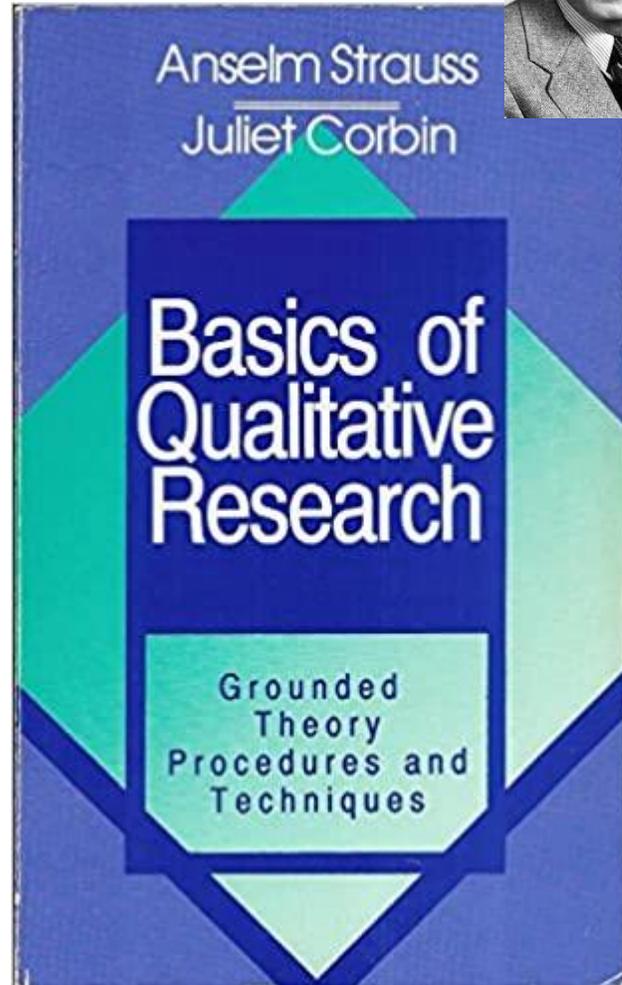
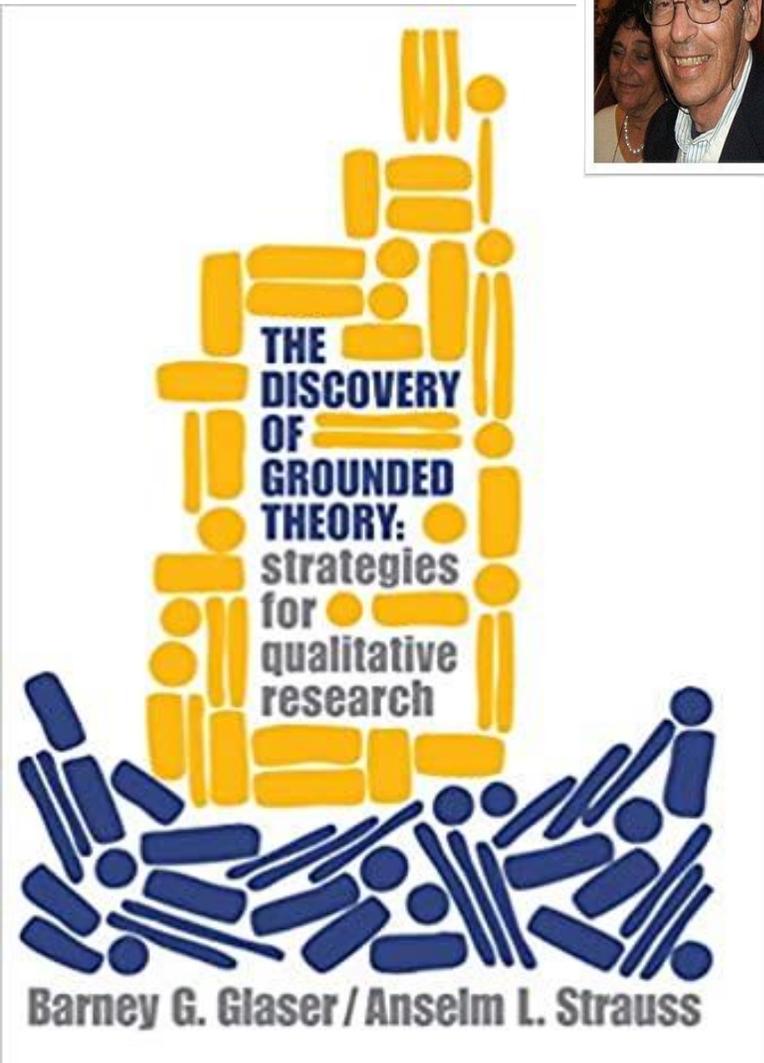
Objectives

- ✓ Introduce key characteristics of Grounded Theory.
- ✓ Provide an overview of Grounded Theory methods.
- ✓ Present an exemplar of Grounded Theory “ In Action”.
- ✓ Questions & Answers .

What is Grounded Theory ???



Grounded Theory



Grounded Theory: Glaser

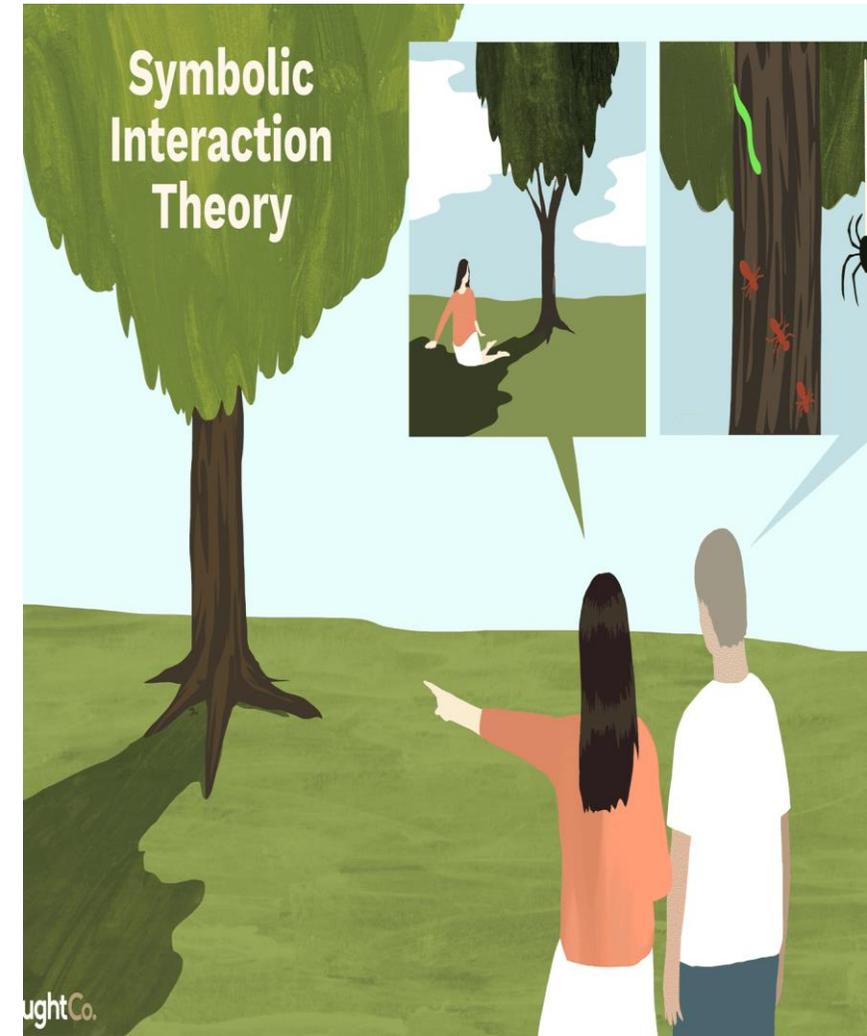
- Sociology Degree at Columbia University
- 1960's seminal work on Death and Dying
- 1967 book Discovery of Grounded Theory
- Post- Positivist



Philosophical Underpinnings

✓ Symbolic Interactionism

✓ Pragmatism



- ✓ Qualitative research approach- novel areas.
- ✓ Moves from a description of what is happening and to discover and gain an understanding of the process by which it is happening “basic psychosocial process”.
- ✓ Theory is grounded in the data in the context of the participants’ lives.
- ✓ Inductive: the theory evolves as data is collected and analyzed simultaneously.
- ✓ Ends with a substantive theory.

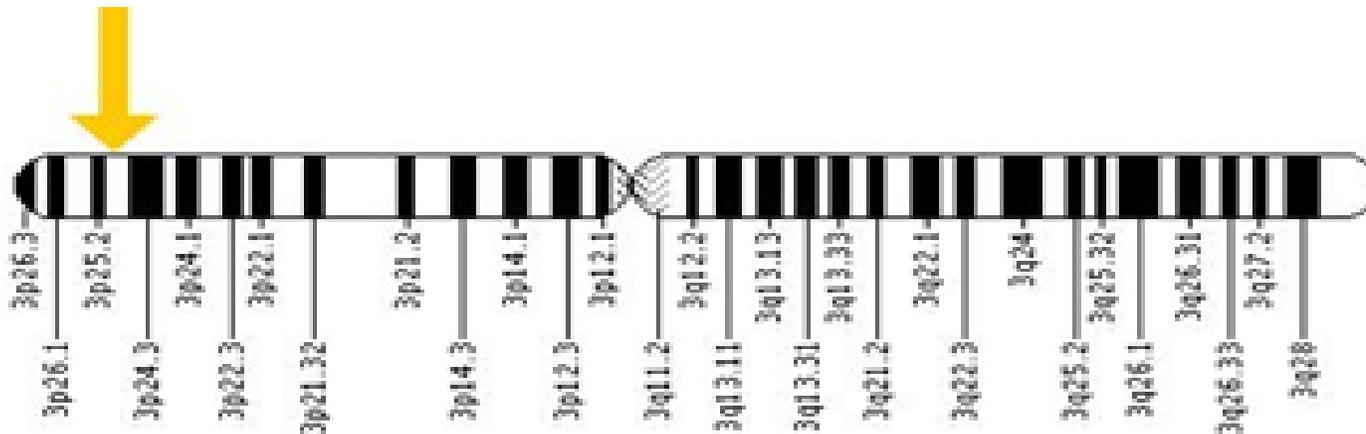
Types of Research Questions

- ✓ Looking at peoples experiences.
- ✓ Concerned with social processes and people's interactions; how these help shape one's understanding of a phenomenon and subsequent actions.



Types of Research Questions

What are the experiences of individuals living in a family at risk for Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC), in the province of NL, as they move through the genetic testing **process**?



Data Collection: The Sample

- ✓ Semi structured interviews.
- ✓ 20- 40 participants (**n= 29**).
- ✓ Experienced the phenomena of interest.
- ✓ Purposeful sampling/convenience/snowball.
- ✓ Theoretical sampling.
- ✓ Data Saturation



Data Collection: Recruitment

- ✓ Clinical geneticist
- ✓ Snow ball sampling

- ✓ Theoretical Sampling
- ✓ Negative Case
- ✓ Variation in sample important



Data Collection: The Sample

- ✓ ARVC positive (n=15)
- ✓ ARVC negative (n=5)
- ✓ Spouses (n=8)
- ✓ Urban and rural regions



Data Collection: The Interview

Could you please tell me about growing up in your family, did you know anybody sick?

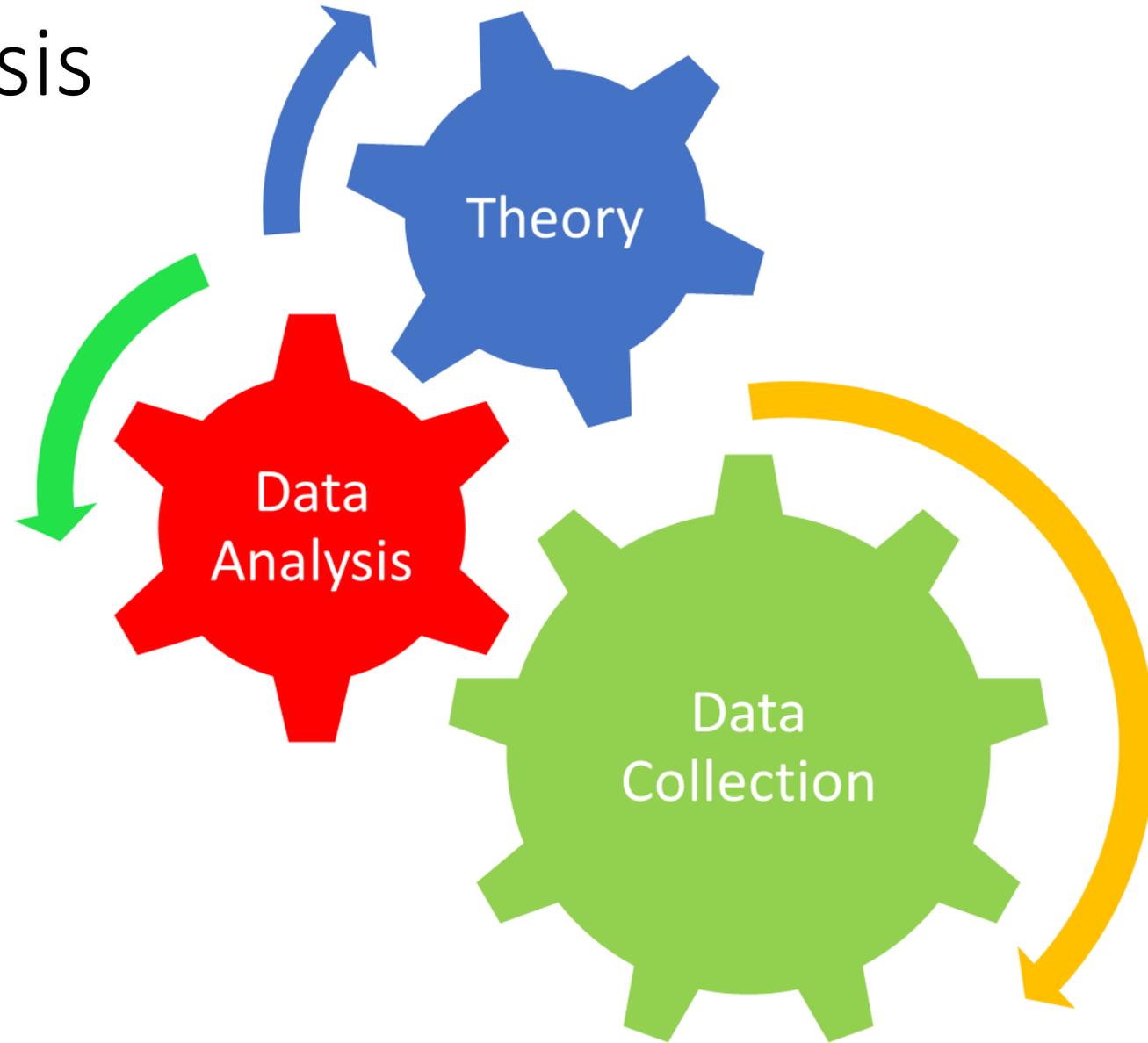
How did you become aware of the possibility of some genetic condition in your family? How did you become aware of your potential for having ARVC?

Could you describe what it was like to have to wait for genetic testing? Could you tell me about your decision to participate (or not) in testing for ARVC?

After you received your test results what were your thoughts?

Has this experience changed your life or the way you look at life?

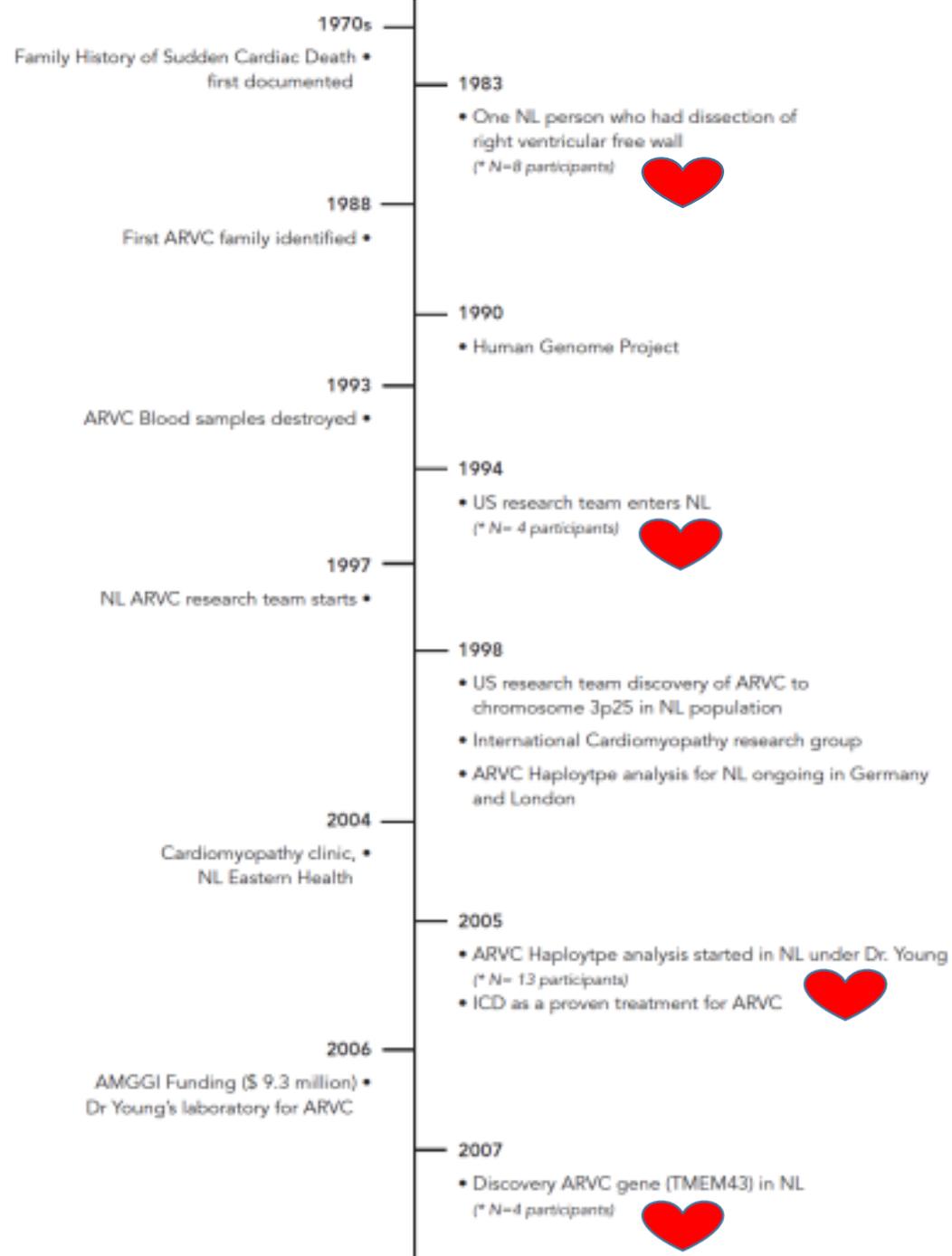
Data Analysis



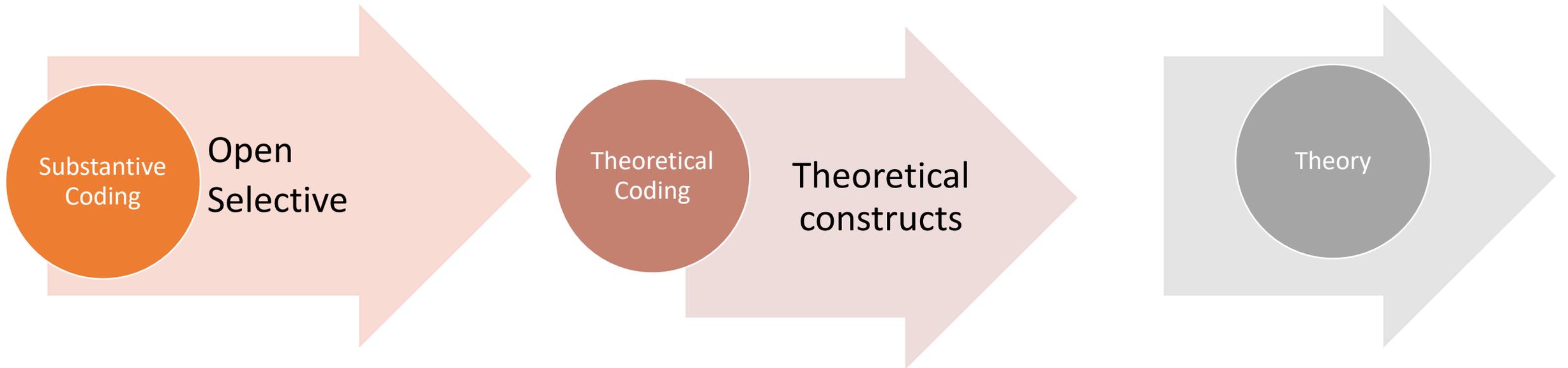
Data Analysis: Techniques

- ✓ Constant comparative method
- ✓ Theoretical sensitivity
- ✓ Memoing- (notes, interpretive summaries)
- ✓ Diagramming- (pedigrees; history of ARVC)





Data Analysis: Coding



Data Analysis: Open Coding

- ✓ Line-by-Line “codes” or “conceptual labels”.
- ✓ Identify categories and their properties that fit and work well together.
- ✓ Looking for variation in the data.
- ✓ Data gets *“moved around”* categories reshaped and collapsed.
- ✓ Main categories start to emerge- connected by a core variable.
- ✓ In my study the core variable was *“constructing one’s sense of risk”*.



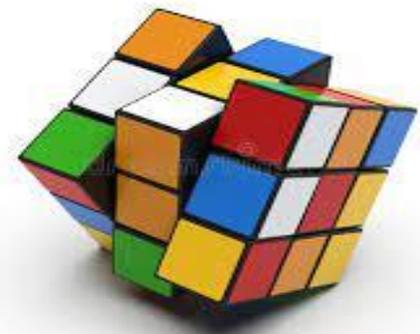
Data Analysis: Selective Coding

- ✓ Continue to code for the core variable “constructing one’s sense of risk”.
- ✓ Saturate categories that related to the core variable until no new properties or categories emerge.

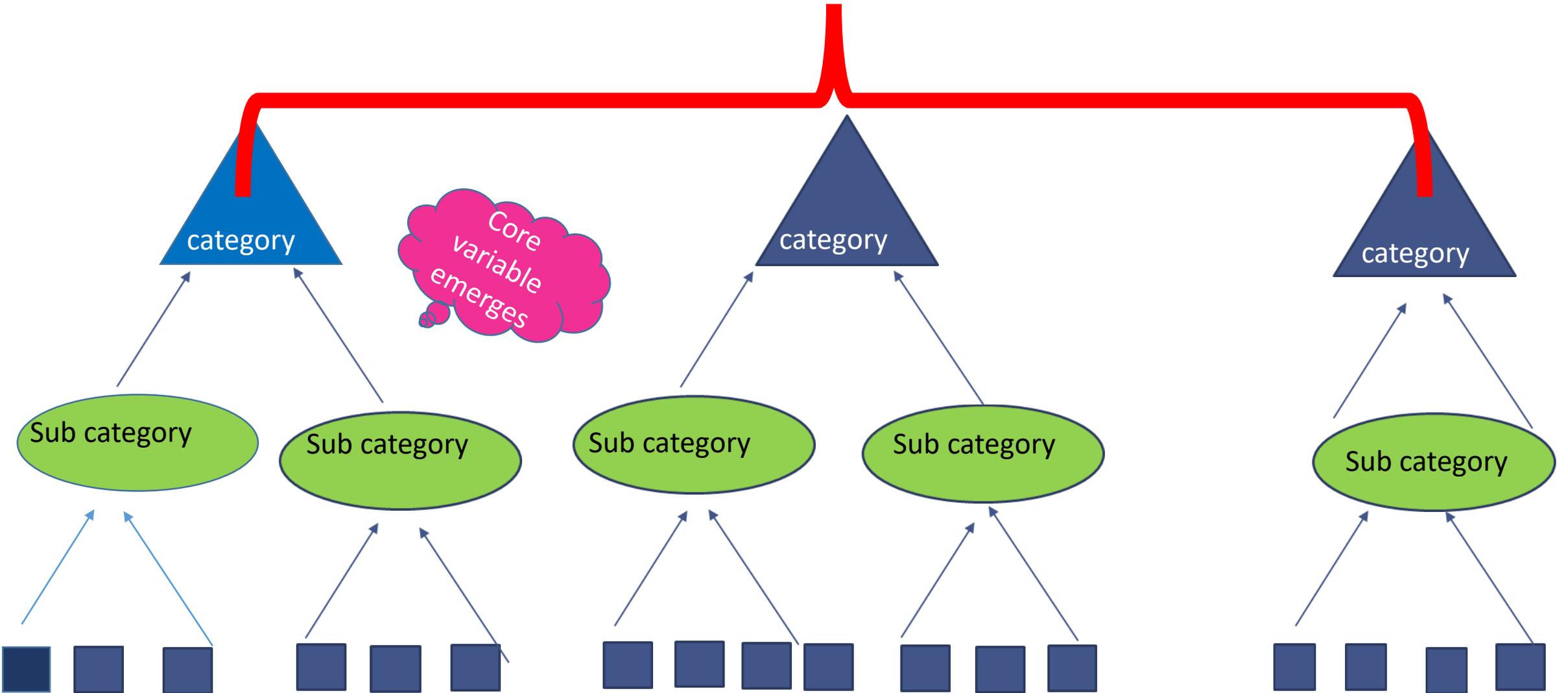


Data Analysis: Theoretical Coding

- ✓ Putting it all back together- making theoretical links between categories.
- ✓ It is at this stage that one starts to expand and pull conceptual categories into a basic psychosocial process.



Theoretical Construct



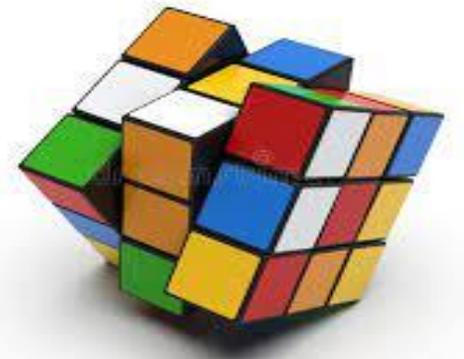
Data Analysis: Theoretical Coding

3 theoretical constructs identified in MY study:

(1) Awakening to a new meaning of being “at-risk”.

(2) Deciphering the meaning of being “at-risk”.

(3) Constructing a new meaning of being “at-risk” .



It is the interaction of these three theoretical constructs that represents the overall core category, “constructing a sense of being at-risk.”

Construct 1: Awakening to a New Meaning of Being At-Risk

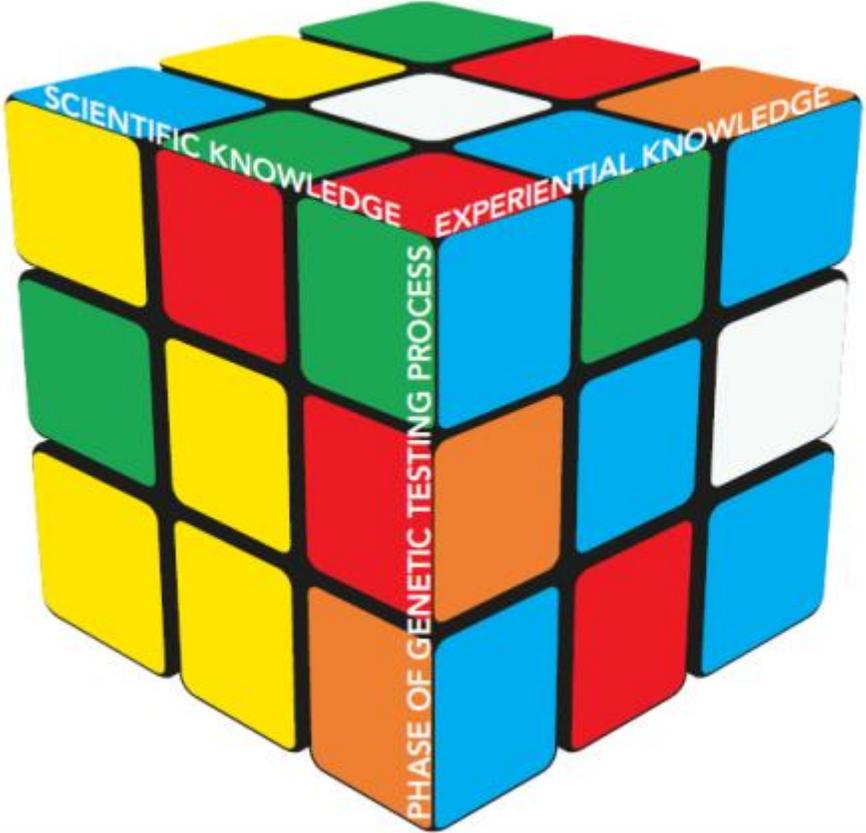
Category 1: Making Sense of Numerous Losses

- Property (Sub- Category) 1: Living in a Family Familiar with Loss.
- Property 2: The Struggle to Understand the Meaning of Being At-Risk for Oneself and Others.

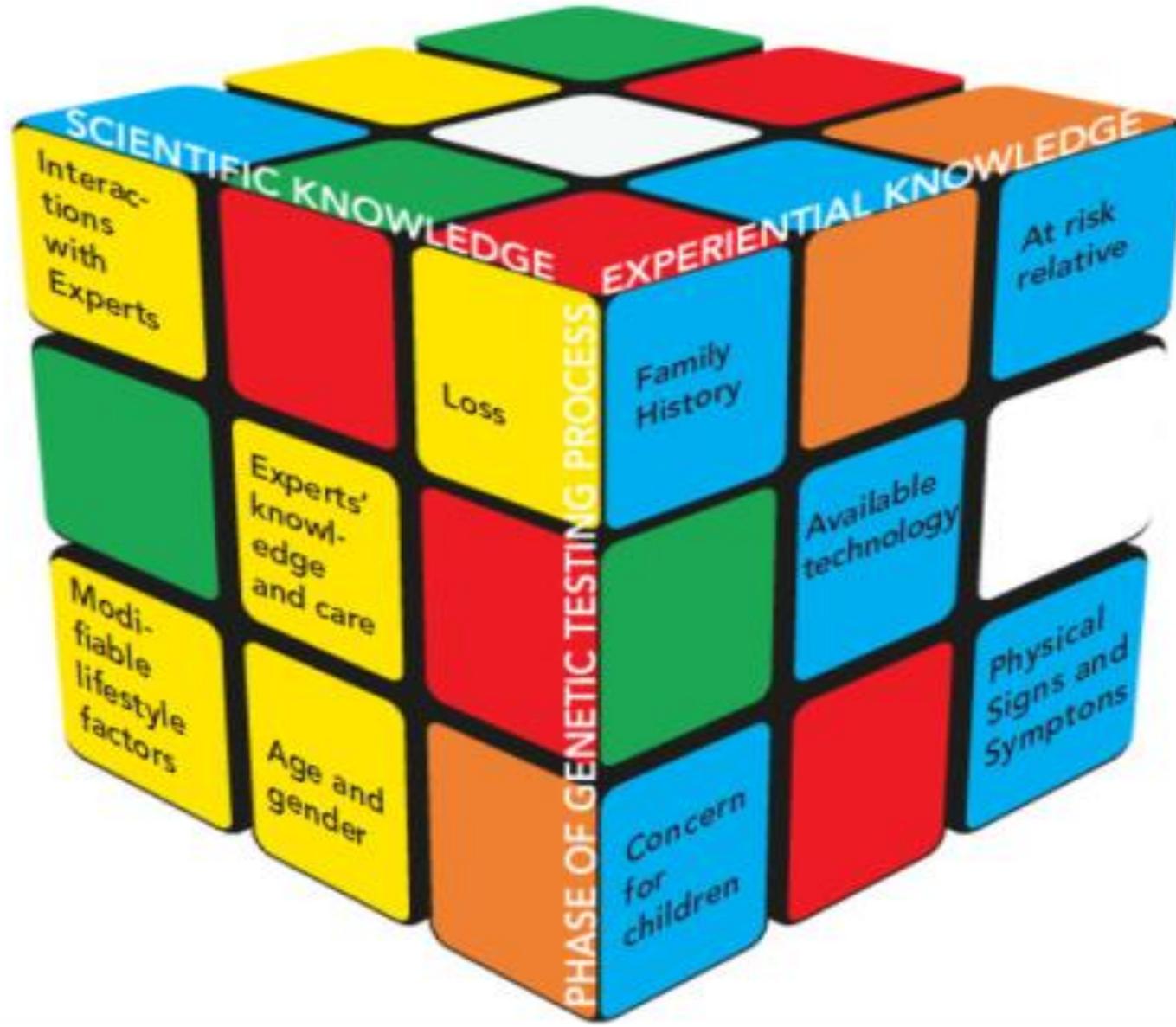
Category 2: Struggling to Break the Cycle of Uncertainty

- Property 1: Making Sense of and Living Through Early Clinical Investigations and Prescribed Treatments.
- Property 2: Acknowledging a Possible Genetic Origin to Risk.

The Theory: Constructing the Meaning of Being At-Risk



FINAL MODEL



Rigor: Trustworthiness of Findings

- ✓ Fit
- ✓ Relevance
- ✓ Work
- ✓ Modifiability



Questions ?



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