UniverCITY

Dr. Fenella Fleischmann

What is the role of the city in dealing with diversity?
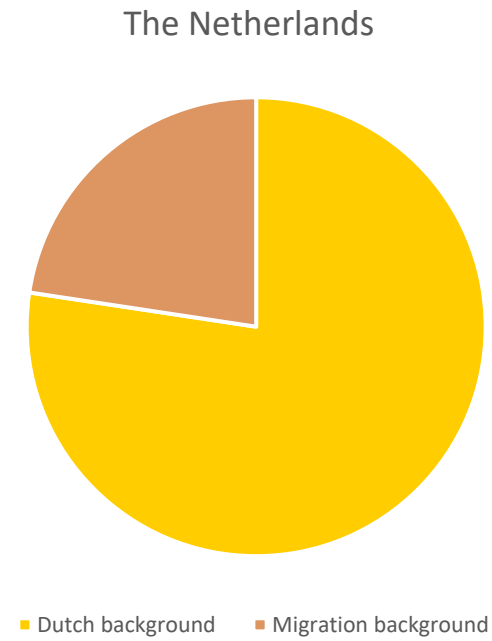
Fenella Fleischmann

How many people in Utrecht have a migration background*?

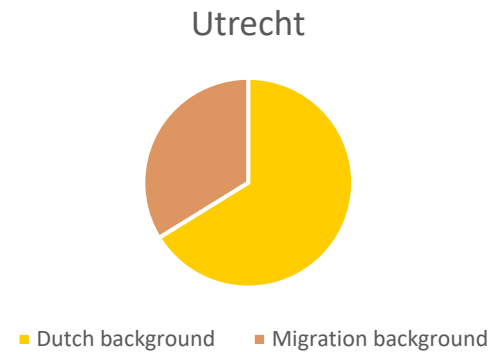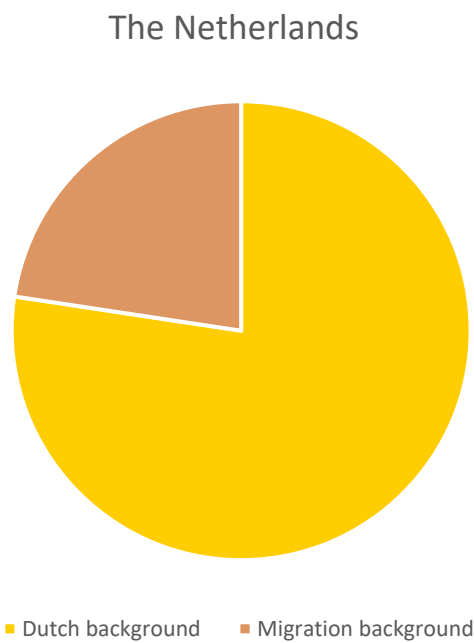*born abroad or local-born with at least one foreign-born parent*

And what does that figure look like for the Netherlands as a whole?

Share of people with a migration background

The Netherlands

■ Dutch background   ■ Migration background

Source: CBS Statline, 2017 data

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Share of people with a migration background

The Netherlands

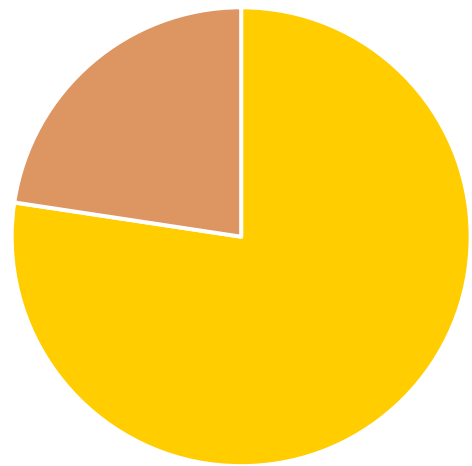■ Dutch background   ■ Migration background

Utrecht

■ Dutch background   ■ Migration background
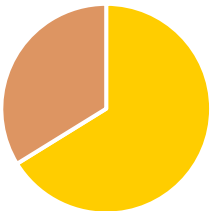
Source: CBS Statline, 2017 data

Share of people with a migration background

The Netherlands

- Dutch background
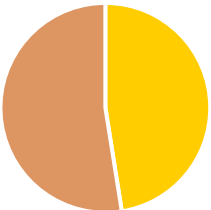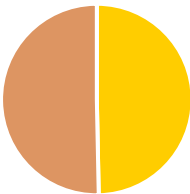- Migration background

Utrecht

- Dutch background
- Migration background

Majority minority cities

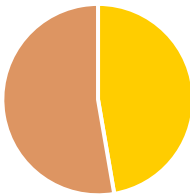Source: CBS Statline, 2017 data

Amsterdam

- Dutch background
- Migration background

Rotterdam

- Dutch background
- Migration background

The Hague

- Dutch background
- Migration background

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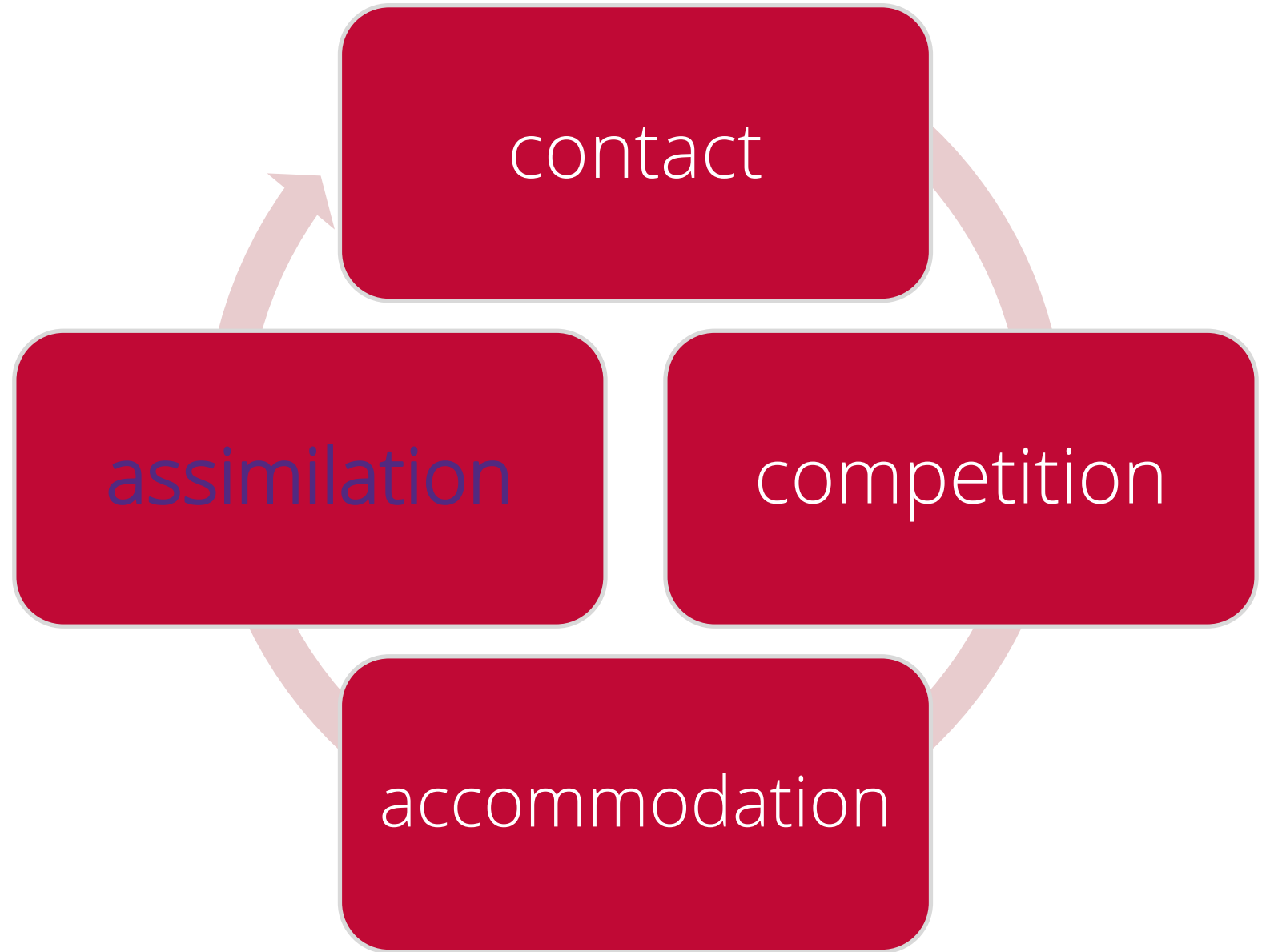
Cities as ports of entrance

Ethnic enclaves
Ethnic ghetto's
Ethnic communities
(Logan, Alba & Zhang, 2002)

Chain migration
Transplanted communities
(Lesthaeghe, 2000)

Sites of inter-ethnic encounters: Chicago School

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Classic assimilation theory

contact

competition

accommodation

assimilation

Race relations cycle
(Park & Burgess, 1921)

"a process of interpenetration and fusion in which persons and groups acquire the memories, sentiments, and attitudes of other persons and groups and, by sharing their experience and history, are incorporated with them in a common cultural life"

Definition of assimilation by Park & Burgess
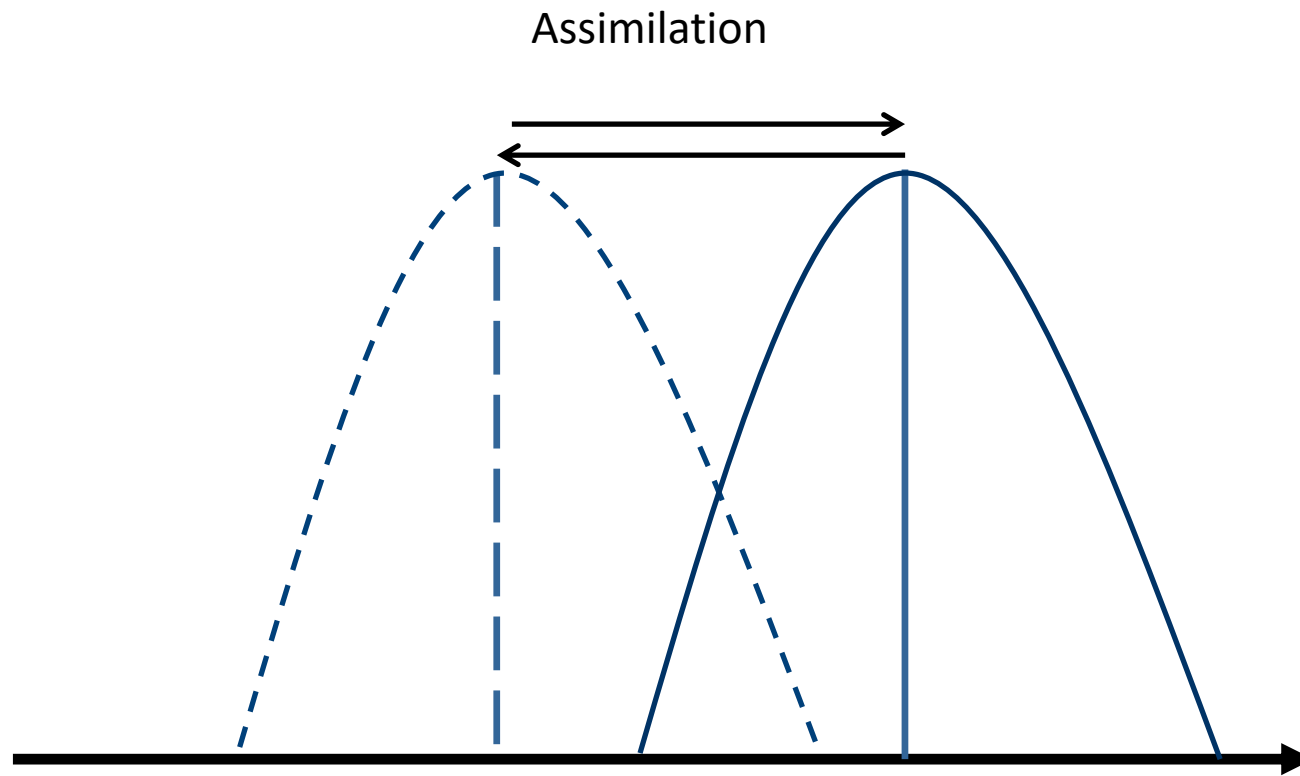
New assimilation theory

Socio-economic assimilation as basis for assimilation in other domains

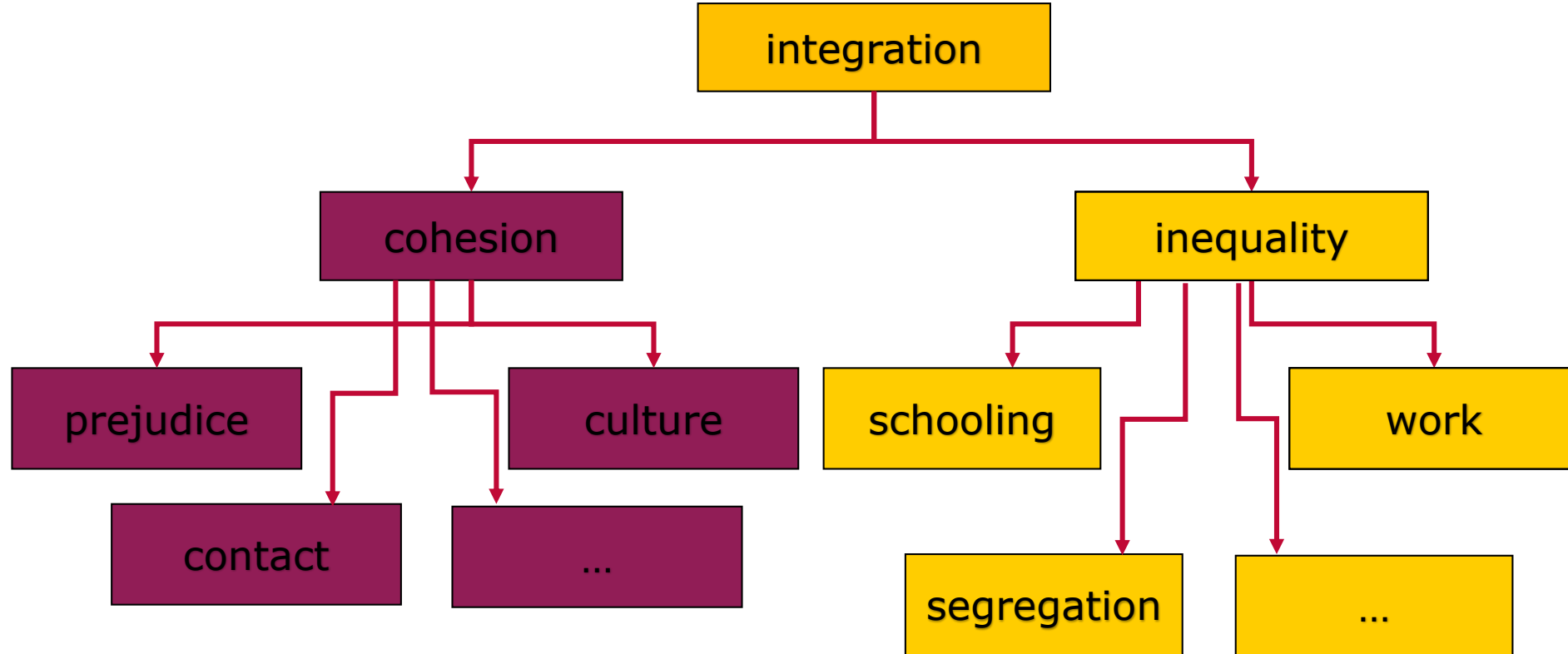Immigrant assimilation = upward social mobility
- higher attainment over time and across generations
- result: parity = same attainment distribution as mainstream

(Alba & Nee, 2003)

The Process of Assimilation
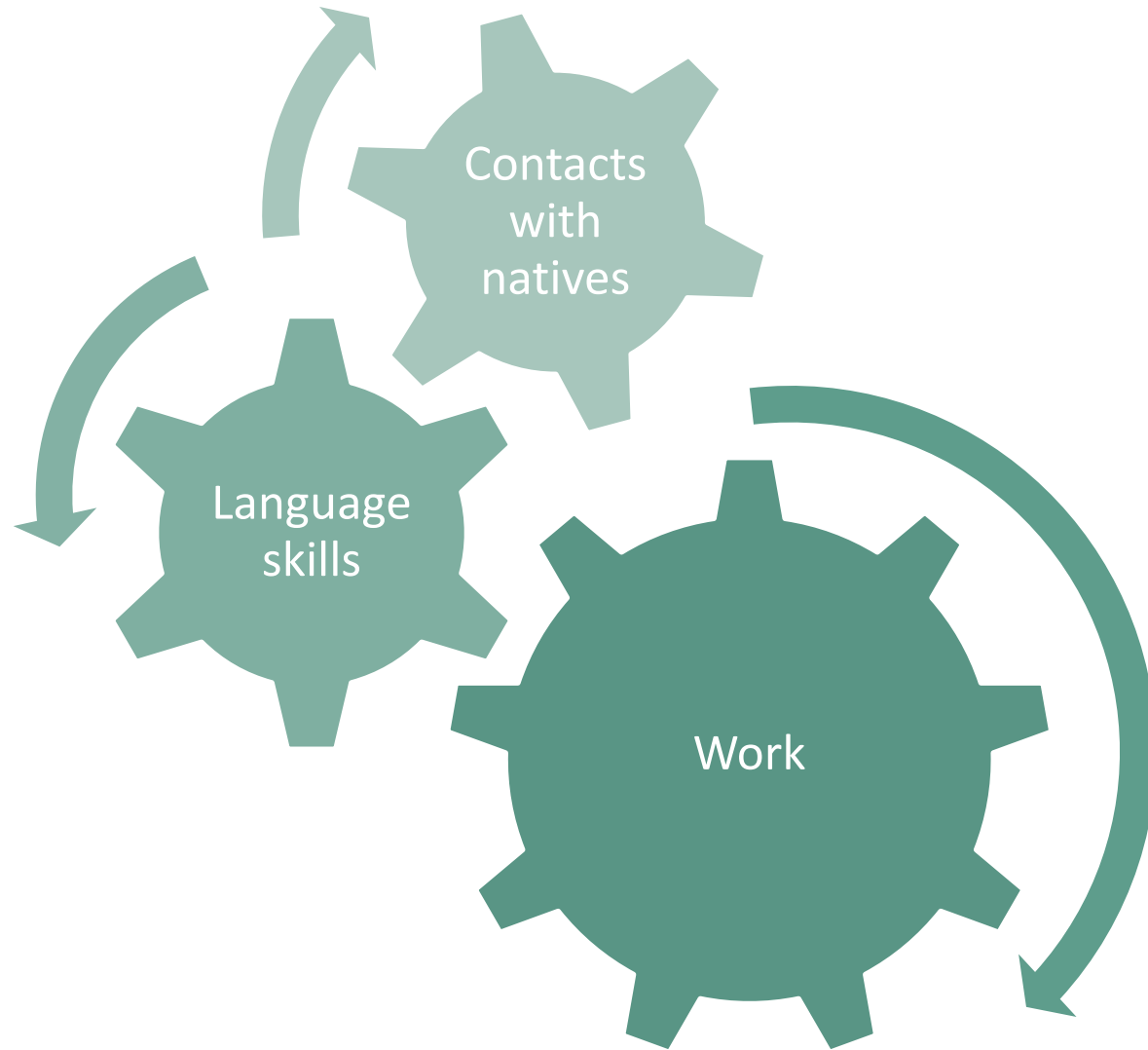

Assimilation

Immigrant integration: inequality and cohesion

Ethnic inequality → ← Ethnic distance
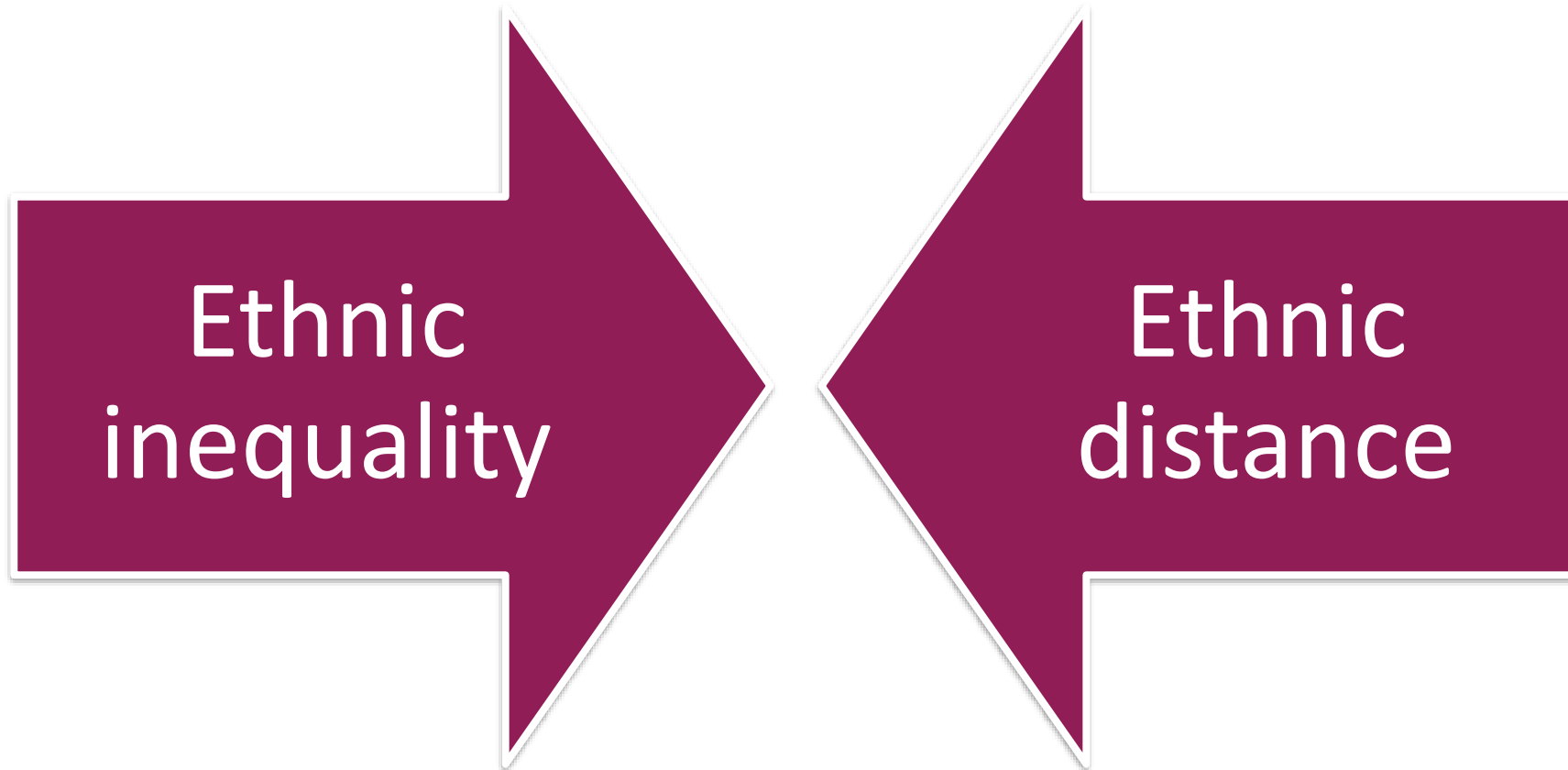
Mutual influence

Close connections & multiple feedback loops

What is the role of the local context for immigrant integration?

Neighbourhood effects

Operate through
- Sharing of resources within local networks
- Role modelling
- Contagion

Hard to establish causal role of neighbourhood
- Context effect vs. selection: individual are not randomly allocated but sort themselves into neighbourhoods

(Leventhal & Brooks-Gunn, 2000), (Sampson, Morenoff & Gannon-Rowley, 2002)

Neighbourhood ethnic diversity: Hunkering down?

Putnam's (2007) constrict theory
- Less social capital in neighbourhoods with more diversity
- Diversity = number of groups and their distribution

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Socio-cultural integration

Less inter-ethnic contacts in neighbourhoods with more migrants

No effects of neighbourhood ethnic composition on attitudes

Source: SCP, Maakt de buurt verschil? 2010

Neighbourhood effects

Operate through
- Sharing of resources within local networks
- Role modelling
- Contagion

→ More likely among co-ethnics than across ethnic boundaries
→ Meeting opportunities are not enough

Structural integration:

- Positive effects of density on
  - School attainment (e.g. Fleischmann, Deboosere, Neels & Phalet, 2012)
  - Economic integration among the low-skilled (e.g. Edin, Fredriksson & Åslund, 2003)
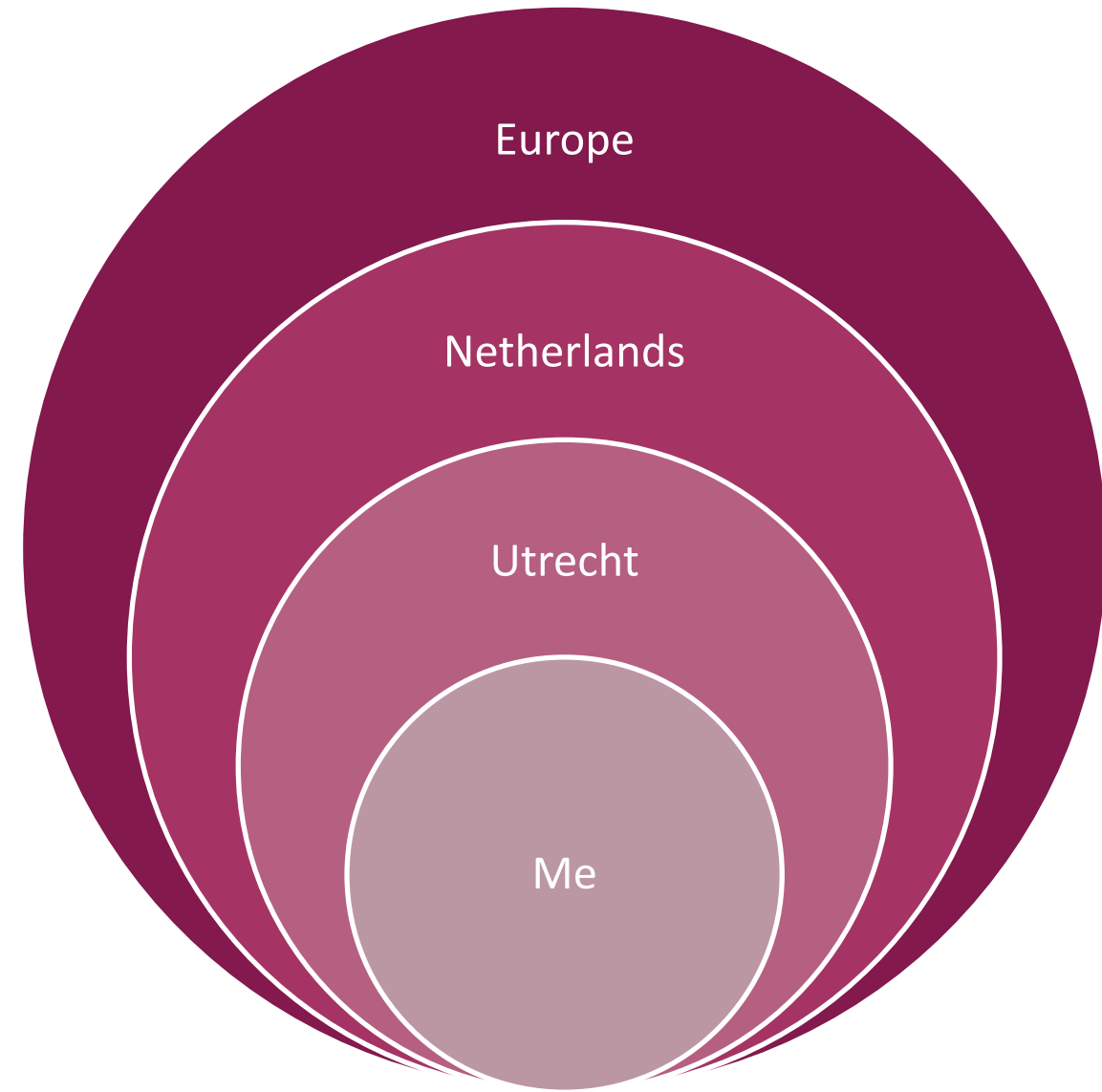
How can cities make a difference?

Identity & social cohesion

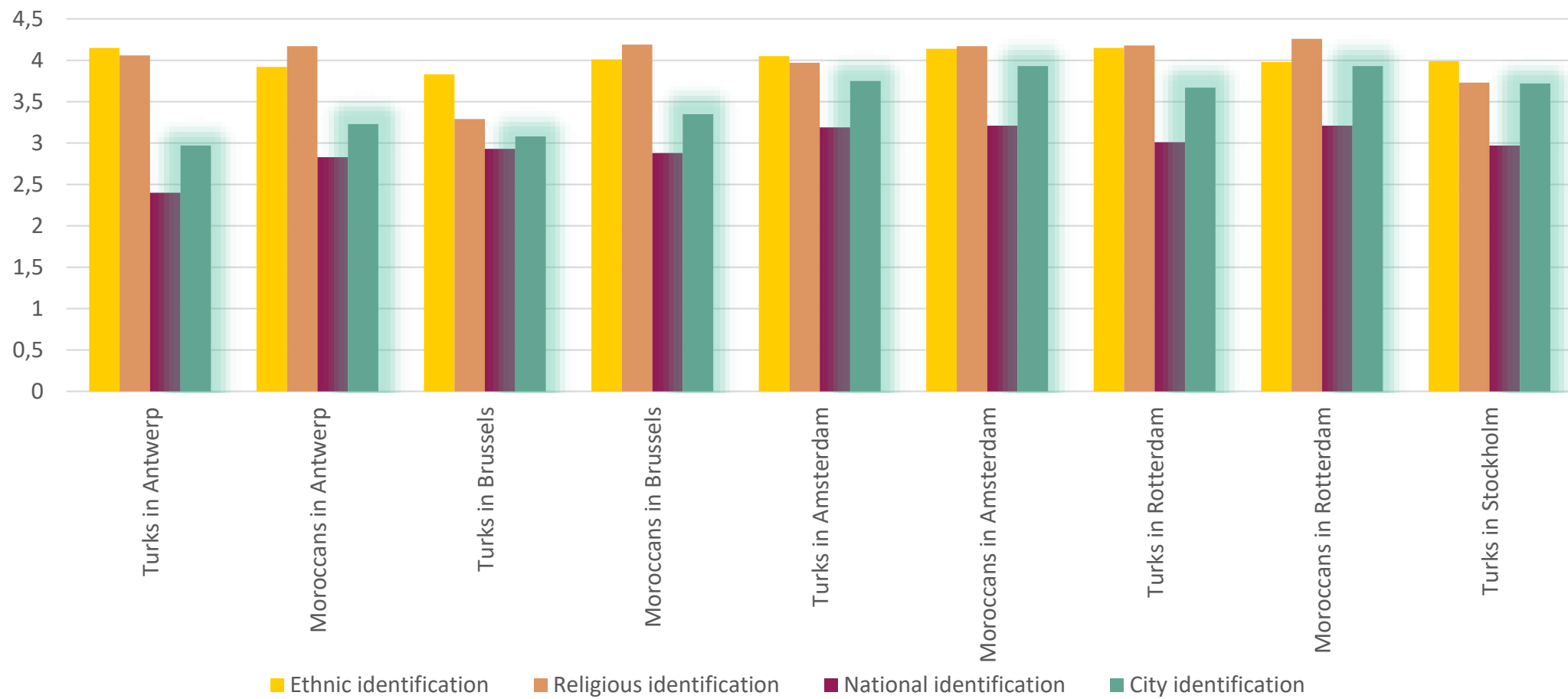Dual identity: 'being both', member of ethnic community and receiving society

Identity & social cohesion

Europe

Netherlands

Utrecht

Me

But what is the relevant level of inclusion?

Levels of identification

Source: The Integration of the European Second generation (TIES 2007/08)

What is the role of the city in dealing with diversity?

Cities as forerunners of demographic changes, sites of encounters & inclusive categories of identification

"Being an Utrechter makes me part of this society"

The information in this presentation has been compiled with the utmost care,
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