



# Stereotype Awareness and the Appalachian Student

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# Defining Stigma Consciousness

“The extent to which targets believe that their stereotyped status pervades their interactions with members of the outgroup” (Pinel, 2004, p. 39)



# Setting Background



# Stigma

# Stigma

Vs.

# Stereotype



# Stigma



Vs.

# Stereotype



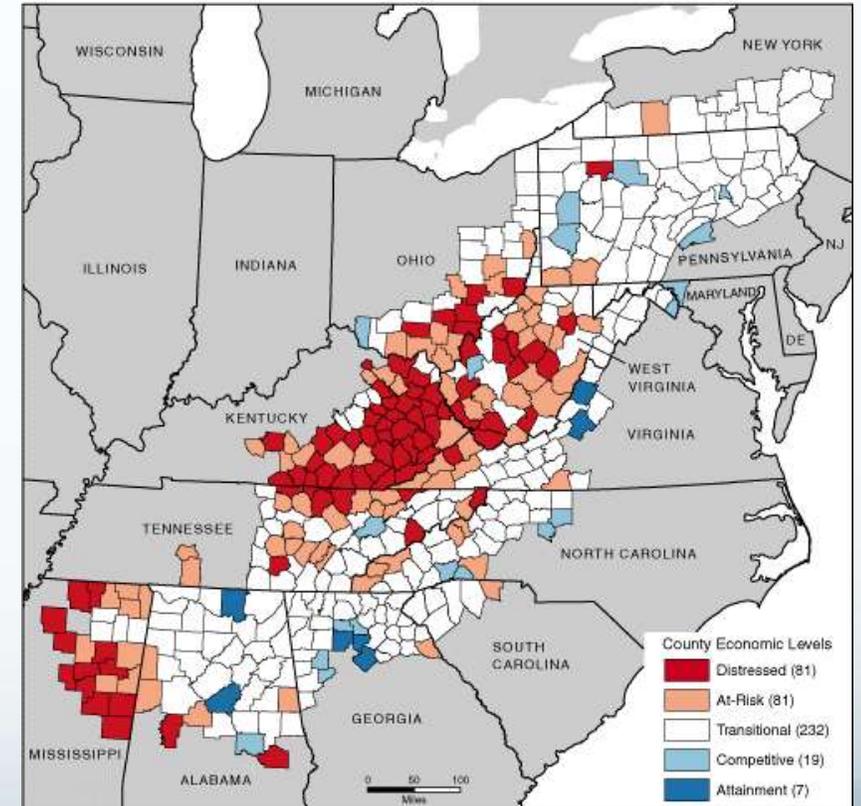
# Methodology and Procedures

# Participants

12 Students from Grades 6-12 in Rural Appalachia

6 Girls, 6 Boys

White n = 11, Black n = 1

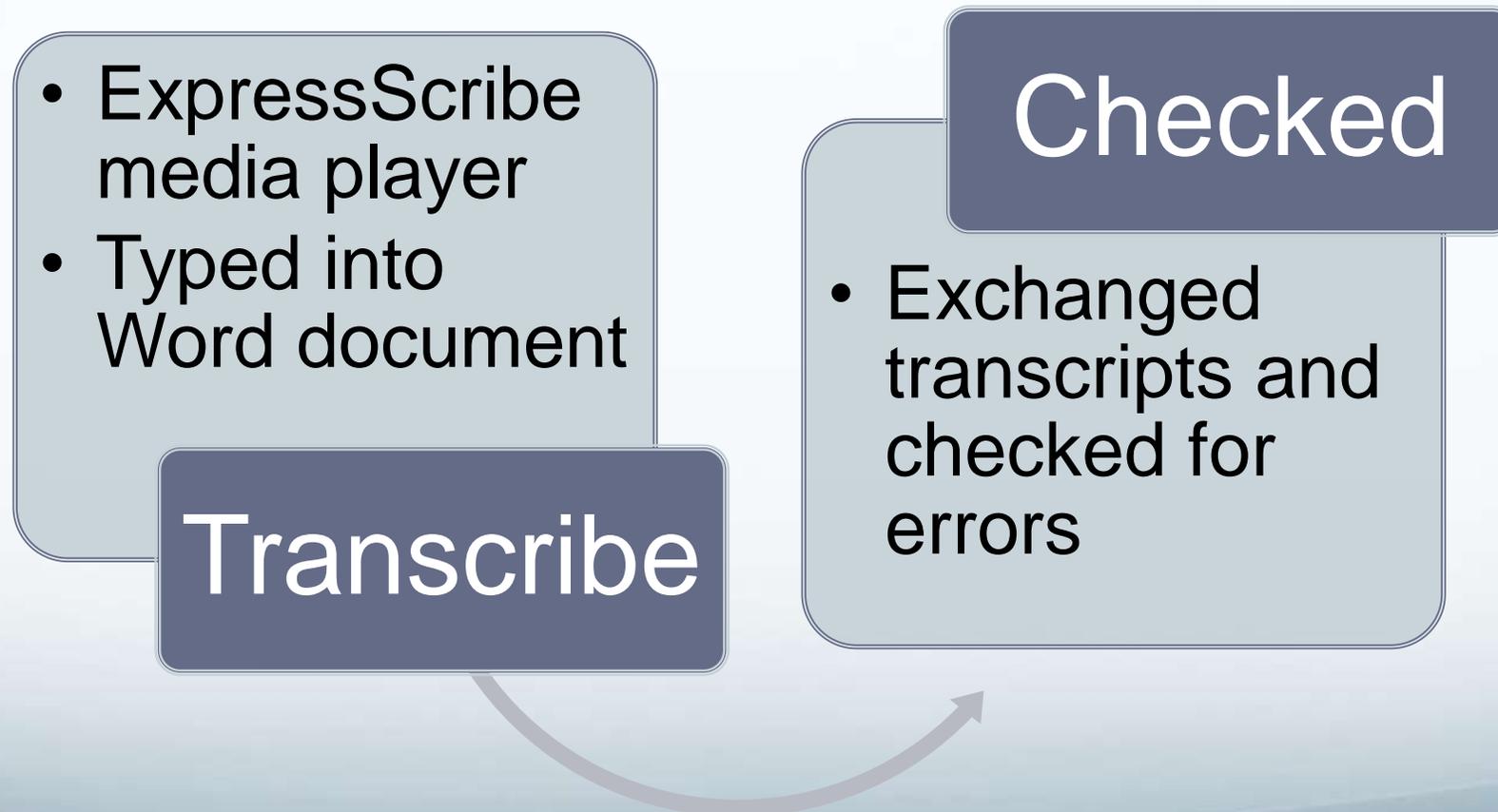


# Grounded Theory Approach

A qualitative research approach that uses data collection as the first step and suggest that a theory will emerge throughout the process.



# Transcription Process



# Data Coding and Analyses



- 5 Coders
- 33% of data coded by all coders
- 94% inter-rater reliability score

$$IRR = \frac{\textit{agreed codes}}{(\textit{agreed codes} + \textit{disagreed codes})}$$

# Research Questions

RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?

RQ3: How do adolescents come to form the awareness of stereotypes about people in Appalachia?

# Research Questions

RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

**RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?**

RQ3: How do adolescents come to form the awareness of stereotypes about people in Appalachia?

# Research Questions

RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

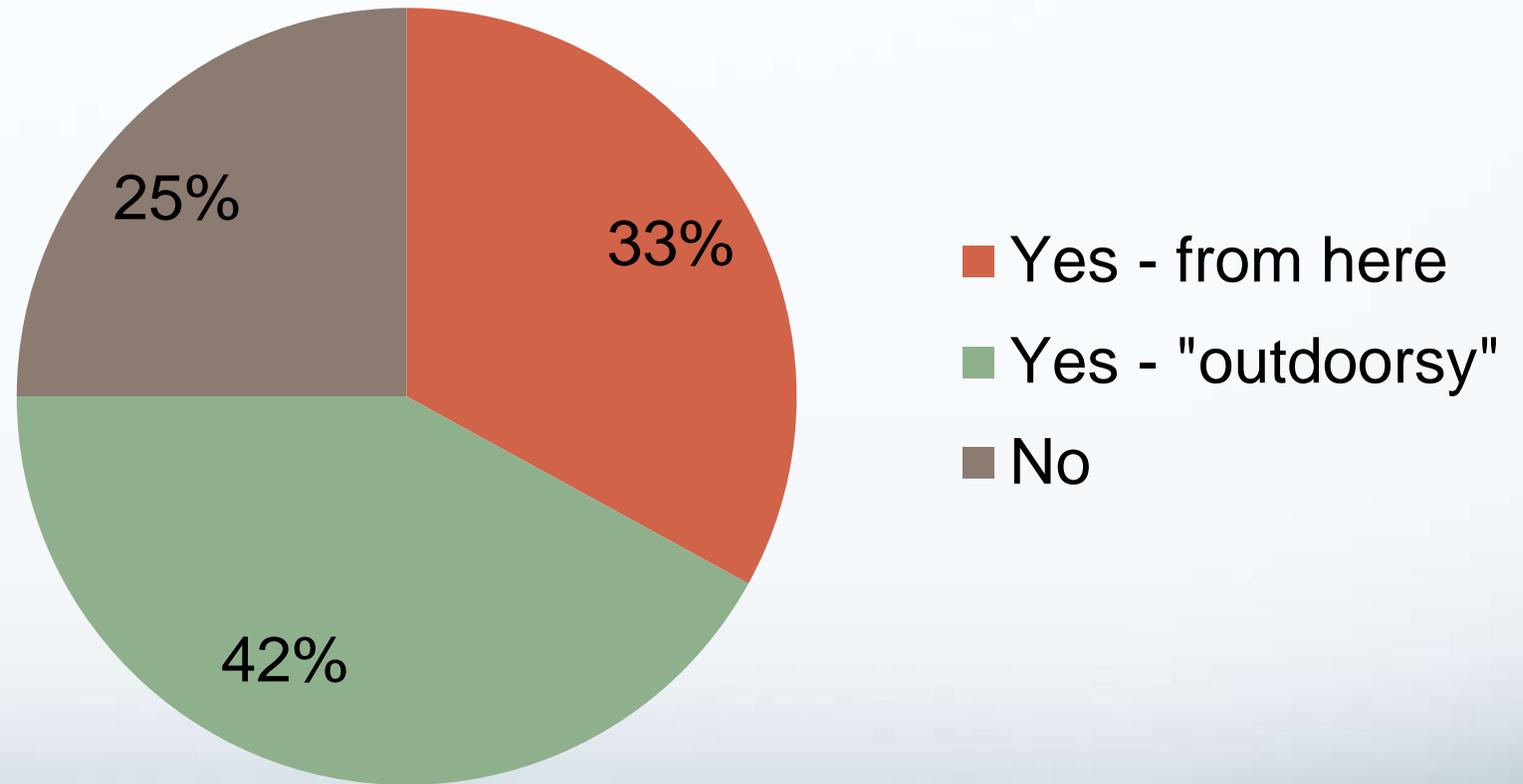
RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?

**RQ3: How do adolescents come to form the awareness of stereotypes about people in Appalachia?**

# Results

# RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

Do students consider themselves to be from Appalachia?



# RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

## Hard Working



# RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

## Hard Working



“Because, being around here you see what happens if you don’t work hard, so it makes you work harder. But if I lived in the city, everybody just seems like things come easy to them.”

-Janet, Grade 12

# RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

## **Sense of Community**



# RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

## Sense of Community

“I normally talk to anybody, everybody. I really don't have any specific group of people that I mostly like to talk to.”

-Brandon, Grade 10



RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

## Support System



# RQ1: What does it mean to be a student from Appalachia?

## Support System

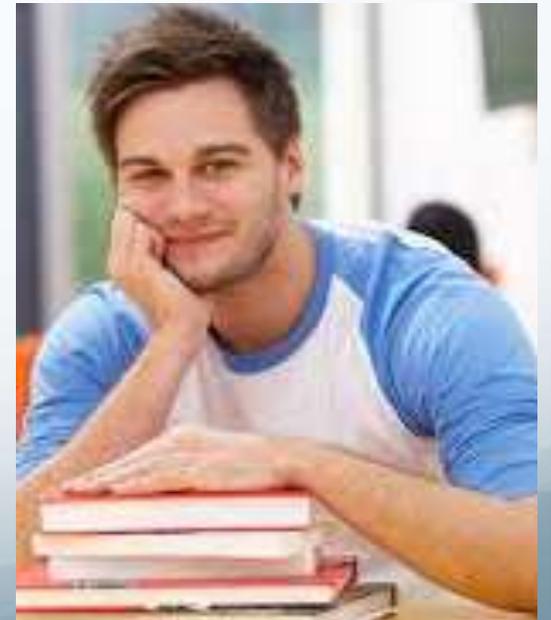


“[When] I was sick, my teacher probably wouldn't've given me the time of day in the city... Here it's 'Okay, sit in the classroom. I'll explain it to you. Take your test'...”

-Amanda, Grade 11

RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?

**Lack of opportunities**

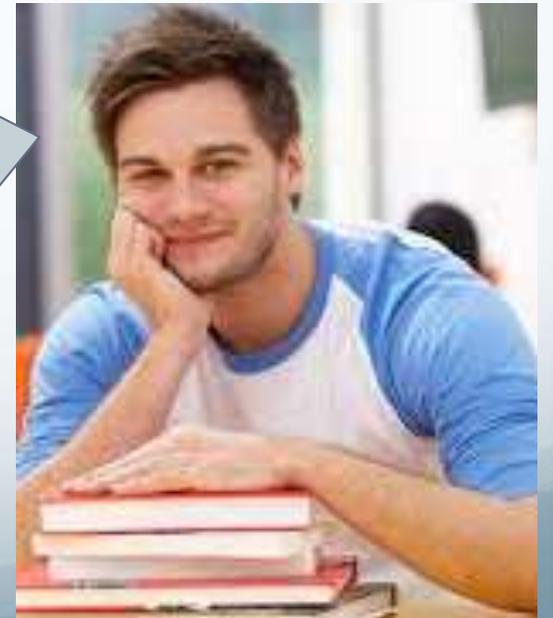


# RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?

## Lack of opportunities

Around here? Uhh, be a bum... There's just nothing around here, you gotta go out of this County to find something.

-Jared, Grade 11



# RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?

**Builds better character**



## RQ2: How do Appalachian students believe being from Appalachia affects their lives?

### **Builds better character**

“But I also feel like I wouldn’t be as good of a student as I am [now]. Because [I] gained a lot of good qualities that might carry out when I go to college... you know, being respectful, and hardworking.”

-Janet, Grade 12



RQ3: How do adolescents come to form the awareness of stereotypes about people in Appalachia?

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“[People think] that we talk funny.”

-Whitney, Grade 6



# RQ3: How do adolescents come to form the awareness of stereotypes about people in Appalachia?

“[People think] that we talk funny.”

-Whitney, Grade 6



“Might say this with a little accent ‘y’all chew tabaccer down there?’ ‘What’s up with them wildcats?’ So it’s kinda sad, they just [throw] us under the bus until they need us. And that’s a really bad stereotype, but it’s okay.”

-Amanda, Grade 11



# Major Themes and Future Directions



# Final Thoughts

“Well, I feel like [not growing up in Appalachia] would totally change who I am.... Because, I am the person I am [because of the] people I live around, and what we do, and the culture I’m surrounded by.”

-Janet, Grade 12

# Thank You!

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