# ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL CAPITALS AS FACILITATORS FOR INTEGRATION OF INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

CHRISTINE COVELL, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
ELENA NEITERMAN, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

IVY BOURGEAULT, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA



# FORMS OF CAPITAL: BOURDIEU





Social Cultural

# FORMS OF CAPITALS IN RESEARCH ON MIGRATION

- DISINTEGRATION FROM OTHER FORMS OF CAPITAL
- PREDOMINANTLY POSITIVE UNDERSTANDING OF SOCIAL CAPITAL (PORTES, 1998)
- HUMAN CAPITAL

- BUT:
- CULTURAL FIT OF IENS (NEITERMAN AND BOURGEAULT 2013)
- DESKILLING ON IMMIGRANTS IN BC (BAUDER 2003)



### THIS PAPER

- HOW DIFFERENT FORMS OF CAPITAL ARE UTILIZED DURING THE PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION AMONG IEHPS?
- HOW SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC CAPITAL SHAPE THE SUCCESS OF OBTAINING PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA?



### **METHODOLOGY**

- 179 IEHPS:
  - IMGS: N=69
    - FEMALE: N=35
  - IENS: N=71
    - FEMALE: N=59
  - ITMS: N=39
- ABOUT 1/3 IN EACH PROFESSION SELF-IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF VISIBLE MINORITIES
- ABOUT 1/3 OF IMGS, 2/3OF ITMS AND OVER 1/2 OF IENS WERE PRACTICING



### **ECONOMIC CAPITAL**

- THE ECONOMIC CAPITAL AFFECTED PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION IN DIRECT AND INDIRECT WAYS
- DIRECT:
  - COMING AS A SKILLED WORKER
  - PAYING FOR APPLICATION FEES, EXAMS, ETC.
- INDIRECT:
  - TRADE-OFFS BETWEEN IMMEDIATE NEEDS AND FUTURE LICENSE
  - LACK OF OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL NETWORKING/DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER FORMS OF CAPITAL



### SOCIAL CAPITAL

### STRATEGIES

- SOCIAL RELATIONS WITH THE LOCAL ETHNIC COMMUNITY
- CONNECTIONS TO OTHER IEHPS THAT PRACTICE THEIR PROFESSION
  - ESTABLISHMENT OF ONLINE STUDY GROUPS
  - PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (IMGS, NURSES)

### • BARRIERS:

- FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS
- ETHNIC ORIGINS
- GEOGRAPHIC PROXIMITY



## CULTURAL CAPITAL

- EMBODIED CAPITAL
  - ETHNICITY AS A MARKER
- EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS
- DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL CAPITAL
  - OBSERVING OTHERS
  - VOLUNTEERING
  - BRIDGING PROGRAMS



## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- ALL FORMS OF CAPITAL (ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL) ARE INTERCONNECTED
- THEORETICAL IMPLICATIONS
- POLICY IMPLICATIONS