



**MINNESOTA FAMILY  
IMPACT SEMINARS**

# **Examining Policies Using the Family Impact Perspective**

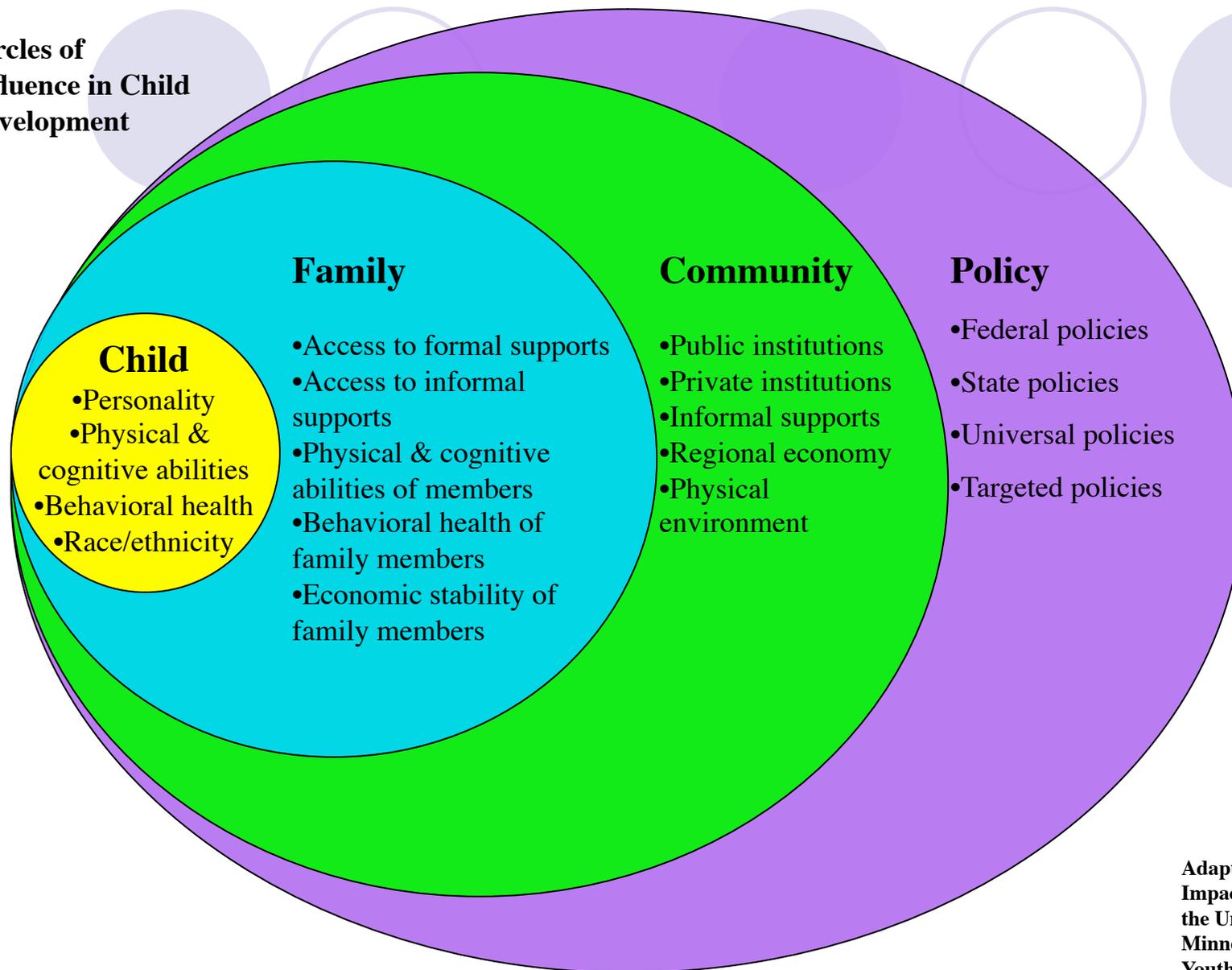
February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Dr. Karen Cadigan

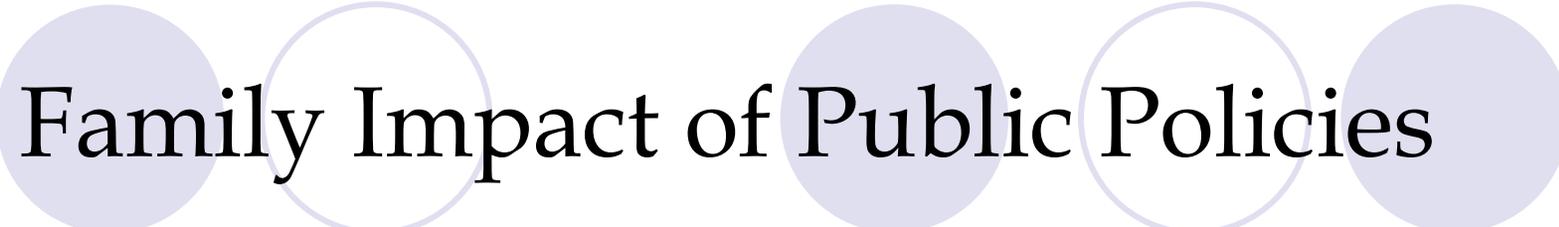
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**Circles of  
Influence in Child  
Development**



Adapted for Family Impact Seminars by the University of Minnesota Children, Youth and Family Consortium. Based on Bronfenbrenner's Ecology of Human Development.



# Family Impact of Public Policies

Family Focused Questions:

What can government and community institutions do to enhance the family's capacity to help itself and others?

What effect does (or will) this policy (or program) have for families? Will it help or hurt, strengthen or weaken family life?



# The Family Impact Checklist

- ✓ Family support & responsibilities
- ✓ Family partnership & empowerment
- ✓ Family membership & stability
- ✓ Family diversity
- ✓ Family involvement & interdependence
- ✓ Support of vulnerable families

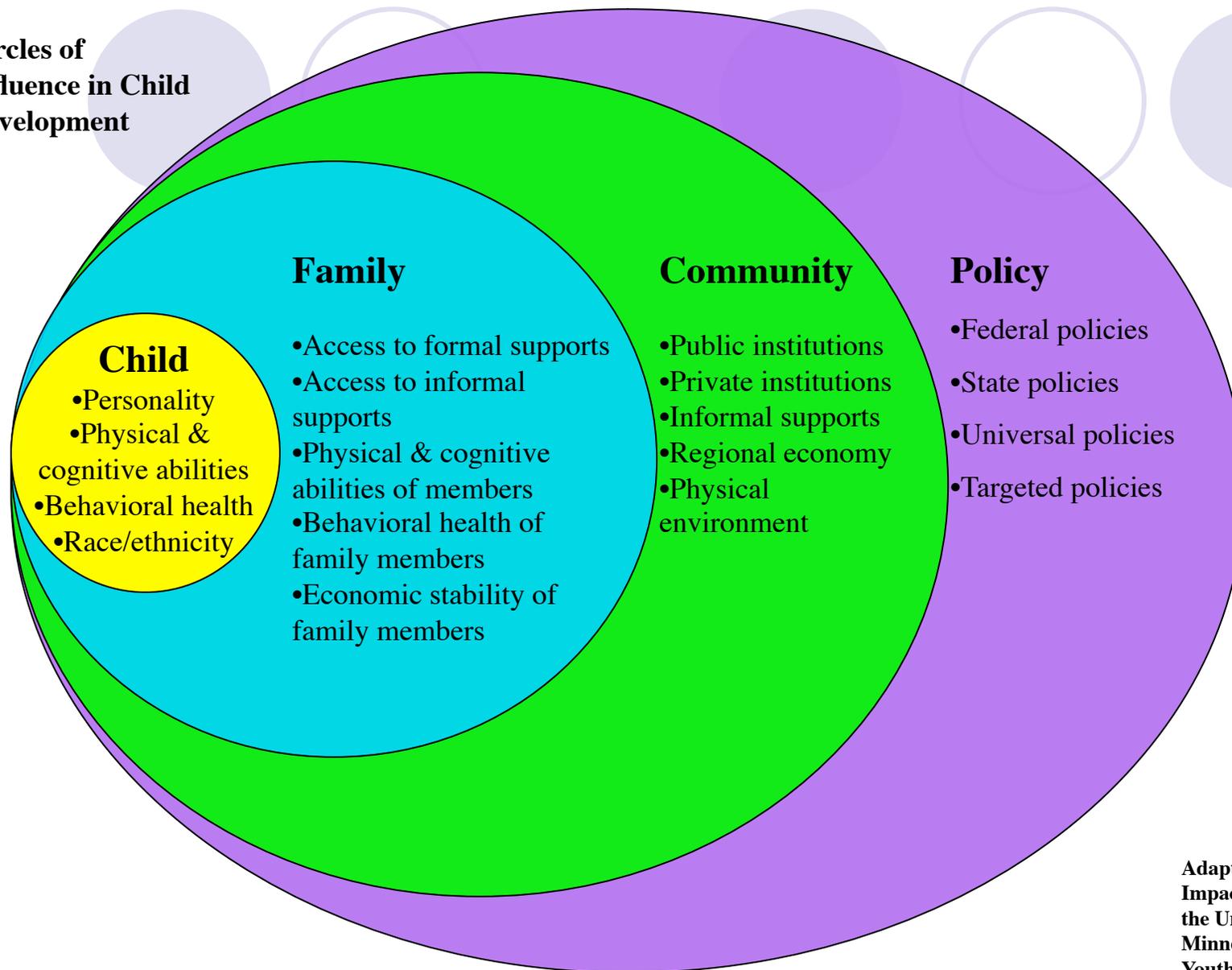


# How might special education finance policies impact families?

## Examples

- Formula issues: type impacts services
- Finance equity issues: in district vs.. out of district services
- Cost savings issues: early identification

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