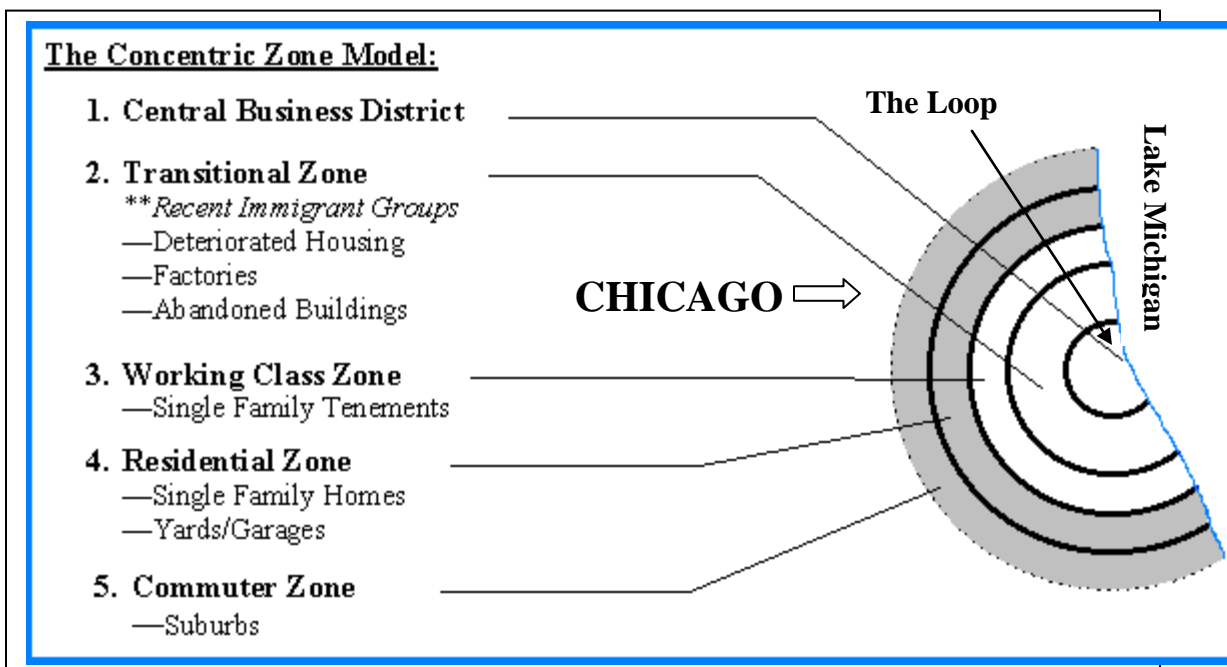


PARK AND BURGESS: THE CONCENTRIC ZONE THEORY and the STRUCTURAL SOURCES OF DEVIANCE in CHICAGO



Concentric Zone Theory

- Chicago as a living laboratory
 - The city evolves through radial expansion
 - Areas closest to the dynamic core are most impacted by change.
 - Zone 2 the transition zone is seen as primary area for deviance
1. Compressed by commercial and industrial expansion
 2. Center of residence for newly arrived immigrants and migrants
 3. Unemployment, Single-parent households
 4. Variety of cultural groups in close proximity and normative confusion
 5. Gradually exhibit high levels of upward mobility

People in the zone of transition (mostly recent immigrants) experience the most anomie and discrimination and thus struggle in adapting to the stresses and demands of their new society. They experience high rates of social disorganization and dysfunction and as a result deviance flourishes. However, as each generation of new immigrants assimilates, they tend to move upward in the social structure and outward through the zones, leaving much of the disorganization, dysfunction and deviance behind.

Deviance thus comes to be seen as a structural phenomenon and not a function of the characteristics of any particular ethnic or racial group.