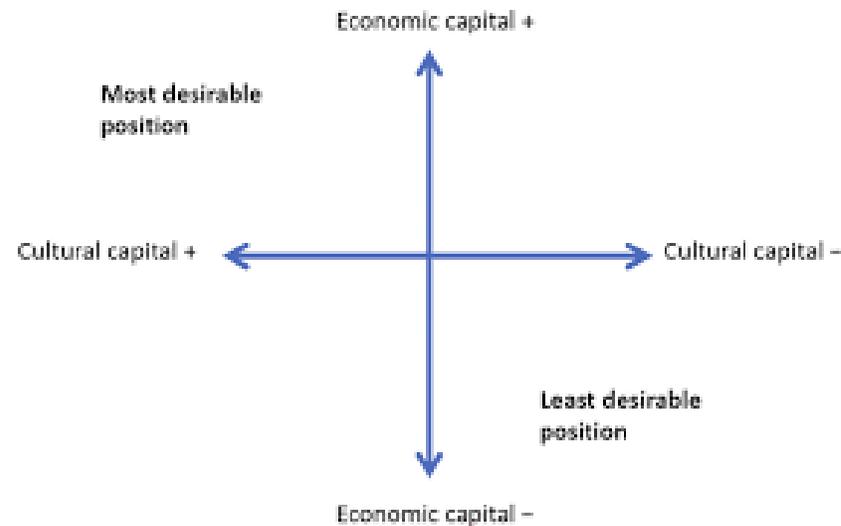
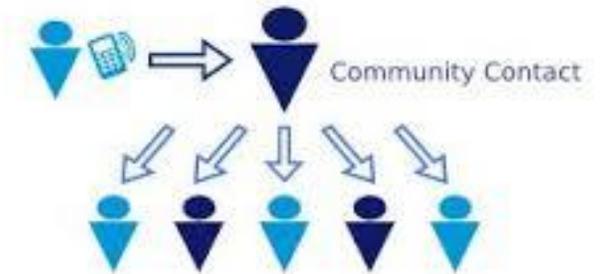


# Police, text alert and community. Drawing the field of rural security in Ireland.



## General Community Alerts



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# Security Field Concept – Bowden (2019), *Criminology & Criminal Justice*

## Morphology in the Police Field

- Post-bureaucratic policing – plural policing (Loader 2000; Loader & Walker 2007)
- Nodal security / networked security governance as “Securitization of Society” (Schuilenburg, 2015)
- Security networks as ‘functional’ and ‘geographic’ (Dupont 2004; Dupont; Whelan and Dupont 2017)
- Changing police cultures and habitus (Chan, 1997)

## Bourdieuian Field theory in Criminology

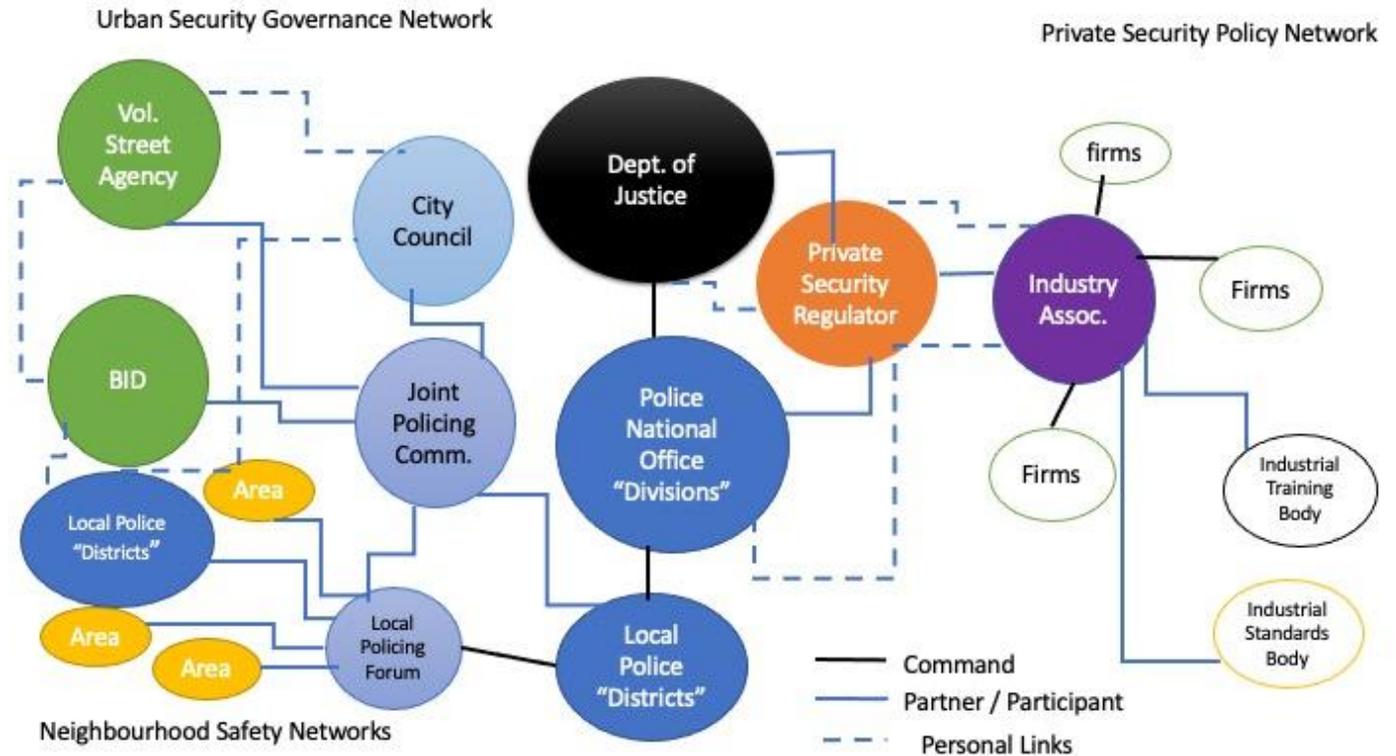
- Competitive arenas in which there is a struggle for symbolic and economic capital to dominate in the FIELD
- Fields as semi autonomous but subordinate to the meta-field of power (politics and economic elites)
- Field in Criminology:
  - Street Field – Shammass and Sandberg (2015)
  - Police Field - Chan (1997, 2001, 2004)
  - Juridical Field – Bourdieu (1987)
  - Bureaucratic Field – Bourdieu (various years)
- Field as a system of positions and position takings

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# Security Field Characteristics

- Private Security; national security; municipal security; rural and urban safety partnerships.
- Distinct security networks in regional or municipal settings
- Flows of capital based upon:
  - Symbolic capital
  - Informational capital / cultural capital
  - Economic capital
  - Social Capital

Security Field analysis as mapping relationships, flows and competitive struggles for cultural and symbolic capital



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# In the field – practical implementation

- PhD project: *Crime, Risk and Resilience in the Countryside. Governing Rural Security.*
- The main goal of the project is to undertake an intensive qualitative sociological study of how rural communities build security capacities to manage global changes in respect of safety, crime and governing security in a local context.
- The primary aim of the project is to develop a theoretical framework and methodology for analyzing rural security and the role of the civil society in the context of wider dynamics of inclusion and exclusion.

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# Data collection

- Observations:
  - District Text Alert Scheme (TAS) meetings – quarterly organized meeting in relation to operation of Text Alert Scheme.
    - Text Alert Scheme, surveillance voluntary initiative – over 1000 groups countrywide, 70k members
    - Attend to 10 in period between October 2017 – June 2018
- Interviews – 14 across two distinct settings
- Main players
  - Police Force
  - NGO
  - Rural dwellers

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# Safety – different ambitions

- Police force – surveillance and catching offenders
- NGO – process of community building. Strong emphasise on the older population and isolated and vulnerable members of the community.
- Rural dwellers– value for money. Purchasing the service – requiring the service.  
Technological race.

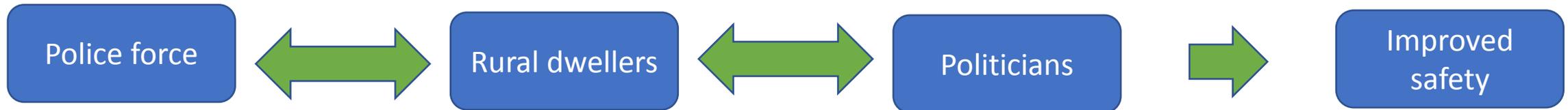
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# Field of security in the Irish countryside. example 1

*“You are bread and butter of our work, and your pressure on politicians could do something.”*

[Fieldnotes, police superintendent, meeting in Kells, February 2019]

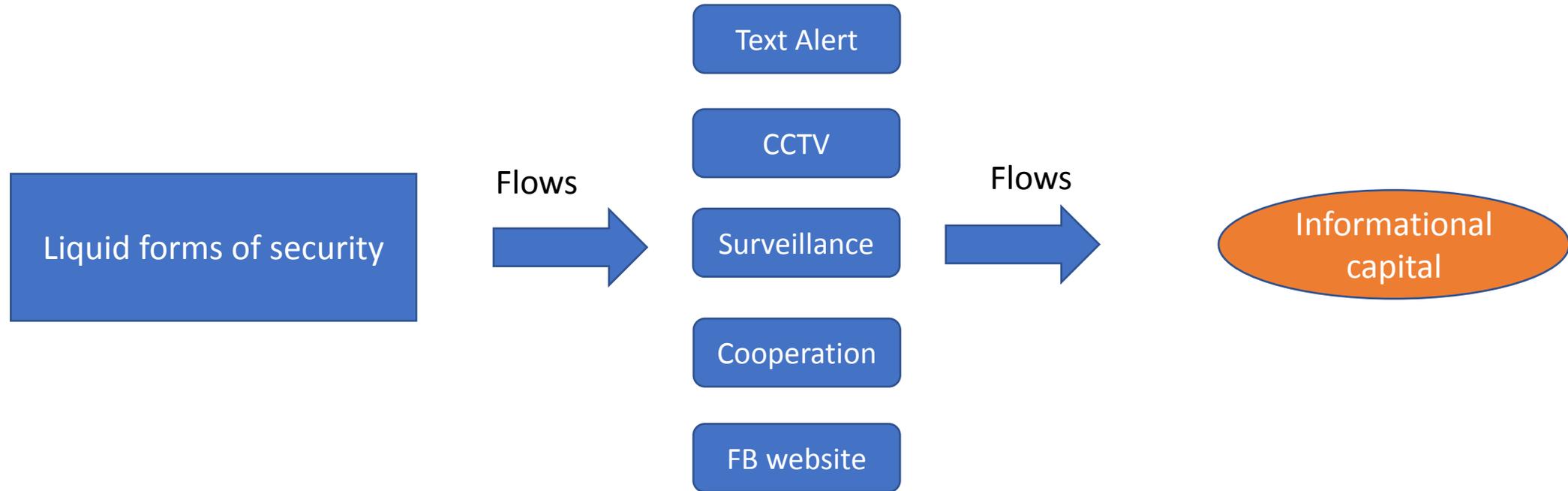


Hierarchical, police-led model inadequate to answer challenges of post-modern and replaced with nodal configuration.

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# Field of security in the Irish countryside.

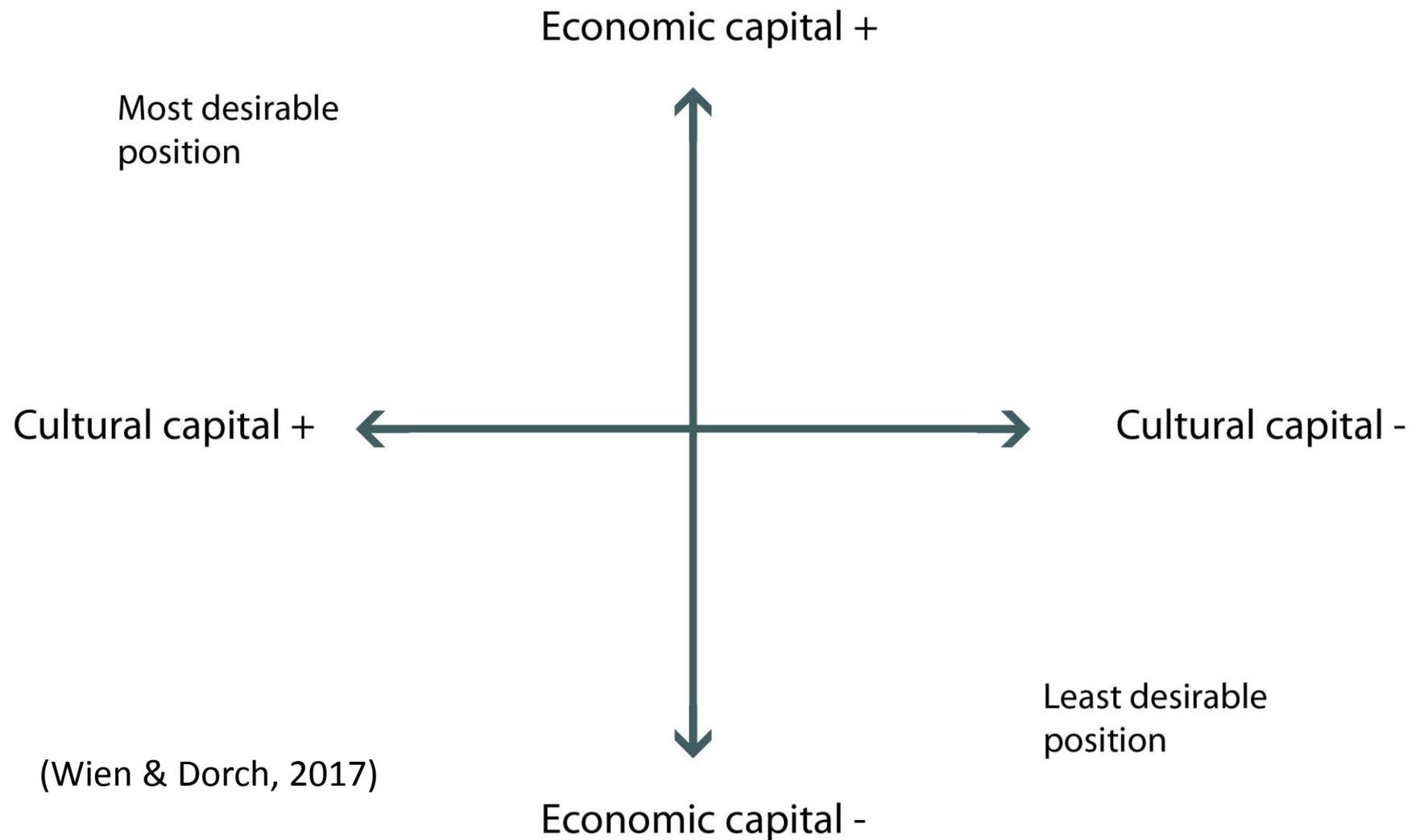
## example 2



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Further consideration:

# Information as Cultural Capital



(Wien & Dorch, 2017)

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# Conclusions and Further Analysis

- Rural Security and Safety taking place in a relational field
- Police and community linked through the flow of information
- Further analysis and study need to position the different players based on informational capital
- Field is a game where players try to get what they want – but how equal is it? Who has the power here?