



# Adolescent Sociality in Japan and England

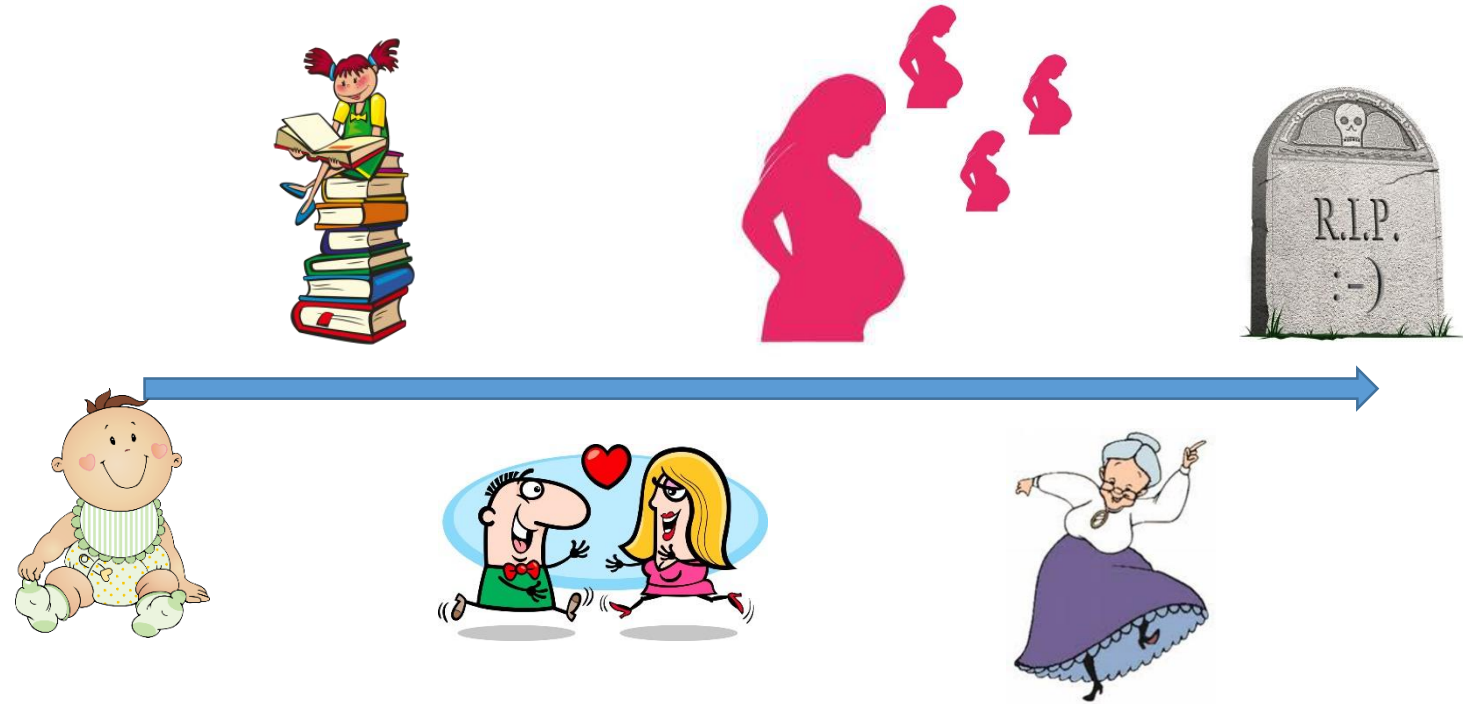
*Project Outline*

# Background: Adolescence from HBE perspective

## Life history theory

### Trade-offs in pace of life

- Somatic vs reproductive effort
- Mating vs parenting effort
- Quantity vs quality of children / current vs future children
- Investing in self vs investing in others



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← Optimal Life History Strategies →

**FAST (r-selection)**



**High mortality, unpredictable environment**

Reproductive effort

Mating effort

Quantity of offspring

More risk taking & future discounting?

**SLOW (k-selection)**



**Low mortality, predictable environment**

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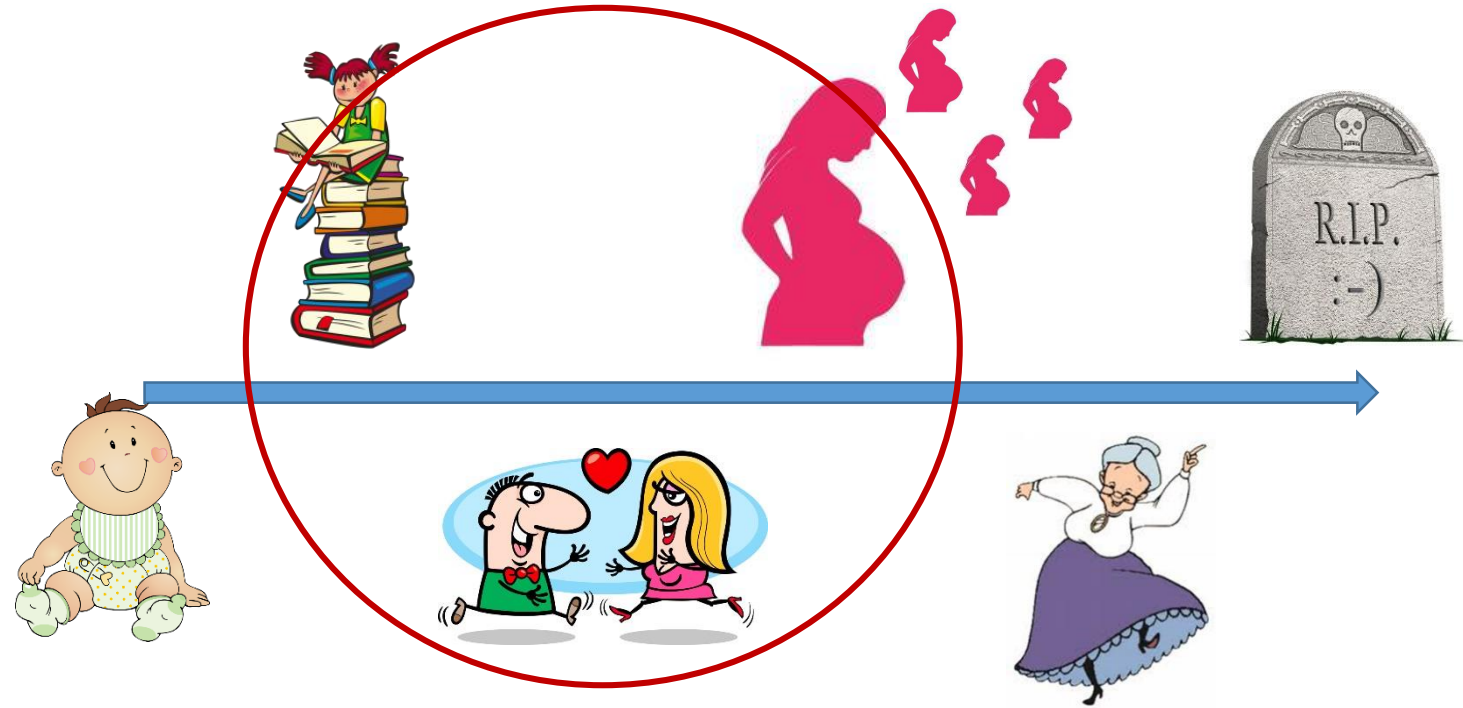
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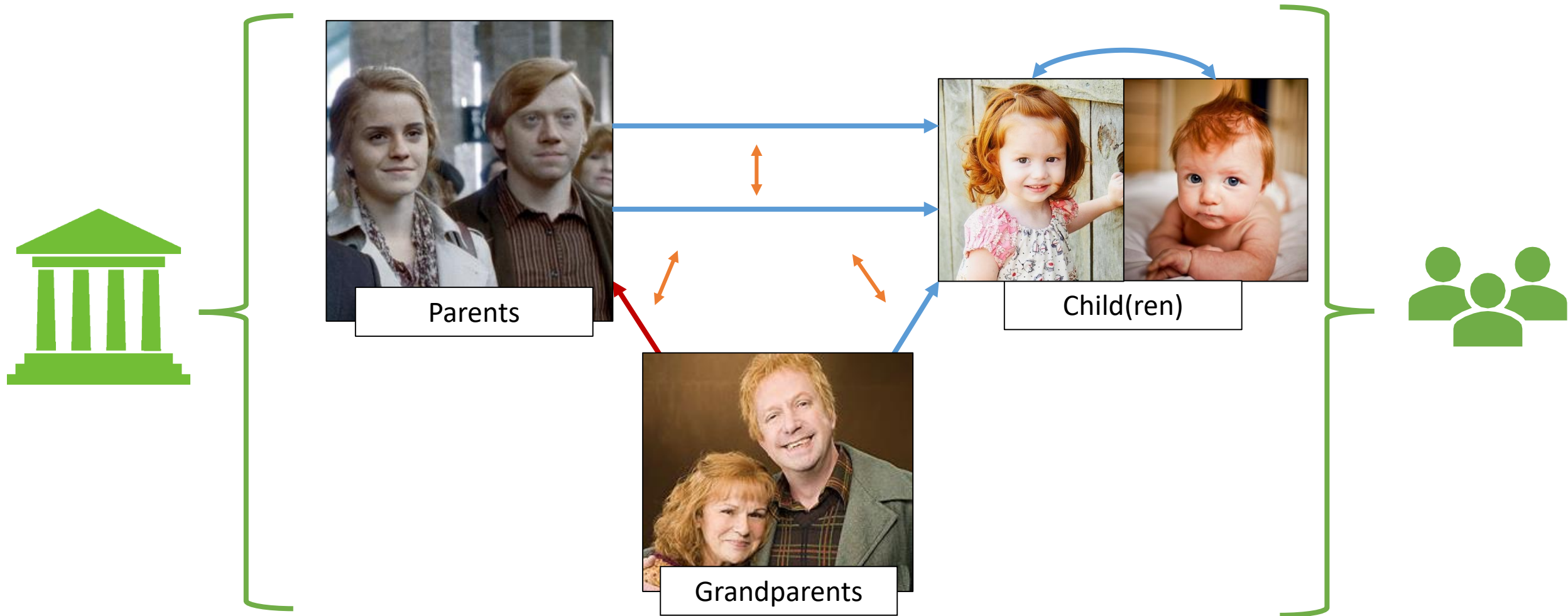


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Q. How does the **social** environment influence adolescent life history/fitness outcomes?

# Social Environment: Childrearing Systems from “Cooperative Breeding”



Network of caregivers for successful childrearing. Cooperation with wide social network key for fitness.

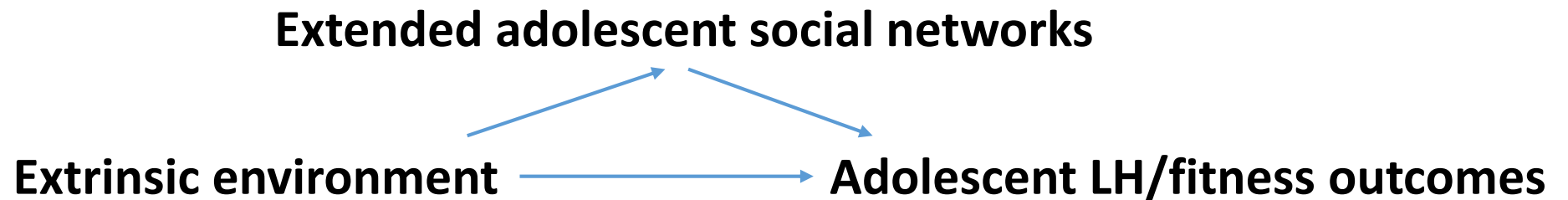




Q. How does the social environment influence adolescent life history/fitness outcomes in developed populations?

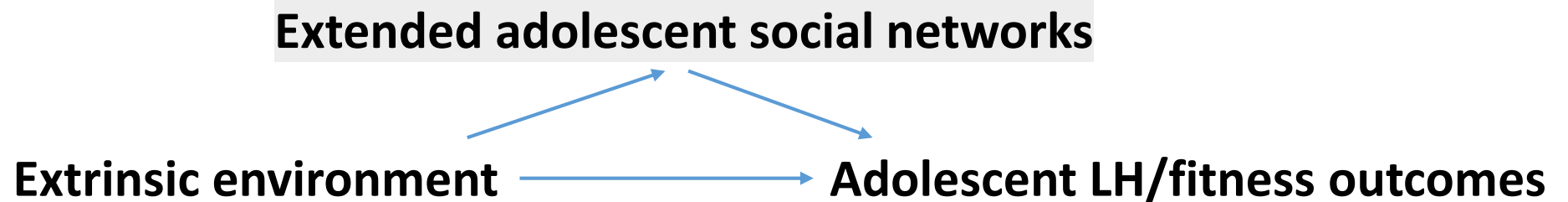
- In **traditional populations**, extended kin (particularly older sibs and maternal grandmothers) important for child/adolescent outcomes. Not many studies in developed populations.
- In **developed populations**, *network diversity* associated with better health outcomes (i.e., fitness) in adulthood. In **HG population**, *network bridges* had more surviving offspring (but worse health). In adolescence?
- In **developed populations**, social networks expand from kin-focused to include more peers (or become peer-focused) in late childhood early adolescence. We see within and between population variation- what are the consequences?

# Research Theme 1: Adolescent Social Networks



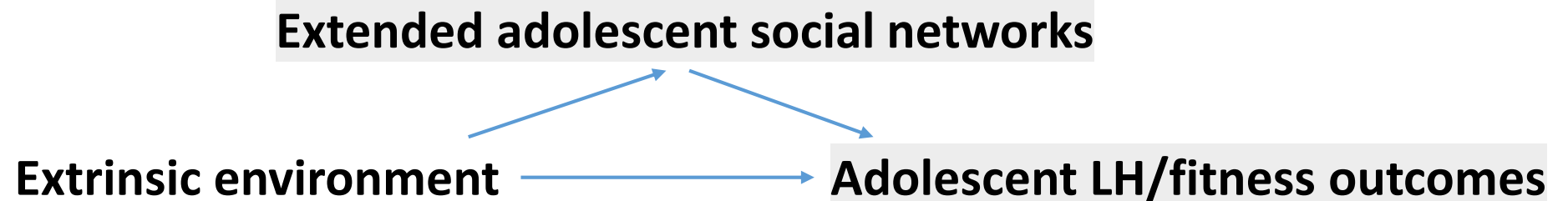
1. Beyond peers and parents: How do extended adolescent social networks exist in developed populations?
2. Do different types of extended adolescent social networks have different effects on adolescent LH/fitness outcomes?
3. Do different types of extended adolescent social networks “buffer” extrinsic environmental stress more effectively?

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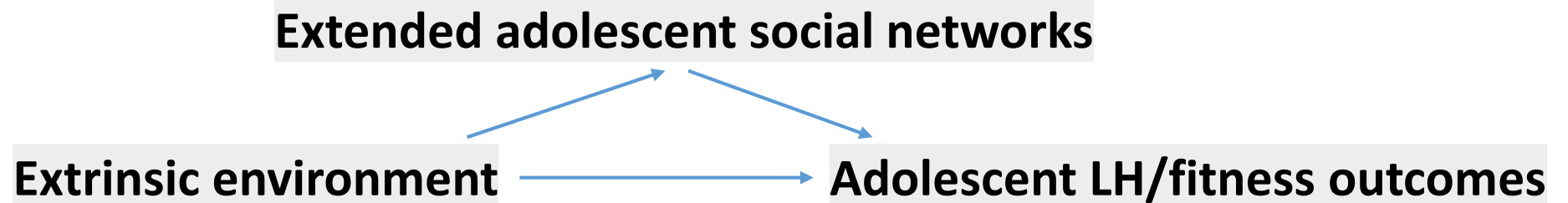
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# Methods:

**Currently planning stage, over 18 months. What we decided so far:**

- 4x field locations: urban/rural Japan & England
- Primary data collection (probably observations & survey on tablet – open to ideas)
- Depending on ££££, peer ethnography!

# What we are doing now

1

First step school engagement & preliminary exploration through participation project

2

Secondary data analysis of Millennium Cohort Study & Tokyo Teen Cohort Study

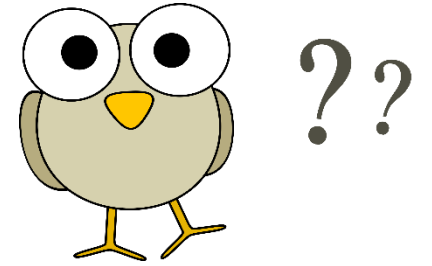
3

Refine project aims

4

**Waiting for ££!**

# Questions to you:



- General comments / feedback?
- Looking for experiments / survey questions we can do in field to capture adolescent behavioural/cognitive outcomes (broad) – any suggestions?
- Anything we should definitely measure
- Any other suggestions, ideas, warnings?