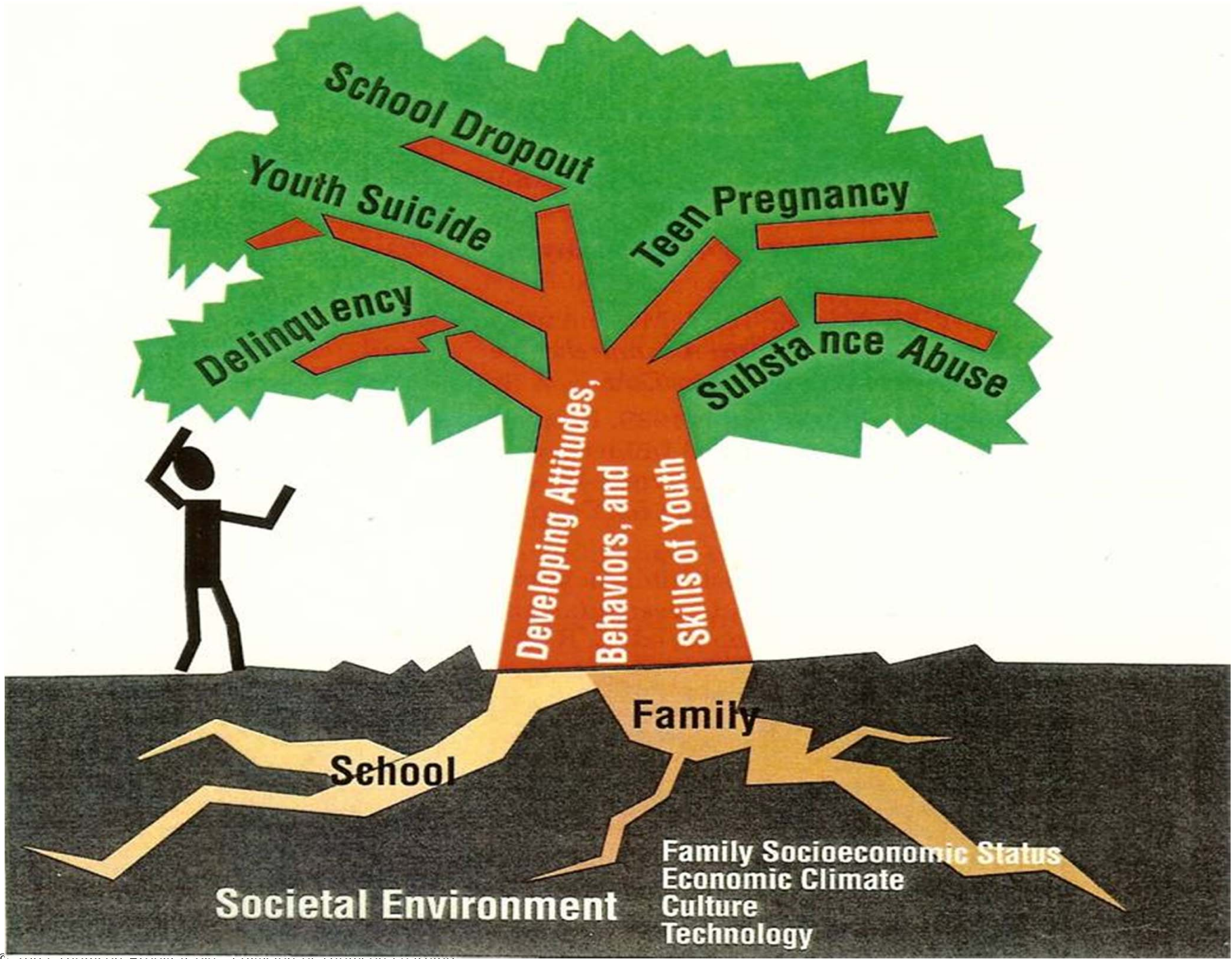


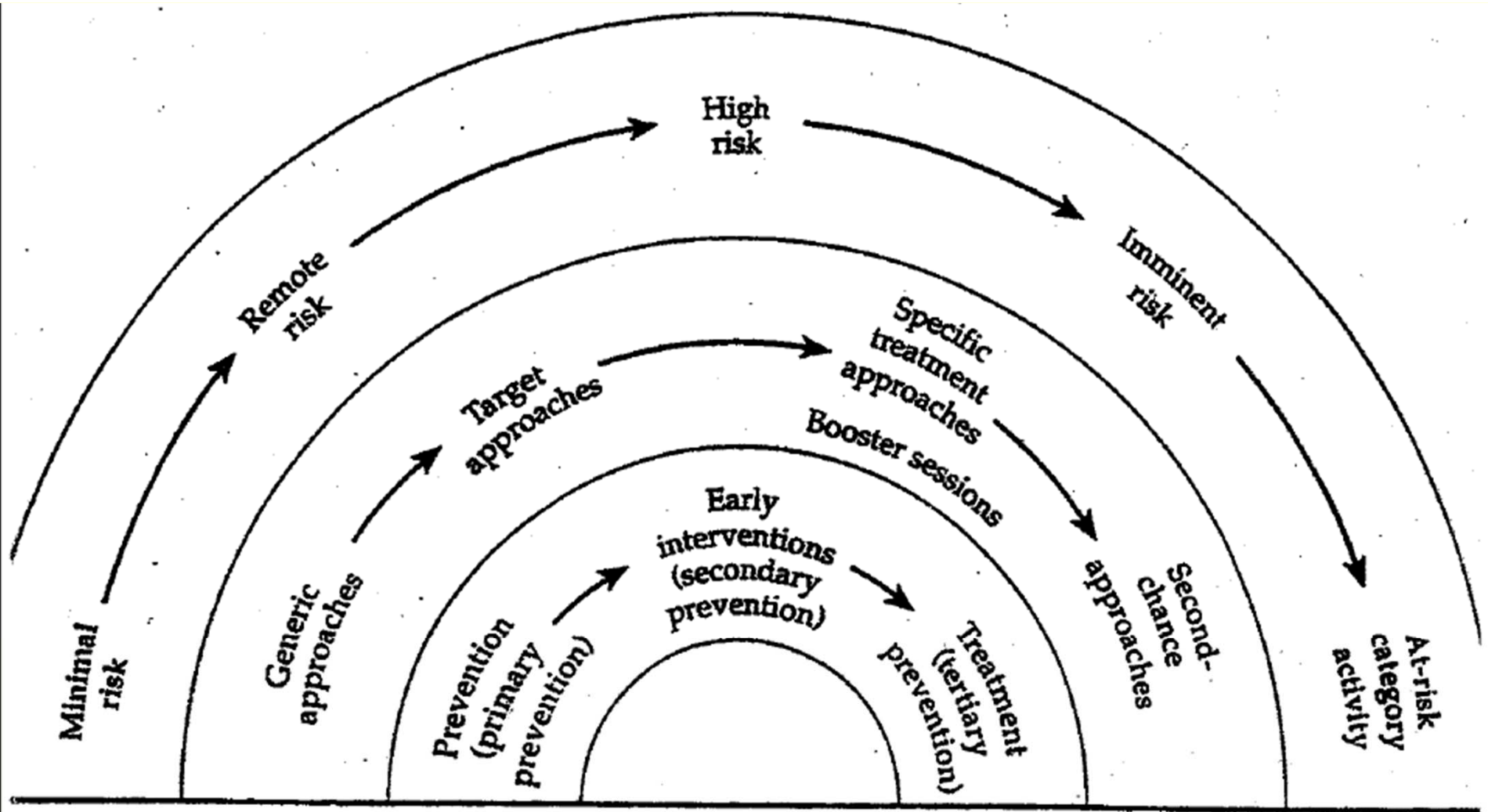
At-Risk Youth: Definition and Intervention Framework

Definition of the term “At-Risk”

- We use the term **at-risk** to denote a set of presumed cause/effect dynamics that place the individual child or adolescent in danger of negative *future events*. **At-risk** designates a situation that is not necessarily current (although it is often used in this sense too) but that can be anticipated in the absence of intervention.
- McWhirter, J.J., McWhirter, B.T., McWhirter, E.H., & McWhirter, R.J. (2004) *At-Risk Youth: A Comprehensive Response* (3rd. Ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.



Minimal-Risk	Remote-Risk	High-Risk	Imminent-Risk	Category Activity
Favorable demographics	Negative demographics	Negative demographics	Negative demographics	Negative demographics
Positive family, school, and social interaction	Less positive family, school, and social interaction	Negative family, school, and social interaction	Negative family, school, and social interaction	Negative family, school, and social interaction
Limited psychosocial and environmental stressors	Some stressors	Numerous stressors	Numerous stressors	At-risk for more intense maladaptive behavior
<h1>The At-Risk Continuum</h1>		Development of personal at-risk markers: Negative attitudes and emotions, and skill deficiencies	Development of personal at-risk markers: Negative attitudes and emotions, and skill deficiencies	Young person's activity places him or her solidly in the at-risk category
			Development of gateway behaviors and activities	At-risk for other categories
		Young person's children will be at-risk		



Risk, Approaches, and Prevention Continuums