

Figure 2. Co-construction of agency and hegemony according to power location on the direct/diffuse continuum of hegemonies.

Types of Agency: Appropriation

- Appropriation: actors adopt a hegemonic discourse for agent's own purposes
 - Dominated groups use hegemonic practice for *own* purposes
 - Dominated groups *transform* practice itself
- *Examples:*
 - *Puerto Rican youth embrace pop culture texts in English, but speak about them in Spanish*
 - *Sudanese youth used academic English literacy practices to speak out against Sudanese regime*
 - *Young Sudanese children transform individual school literacy tasks into opportunities to socialize around texts*

Types of Agency: Overt Resistance

- Resistance implies rejection of hegemonic discourse or ideology
- Overt resistance: actors clearly and openly reject hegemonic discourse or practice
- *Examples:*
 - *Sudanese orphaned youth in U.S. openly reject Arabic language of Sudanese oppressors*

Types of Agency: Covert Resistance

- Covert resistance: actors resist subtly, “under the radar” or hidden from those in power
- *Examples:*
 - *Youth read unsanctioned texts (e.g., newspapers or magazines) during class time*
 - *Preschool children in Costa Rica, who are denied explicit instruction in literacy, copy environmental text*
 - *Young Sudanese refugee children cheat on weekly spelling tests*

Direct Hegemonic Relationships

- Direct hegemonies: the powerful exert a great deal of power over the dominated
 - Highly apparent power structure
 - May or may not be oppressive or repressive
 - Do not allow room for overt resistance
 - Actors resort to covert resistance

Indirect Hegemonic Relationships

- Diffuse hegemonies: power of the dominant group is not as great or as apparent over the dominated as it is in more direct hegemonies
 - Dominated groups appear to have more “wiggle room” in indirect hegemonic relationships
 - Allow room for overt resistance
 - Agents appropriate or transform many practices for their own purposes

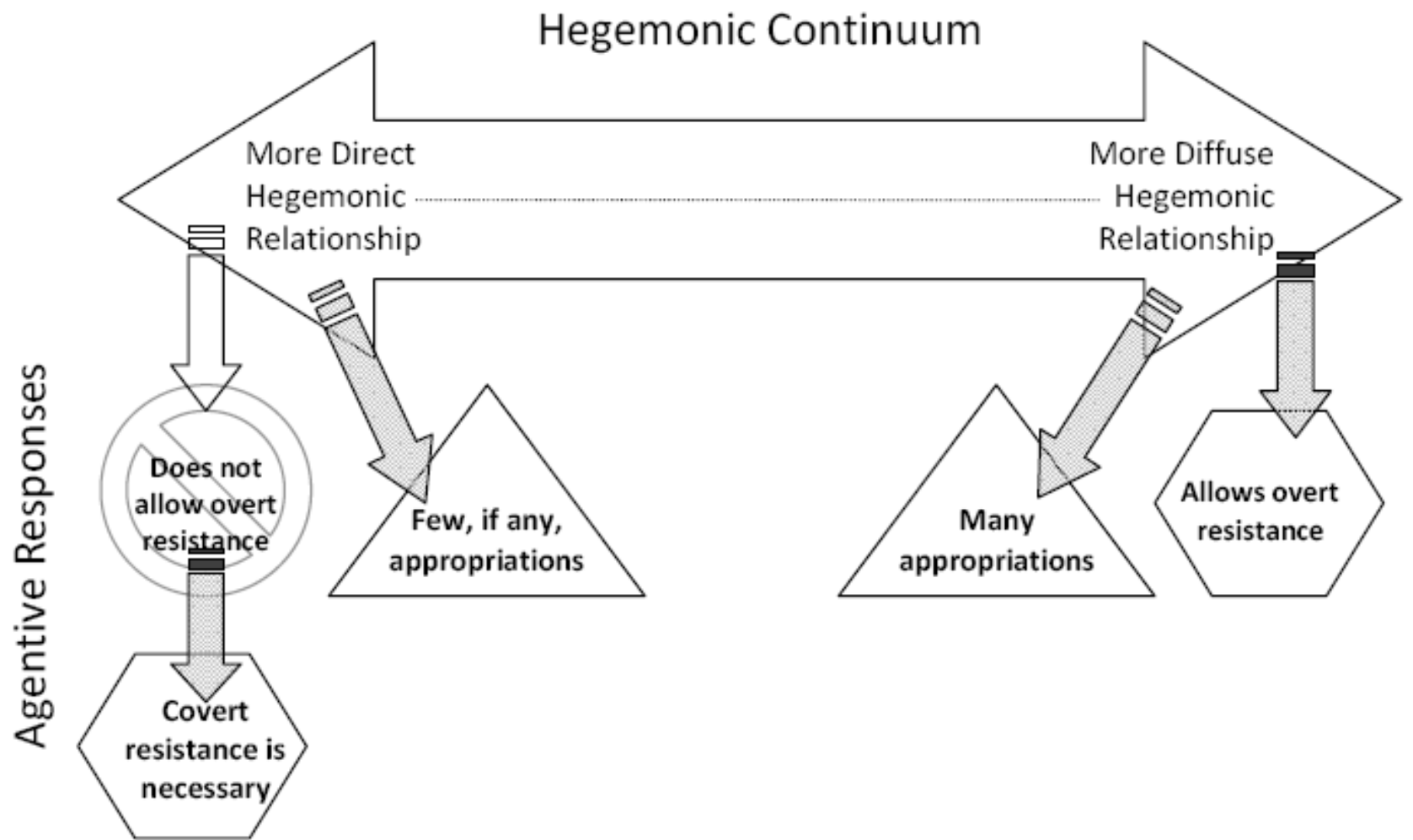


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