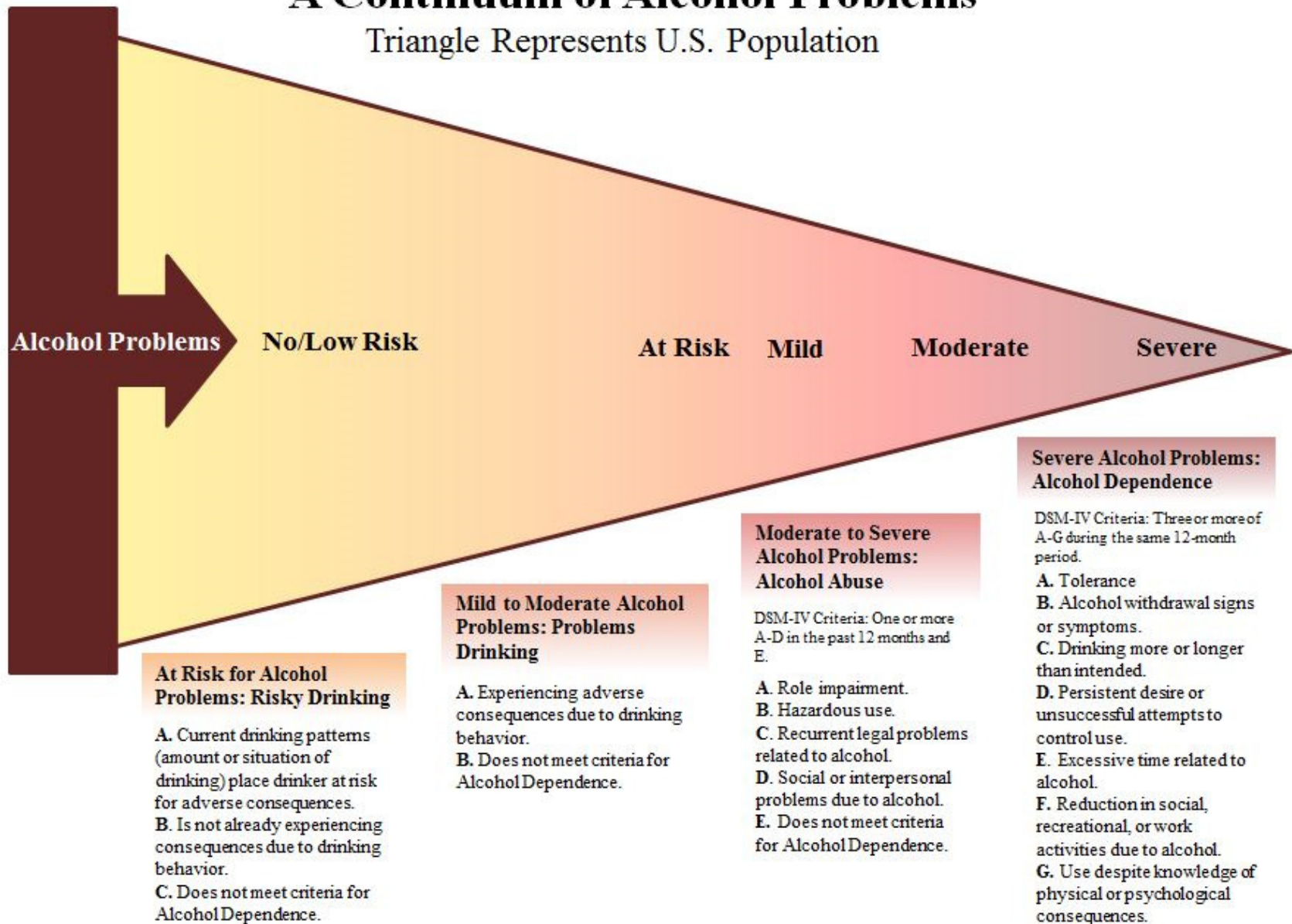


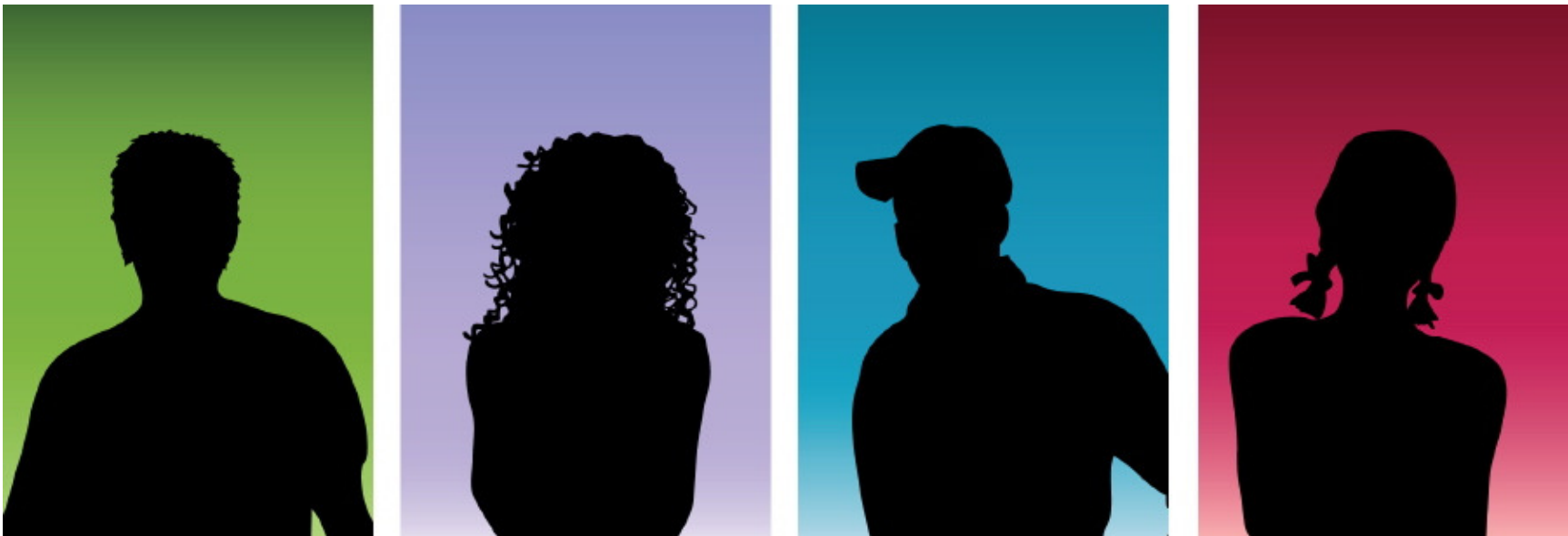
Handout Module 2: Continuum of Alcohol Use

A Continuum of Alcohol Problems

Triangle Represents U.S. Population



- As a result of this continuum, a person can use for a while without many people recognizing. Adolescent alcohol use often occurs in secret with other inexperienced drinkers who drink quickly and too excess. This contributes to masking this problem. If a students use starts to exceed his or her peer group, that student often finds a peer group where his or her is similar to the use of the members of the new peer group.
- Another powerful influence that allows drinking to escalate is parents' tendency to deny that there is a problem. Denial is strong and powerful in family members of someone who is abusing alcohol.
- Another factor that influences our response is the set of coping skills we have developed to deal with living a family member who is becoming dependent on alcohol. These coping skills have been organized into family roles: *the chief enabler, the family hero, the family mascot, the scapegoat, and the lost child*. These roles are described in more detail in another Module 2 Handout.
- To illustrate these roles, we will create a family sculpture.



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