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> **Marriner:** *You are life itself. Without you, I'm nothing. Don't you understand?*
>
> **Tegan Jovanka:** *What?*
>
> **Marriner:** *I am empty. You give me being. I look into your mind and see life, energy, excitement. I want them. I want you. Your thoughts shall be MY thoughts, your feelings MY feelings.*
>
> **Tegan Jovanka:** *Wait a minute. You tryin' to tell me you're in love?*
>
> **Marriner:** *Love! What is love? I want existence.*
>
> – Dr. Who, "Enlightenment," Part 4 (1983)

Presence: All objects in the game have four Constructural Elements which connect them to their position in the game. Each Constructural Element of each object is considered to be either active or inactive at any time in relation to each position. The state of a Constructural Element for any object relates to one position in the game (the owner), is independent of all other positions, and cannot be shared. Constructural Elements of a position cannot be seen by another position – can you look into my mind and see what I believe? – thus they are secret, but hints may be received – as in the real world – from diligent observation of actions.

Constructural Elements are activated by an activation of the Culture Power and are typically deactivated by a Disruption event; once activated, a Constructural Element cannot be 'turned off' voluntarily (and there would be no reason to do so) while the object remains within the position's Public Space. However, the Temporal Constructural Element is automatically activated by placing the object in the Public Space and is always the last Constructural Element to be deactivated, which would cause the object to be removed from the Public Space. The Temporal Constructural Element cannot be deactivated by Disruption Event; the only 'deactivation' is by removal from the Public Space, i.e. loss or destruction. The Temporal Constructural Element is the English "to be" verb in its existential form, "to exist."[1]

➢ Intuitive Things: Constructural Elements are intuitive and nearly as axiomatic (in the ancient sense) as Euclid's postulates and common notions; waiting only for someone to point out the obvious and give it a name and place in our Public Space. The only quibble will be with how I have chosen to slice the cognitive pie; I chose four types for the game. And that is absolutely true.

    ✓ "Mises used the term praxeology to name the deductive science that begins with the premise *that human beings act intentionally*. This premise is often called the 'axiom' of praxeology. It is an axiom because, in order to disprove it, you have to engage in what the proposition affirms, i.e., you have to act intentionally to argue against the proposition. An intentional action identifies an *end*, or purpose, to the action, as well as certain means selected to achieve that end." – Michael Accad, M.D., "An introduction to praxeology and Austrian school economics," alertandoriented.com (blog), April 13, 2016 (emphasis in original).

In order to argue against Constructural Elements, you must have a different worldview than I do... meaning you have Constructural Elements, but may simply call them something different.

➢ Imaginary Things: Even imaginary things have Constructural Elements, that is, they have a time and place where the author first imagined them or that they first passed into the public consciousness; imaginary things can symbolize real things, they can be part of an ideology (e.g., Avalon), and they have a place within our cognitive structure of the world – that is, they are imaginary, pretend, not 'real' (are you sure you know what's real?). Anything in our consciousness has Constructural Elements. Perhaps, this gives a sort of reality to imaginary things; explaining why they have such force when we know they are not real?

✓ Many years ago – and for me, that's usually about twenty or more – I was surfing channels and came across an odd animation called Rarg (1988) on a PBS station. In the story, the people of a great town realized that they were part of some boy's dream who was sleeping in his bed at night. They were afraid he would wake up and they would cease to exist, so they contrived a way to come into our world and kidnap him into their world. In a vast operation suitable for an existential threat, they opened a portal in his wall, came to his room, and carefully carried his bed through the portal with him in it still sleeping (of course). They placed his bed in a sealed vault where no sound could disturb his sleep, and felt then that they were safe, he would never wake. But then he began dreaming of flamingos.[2]

"Character – a reserved force which acts directly by presence, and without means." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

When The Lights Are On...: Active Constructural Elements affect the game, inactive Constructural Elements have no effect.

➢ Power On: All Homeworlds and starting colonies and ships begin with all Constructural Elements activated. *Each successful Power Activation at a location has a **10% chance** of making each active Constructural Element* on sovereign ships and colonies at that location *become inactive*.[3] The less actives you have, and the less local activities, the less chance ... the universe punishes you if you stay in bed, the universe punishes you if you get out of bed.

➢ Skool Tyme: The Host World of a College must have an active Epistemological Constructural Element; if it becomes inactive, the operation of the College is suspended.

✓ Any object – ship or colony planet – that does not have an active Epistemological Constructural Element may not (50% chance) be able receive the effects of College Faculties (i.e. Enlightenment, whether for use in die rolls, including Combat, or Institutes on that colony). This applies to rerolls of Power Activation failures as well.

✓ A Research Group (see 2 Technology, p. 700, *infra*) that is not adjacent to a colony with an active Epistemological Constructural Element becomes *disrupted* and cannot be Developed to the Era Matrix, but is not removed from the Public Space.

The Concierge may introduce other requirements as the game progresses, for example, some Writs may also require an active Epistemological Constructural Element.

➢ Waving the Flag: The Capital Colony of a position must have the Symbolic Constructural Element activated; if it becomes inactive, the *Capital status* of the colony is suspended.

✓ A Capital Colony must have a Symbolic Constructural Element to serve as a connection to a Diplomatic Space; without it, the Diplomatic Space is inaccessible.

2 Constructural Elements – Presence

✔ And since symbols drive sapience – think of political slogans and advertising, active Symbolic Constructural Elements are also a required part of Fuzzy Groups (for Writs) and Zeitrice (for Exposé) formations. See Fuzzy Formations, 4 Culture, p. 405, *infra*.

✔ Most activations of the Diplomatic Power are unavailable while the Capital colony's status is disrupted, as well as the inability to access Diplomatic Spaces. See Stepping Out, 1 Diplomacy, p. 1096, *infra*.

Finally, Symbolic Constructural Elements may be used in other parts of the game as appropriate, for example, a 'flagship' may require an active Symbolic Constructural Element to function in whatever way a flagship might in the game (probably requires a Writ or Doctrinal Template).

✔ [Interview in Russian translated by English subtitles] "As well as strategic, it also held great political significance. For Hitler, Leningrad was above all a symbol of Bolshevism and he considered that it was impossible to achieve victory over the Soviet Union without defeating Leningrad. It held political significance for the whole Soviet population, and as a totalitarian state that depended on ideology and symbols, Leningrad was one of the symbols of power. Therefore, its fall would definitely have had a negative effect on the mood of the whole country." – Dr. Nikita Lomagin, St. Petersburg State University, Under Siege (documentary, 2008), Episode 5.

➢ Body Politic: A Writ is an act of sociopolitical will.

✔ An active Ideological Constructural Element is required for any object to be effected by the activation of a Writ. Because of the number of possible different situations that might occur, the Concierge will judge and rule on specific situational requirements. In the alternative, the Concierge may determine that Writs may affect objects with inactive Ideological Constructural Elements to a lesser extent than they would if an active Ideological Constructural Element were present.

✔ An active Ideological Constructural Element is also required on any Friendly or Naturalized colony planet adjacent to a Fuzzy Group in the Public Space to form the Fuzzy Group.

"This is the kind of power-preserving cynicism that was embedded in the Third Imperium from its beginnings, and which ultimately brought its downfall. It can be argued that the reason it lasted as long as it did was because for centuries its base cynicism was understood by only a relative few. But once word got out, it was open season on **social cohesion***, and there was nothing anyone could do to stop it."*

– Dave Nilsen, "When Empires Fall II," Challenge Magazine, Issue 69, February 1993 (emphasis added)

Artifice: Inactive states of Constructural Elements is a game artifice: Zero or one is not generally reflective of human affairs. Rather, 'inactive' refers to a state in which the worldview (or sociopolitical views) ***and actions*** (this *does not* mean violent revolt, but divergent interests) of a group diverge from those desired by or agreeable to the government or governing powers.

While GGDM frames the concept in the form of governments, it is true of any organization that has any philosophical pretensions or pretensions of legitimacy, e.g.:

✓ "This is not the first time American Methodists have split over the issue of human dignity. The predecessor to today's United Methodist Church split over the issue of slavery in 1844 and did not reunite until 1939. The issue of ordaining and marrying LGBTQ people has been contentious within the denomination for decades. Now the United Methodist Church, the nation's second largest Protestant denomination, has reached another breaking point. Like many, I've believed for the past several years that schism is necessary. ... But if 2020 does indeed result in a schism of the Methodist movement like 1844, it's because a break is needed, if unity cannot be achieved, to ensure human dignity is respected." – Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons, "Opinion: Methodist Church has reached its breaking point," CNN, January 6, 2020.

When enough Constructural Elements are 'inactive' in the current culture or cognitive scheme,[4] they form an increasingly potent alternate worldview (schism).[5] This ground shift explains, for example, the fading of monarchies in modern times, some ended abruptly and/or violently (e.g., Tsar Nicholas II, Keiser Wilhelm II), some lived out their lives in exile (e.g., Umberto II of Italy), some are extinct as a title (e.g., King of Italy, King of Bavaria, Emperor of France, Holy Roman Emperor) and the remainder are now just figureheads (e.g., Albert II of Belgium, Elizabeth II of England, Felipe IV of Spain) with limited political influence. Simply, the world moved on from monarchies, as republicanism and modernity converted the worldview of their subjects. To fight this, the remaining actual monarchies have stagnated their culture and limited influences.

✓ "Ibn Khaldun also argued that ʿasabiyya [social cohesion] is cyclical and directly related to the rise and fall of civilizations: it is most strong at the start of a civilization, declines as the civilization advances, and then another more compelling ʿasabiyyah [social cohesion] eventually takes its place to help establish a different civilization." – from Wikipedia article, "Asabiyyah," captured May 9, 2020. [see Nilson, *ut supra*] [6]

Thus it is a dynamic process of gradual change. To the extent that the current government is able to reactivate Constructural Elements (by process of Cohering, see 5 Culture, p. 421, *infra*) it is the ability to reinforce the authority of the prevailing worldview in the short term.[7] Over time, the passage of generations and the turnover in Government Titles, the view of government does and must shift with the worldview of the governed and those who govern. Thus, Cohering, like the mutual embrace of gravity between the Earth and the Sun, works both ways, Cohering can be seen equally as bringing the government in line with the worldview of its sovereign populations (see discussion of pseudo-physics, 2 Kairotic Moments, p. 1434, *infra*).

✓ For an interesting exercise in change of worldview over time, study a line of portraits of Holy Roman Emperors from the Middle Ages to the last Holy Roman Emperor Francis II, who abdicated in 1806. In between are vast, sometimes startling changes not only in dress and personal appearance, but also in artistic style and the way in which they chose to be depicted. See Wikipedia article, "Holy Roman Emperor." This process can be repeated with any line of monarchs, e.g., a line of portraits of Kings of England, Russia, Germany, Popes, etc.

➢ Deprecation: I have noticed in the last few years that only about 40% of houses put up decorations for the Holidays and of those who do, they are much more subdued and much less than they were in my youth in the 1970s (and Halloween is almost non-existent now). This tracks generally with polling data that says the United States is becoming more secular.

Christmas and Easter have been for dozens of centuries the strongest symbols in the Christianized West. Christmas has become tired, trite, hypocritical, the inspiration for misguided attempts at good will, and has been the subject of satire and lampooning, and flat or mean-spirited comedy (e.g., Deck the Halls (2006), a box office bomb).

In GGDM terms, the current state of Christmas, taken as a Symbolic Constructural Element in our civilization, is not 'inactive' in a strict sense because it does not cause groups to do what civilization or the government doesn't want them to do or fail to 'obey' a Power Activation (the retailers, however, are somewhat less happy about it); the current state of holiday celebration does not cause wildly different behavior than what is expected or approved, and is not generally regarded as harmful. In fact, as the government of each generation comes from the previous generation and is peopled by the people, it tends to eventually follow the trend of its civilization. Rather, in IT terms, Christmas is a 'deprecated' Symbolic Constructural Element; in any event, the current state represents a shifting worldview of our civilization in which *all* holidays are generally lower-keyed than previously, and with them, whatever symbols they previously represented.

✓ "In the world of software development, 'deprecated' refers to functions or elements that are in the process of being replaced by newer ones. The term comes from the word 'deprecate,' which means to disapprove of something. While deprecated items may work in the current version of a programming language, they may not function in future updates. Therefore, software developers are advised to replace deprecated items with other options." – Tech Terms (techterms.com) at *deprecated*.

*"Culture jamming is sometimes confused with artistic appropriation or with acts of vandalism which have destruction or defacement as their primary goal. Although the **end result is not always easily distinguishable** from these activities, the intent of those participating in culture jamming differs from that of people whose intent is either artistic or merely destructive. The lines are not always clear-cut; some activities, notably street art, will fall into two or even all three categories.*

*Recently there have been arguments against the validity and effectiveness of culture jamming. Some argue that culture jamming is easily co-opted and commodified by the market, which tends to 'defuse' its potential for consumer resistance. Others posit that the culture jamming strategy of **rhetorical sabotage**, used by Adbusters, is easily incorporated and appropriated by clever advertising agencies, and thus is not a very powerful means of social change. Yet other critics argue that **without moving beyond mere critique** to offering an alternative economic, social, cultural and/or political vision, jams quickly lose their power and resonance."*
– from Wikipedia article, "Culture Jamming," captured August 21, 2019 (emphasis added) [8]

Power Off: Colonies and ships have a base 5% **plus** 15% chance per inactive Constructural Element of *not obeying each Power Activation* (including Cultural Activations for the purposes of Cohering, see 5 Culture, p. 421, *infra*) that applies to them.

✓ For example, a colony might not respond to Taxation or a ship may not respond to a Combat Power activation.

✓ However, colonies will *always follow a Census Power Activation*[9] and units will always defend themselves (defense in Combat is never a Power Activation anyway).

The 5% chance to fail to obey a Power Activation provides a very small chance that in the best of circumstances, it can still fail. This is very important to remember as it relates to Government

Title legitimacy, etc.; sometimes failure occurs without any immediate explanation. But incohesion is the main culprit in GGDM.

✓ Merriam Webster online dictionary at *incohesion*: incoherence, *especially*: lack of orderly effective interaction between human groups.

Some Power Activations require only one activation failure check of ships or a colony, some require checks of both the ship and colony involved. Power Activations that *fail* any check **will not execute**.

✓ "Oh! Mutiny makes me so angry!" – Marvin the Martian, "The Hasty Hare" (1952).

➢ ...But Nobody is Home: Primarily, this is a discussion of Epistemological, Symbolic and Ideological Constructural Elements. If all three are inactive, the chance of failure is 50%, so there is always a 50% chance that the ship or colony will obey the Power Activation regardless. As mentioned previously, loss of the Temporal Constructural Element means that the object is no longer in the Public Space (and potentially the Galactic Space as well) and cannot be affected by Power Activations; Temporal Constructural Elements cannot become inactive due to Disruption Events, so there is always a 50% chance....

✓ Acts, Scenes and RPs *are not used* for location-specific Power Activations that fail. This blanket rule may or may not be realistic, but for game purposes, it avoids having to distinguish global Power Activations that can fail at each planet, such as Taxation or Cohering... It simply means rainchecks have been issued.

The potential for Cohering attempts to fail due to inactive Constructural Elements at a target is akin to starving or dying of dehydration because injuries have left you unable to eat, drink, or move to procure food and water. Thus, it can become a spiral situation when inactive status of Constructural Elements is widespread through the position.

✓ The active/inactive state of Constructural Elements is not especially realistic; it is an example of how reality must be bent to the simulation, simply that the idea must be expressible as a game mechanic. Emergent, creative storytelling fills the gaps.

✓ These are, again, just game numbers without realistic basis. They can be adjusted to suit the taste of the players; inactive Constructural Elements can be made more or less punishing. However, great caution should be exercised in doing so because the relationship of Power Activations and Constructural Elements *is a critical core of the game*; I would suggest adjustment no more than +/- 5%. Inability to Cohere is black ice on a highway at night; drivers must be very careful.

➢ Decentralized Resistance: Not every Power Activation is capable of failing due to inactive Constructural Elements. Constructural Elements apply to *location-specific activities*, i.e. those that occur at colonies or on ships; they apply to units in GGDM (see game units discussion, View from a Height, 1 Construction, p. 660, *infra*). Power Activations that target specific ships and colonies can fail, but global or positional Power Activations often fly over the checks. A normal position turn will likely include some Power Activations that can fail due to inactive Constructural Elements and some that do not require a check, and of those that can fail, only one or two will occasionally fail. Just enough to keep it interesting, and infuriating. Position's Regular Turns will not be regularly wiped out, rendered pointless, by Power Activation failures, a position will not be rendered a prostrate position solely because of inactive Constructural Elements.

✓ Enlightenment, discussed in 2 Colleges generally, *infra*, can serve as a sort of 'band-aid' for Power Activation failures due to inactive Constructural Elements by forcing rerolls of failed Power Activations. It is a matter of priorities and demands, but generally, constant use of Enlightenment for this purpose is not best practice.

➢ Traitors Will Be Shot: Power Activation checks only occur on Regular Turns, thus units in combat will not fail to obey their Combat Orders each Combat Round due to inactive Constructural Elements (see Relativity, 2 The Streams of Time, p. 85, *supra*; Regular Turns and Combat Round run independently of each other). However, they may be unable to benefit from Enlightenment in Combat due to inactive Epistemological Constructural Elements. This may make some units heroic or elite as compared to others who cannot benefit from Enlightenment in Combat.

✓ Constructural Elements are a 'bridge' between the collectivity of individual worldviews of volitionals and the ability of their governments to act.

➢ Meanwhile...Back at the Ranch: The list and variability of situations requiring or not requiring Power Activation failure checks is too long for here, and will be addressed in each section as necessary. For the record, the status of colony Constructural Elements is slightly more important than ship Constructural Elements – more Power Activations depend on colony Constructural Elements than ship Constructural Elements, however, many check both for failure, and all of the interstellar movement and combat activations depend solely on ships. Colonies are the base of the position, ships are the lifeblood and reach ... like ranch dressing on a salad or sandwich.[10]

✓ In GGDM, Constructural Elements form the underside, the metal girding and concrete, of the rest of civilization. Enlightenment rerolls from Colleges (see Vampire Suicide, 2 Colleges, p. 478, *infra*) may patch over the problem in the short term by rerolling failures.

✓ The most devastating consequence of the failure to obey a Power Activation (excepting Taxation) is the loss of a Power Activation or a Government Title disruption.

"The fundamental cause of the trouble is that in the modern world the stupid are cocksure while the intelligent are full of doubt." – Bertrand Russell

"We men are the monsters now. The time of heroes is dead, Wiglaf – the Christ God has killed it, leaving humankind with nothing but weeping martyrs, fear, and shame." – Beowulf (2007)

In the Mirror, I Meta Me: There is a twilight zone, uncomfortable to some, where epistemology – the study of knowledge, meets meta-consciousness, our meta-awareness – that we are aware of our own awareness, conscious of our own consciousness, thinking about our own thoughts. The Constructural Elements discussion is of meta-consciousness of our worldviews.

Meta-consciousness is nearly congruent with sapience and personhood (and personhood is congruent currently with humanity); is it possible to render judgments, anticipate the future, and all

other things assigned to the definitions of sapience and personhood, without at the same time, being aware of our awareness, conscious of our own thoughts and shared reality? They are so connected, that it is nearly impossible for us to disconnect them. People that we consider stupid are people who cannot seem to see that what they are doing is stupid, foolish, unwise, dangerous, or who don't seem to be aware of why they are doing what they are doing. *See?*

Thus, the underlying assumption in GGDM is that all Major Races have meta-awareness or meta-consciousness (sometimes the two terms are the same, sometimes they are treated differently). It might be fun at some point, if the participants are familiar with bicameralism in psychology or Jaynesian psychology, to experiment with concepts such as intelligent life forms that have not achieved "bicameralism" (noting and conceding that this concept is specific to the human brain evolutionary development).

- ✓ GGDM, by frequent reference to the judgment and Interventions of the Concierge, has a built-in awareness of its own limitations as a simulation. GGDM is self-aware of what concessions must be made to game play and this awareness is shared through notes in the text. The in-game judgment of the Concierge and emergent game play are the salve to the meta-consciousness of GGDM's limitations...

- ✓ ...It is a designer's *white-flag signal* whenever GGDM rules appeal to the Concierge judgment or Intervention, or the story arc – that the issue is beyond game mechanical solution or that the possible factors are too numerous and varied to be reducible.

What happens when artificial intelligence becomes aware of its own awareness? Can the Deep Learning software being used now become aware of its own awareness? Is it possible that the Existential Void is merely a function of our meta-awareness, and perhaps, why other creatures, even our cherished house pets, do not seem to see it? If a creature lacks meta-awareness, can they be aware that they will eventually die? Notwithstanding that they may witness other creatures dying, their own kind, or if they are predatory, their prey, can they know or impart upon themselves, that they will die eventually?

- ✓ The paucity of meaningful results for the phrase 'existential void' in the Google searches I conducted is perhaps indicative. We don't want to talk about it and most people have no idea what it means, think it is some abstract concept of philosophy. It's like knowing how to add, but nobody wants to talk about multiplication or subtraction. It's easier to find results for 'nuclear winter.' Perhaps this will change when GGDM becomes a part of the internet, but probably not.

➢ <u>Becoming Human</u>: An interesting question is at what age or stage of development does a human become meta-conscious? Can you remember becoming meta-conscious? Or alternatively, are we sapient when born? When does extended self-awareness or autobiographical memory begin? It's an interesting subject for thought. But certainly no one thinks that humans are born meta-conscious, or with extended self-awareness or autobiographical memory. We are only born with the potential, and all of the various descriptions of stages of cognitive growth (e.g., Piaget) and childhood are mainly descriptions of stages of gaining meta-consciousness, self-awareness, autobiographical memory – sapience.

- ✓ See also object permanence, Ontological Schisms, 2 Expansion, p. 892, *infra*.

The 'other' role of public education – other than to create a population with a uniform set of basic skills, extend adolescence/delay entry into the workforce, and provide access to the

print revolution – seems to be to extend consciousness-awareness beyond what would be natural to the majority of humanity. The 'other role' of education was snatched partially in recent centuries from religion (just as family and probate law were secularly incorporated) and because it is still bound up with it, the 'other role' seems to receive secondary treatment in primary schooling.

In andragogy, part of the theory is that adults respond more to internal motivation and less to external motivation. That this is specifically stated in andragogy theory suggests that it is not considered equally true in pedagogy. The theory of andragogy specifically implies (assumes) that meta-consciousness and extended self-awareness are adult human traits – adults who do not have them must be instructed by more pedagogical methods (including incarceration):

- ✓ "[Malcom] Knowles himself changed his position on whether andragogy really applied only to adults and came to believe that 'pedagogy-andragogy represents a continuum ranging from teacher-directed to student-directed learning and that both approaches are appropriate with children and adults, depending on the situation.' Hanson (1996) argues that the difference in learning is not related to the age and stage of one's life, but instead related to individual characteristics and the differences in 'context, culture and power' within different educational settings." – from Wikipedia article, "Andragogy," May 3, 2019.

A large part of daily judgment of maturity in people we meet – potential mates, potential employees, clients – and those to whom we are unfortunately related as family, rests upon assessment of their meta-consciousness, self-awareness in relation to ours, and the traits derived from them, such as responsibility, moral compass, intelligence and foresight, character, etc. When someone does something incorrectly, immoral or criminal, we want to know if they understand why they did it and we sometimes erroneously apply this to our pets.

- ✓ Alia Atreides in Dune (1965) was meta-conscious, self-aware, awake in the womb. Even Frank Herbert didn't think this was a good idea (the Bene Gesserit called her an abomination), as Alia's life led to a tragic end in Children of Dune (1976).[11]
- ✓ An intellectual might be defined as one who takes their own meta-consciousness seriously; most others think it an amusing aside (e.g., 'Oh ha ha, that's pretty good!').

➢ History of History: The meta-consciousness of our civilization is an evolving thing, perhaps accelerated by the wars of the 20th Century and the information age, to wit:

- ✓ "In the early modern period, the term historiography meant 'the writing of history,' and historiographer meant 'historian.' In that sense certain official historians were given the title 'Historiographer Royal' in Sweden (from 1618), England (from 1660), and Scotland (from 1681). The Scottish post is still in existence. Historiography was more recently defined as 'the study of the way history has been and is written – the history of historical writing,' which means that, 'When you study 'historiography' you do not study the events of the past directly, but the changing interpretations of those events in the works of individual historians.'" – from Wikipedia article, "Historiography," captured February 14, 2019, citing to "The Methods and Skills of History: A Practical Guide, 1988, p. 223, ISBN 0-88295-982-4" no author identified.
  - ▪ A Google search for the ISBN located the book on Direct Textbook, in the 2nd Edition, listing Michael J. Salevouris; Conal Furay as the authors.

Merriam-Webster online dictionary at *historiography* includes all three of the previous meanings, but seems to have appended the modern developed meaning as an afterthought. The term is listed as first appearing in 1569.

The meaning of historiography that I learned in college is the modern meaning; the changed meaning of historiography in the last century or so is part of a developing cultural meta-consciousness about history, historiography is 'meta-history' because we finally *grokked* – probably around World War II, that it is important how history is taught and that the teaching of history can be manipulated for current ideological and political benefit.[12]

"I am the same person I was before you found out I have a mental disorder."

(unsourced, anonymous meme)

Insanity: My peculiar insanity, if you consider it such while reading GGDM, is one of meta-consciousness; it's (almost) the same insanity as that of literary types. In fact, isn't the entire science of the third order of natural phenomenon, "the mental organic"[13] (i.e. psychology, psychiatry) and all of the attendant theories, about the affliction of meta-consciousness? This is one of the main reasons why psychiatric drugs have been ineffective in solving human mental problems.

What David Rosenhan started, Richard Castillo (<u>Culture and Mental Illness</u> (1997)) finished.

✓ "Psychiatry gets no respect, least of all, it would seem, from psychiatrists. Ever since its inception, psychiatry has been the subject of takedowns from within, critiques that have attacked its foundational beliefs. Freud's disciple Ferenczi in the 1920s and '30s, Erich Fromm in the 1950s, Thomas Szasz and R.D. Laing in the '60s and Jeffery Masson in the '80s all characterized established psychiatry as everything from ineffectual and corrupt to destructive and sadistic." – John Broening, "Book Review: 'Admirable Evasions: How Psychology Undermines Morality,' by Theodore Dalrymple," The Denver Post, June 4, 2015.

There will be people who will argue with my statements about psychiatric drugs, and perhaps I am not qualified to make such statements. ***But what drug cures meta-consciousness? What drug cures sapience?*[14]**

✓ Implicit in this question is the suggestion that recreational drug use is in fact and reality, a seeking of a drug to cure meta-consciousness and sapience. The purpose of recreational drug use is to not be here, to not be in yourself; the elsewhere, out of body, out of mind experience, the drug-induced apparent nothingness, was mistaken in the Eastern-influenced 1960s counterculture *for enlightenment*. Drug addicts often get exactly what they are seeking without knowing that is what they seek.

The best claim that psychiatric drugs can make is suppression of symptoms; doctors will talk about balance of chemicals in the brain, etc. Suppression is not, by definition, a cure in medicine any more than it is a solution in countries were dissent is suppressed by the government; the outward symptoms are suppressed but the underlying problems remain. I observed this in person at Point Park College; a youth came to the college who had a history of behavioral issues (he also walked around in leather, with spikes and jack boots, and looked hulking and intimidating) that were being controlled by medications. Predictably, he trailed off taking his medications after he

was away from home (and was not befriended by most of the students, adding to alienation) and shortly he began spontaneously doing juvenile and dangerous things (which I witnessed one day) just because he wanted to or was bored or maybe was trying to impress? He was sent away shortly, returned the next semester when he was back under control medications, but again, didn't fit in and didn't stay long.

✓ The problem that most people have is that wherever they go, they take themselves with them. Do you ever get tired of yourself? Of being in your own head?

There is in a sense, a locked three-way cage match – because we are all locked in the same humanity together on planet Earth – going on between Western religion, psychology and psychiatry (the latter representing ultimately strict objective medical empiricism) views for control of the interpretation of the "mental organic" (the third order of natural phenomenon, Clarence Marsh Case, 1924) reality of humanity. Like sociology which I maintain is closer to philosophy than it wants to admit, psychology is the natural progeny of formerly religious views of mental humanity combined with empirical approaches. See for example, the following quote from Dr. William Backus on the subject of sloth, which contains elements of both clinical psychology and religion:

✓ "Depression involves aversion to effort, and the moral danger of sloth lies in this characteristic. The work involved in exercising one's will to make moral and spiritual decisions seems particularly undesirable and demanding. Thus the slothful person drifts along in habits of sin, convinced that he has no willpower and aided in this claim by those who persist in seeking only biological and environmental causes and medical remedies for sloth." – Dr. William Backus, <u>What Your Counselor Never Told You</u> (2000), pp. 147-148, as cited in Wikipedia article, "Sloth."

Adding not the least confusion to this is the influence of Eastern Religions in the mid-20th Century who regard detachment (which the West considers ill apathy and sloth) as an enlightened and ideal state of mind.

✓ "Detachment, also expressed as non-attachment, is a state in which a person overcomes his or her attachment to desire for things, people or concepts of the world and thus attains a heightened perspective. It is considered a wise virtue and is promoted in various Eastern religions, such as Jainism, Taoism and Buddhism." – from Wikipedia article, "Detachment (philosophy)."

▪ There may be people who argue that Eastern 'detachment' should not be equated with 'aversion to effort' or lack of willpower; if so, if there is a difference, that fine distinction *has not come through in the West*.

▪ Though possibly not appropriate, I cannot help but to think of the grunge generation of the 90s, in the immediate post-Cold War. Whatever dude!

Doubtless, this view played into Max Weber's attempts to apply his analysis of the Protestant historical coincidence to non-Western cultures, discussed in 5 Diplomacy, p. 1154, *infra*.

➢ <u>Animal Farm</u>: Do other animals suffer insanity – other than that brought on by age and disease – e.g., dementia and rabies – we kill animals with rabies for the same reason that we commit people to mental hospitals – because they are a danger to themselves and others (mostly others). Whether other animals suffer 'insanity,' isn't that an interesting question indeed? We cannot know, at least in our current state, and our definitions and models wouldn't fit anyway, how many of the theories of human cognition do you think apply to animals?

Freud wasn't talking about animals, he was talking about the animal in us; 'animal psychology' at this point is merely behaviorism. How many theories of human cognition begin with human meta-consciousness, rather than assuming it without comment?[15] Insanity and mental illness as we know it apply only to sapience and complex society with others; and psychology and psychiatry, rather late modern developments in our civilization, are the science of meta-consciousness, space that was formerly occupied by rhetoric, religion and storytelling.

> *"He who controls the past controls the future. He who controls the present controls the past."* – George Orwell, <u>1984</u> (1949) [16]

<u>Foresight, Multiplicity & Complexity</u>: The chance of anything like the world of 1984 happening – directly speaking – is greatly diminished in Western culture due to the skill and force with which a young writer presented this hypothetical future, extracted from the milieu of the mid-20th Century. Further, technological advances in media and – yes – the internet, have greatly complicated the control of information by governments – the antidote to control of information is multiplicity, complexity with decentralization. The internet has quickly grown beyond the control of anyone and beyond the comprehension of most, some believe that it may be emergent (e.g., Guy Tal, "Emergent Properties of the Net" (2006)[17]).

> *"There are many different terms that Derrida employs to describe what he considers to be the fundamental way(s) of thinking of the Western philosophical tradition. These include: logocentrism, phallogocentrism, and perhaps most famously, the metaphysics of presence, but also often simply 'metaphysics.' These terms all have slightly different meanings. Logocentrism emphasises the privileged role that logos, or speech, has been accorded in the Western tradition. Phallogocentrism points towards the patriarchal significance of this privileging.*
>
> *Derrida's enduring references to the metaphysics of presence borrows heavily from the work of Heidegger. Heidegger insists that Western philosophy has consistently privileged that which is, or that which appears, and has forgotten to pay any attention to the condition for that appearance. In other words, presence itself is privileged, rather than that which allows presence to be possible at all – and also impossible, for Derrida. All of these terms of denigration, however, are united under the broad rubric of the term 'metaphysics.' ...*
>
> *According to Derrida then, metaphysics involves installing hierarchies and orders of subordination in the various dualisms that it encounters (M 195). Moreover, metaphysical thought prioritises presence and purity at the expense of the contingent and the complicated, which are considered to be merely aberrations that are not important for philosophical analysis. Basically then, metaphysical thought always privileges one side of an opposition, and ignores or marginalises the alternative term of that opposition."*
>
> – Jack Reynolds (La Trobe U.), "Jacques Derrida (1930 – 2004)," The Internet Encyclopedia

Endnotes.

[1] <u>Commentary</u>: Or perhaps Constructural Elements are analogous to quarks, except that three active Constructural Elements make a ***Bryon*** (as in Lord Bryon, father of Ada Lovelace, since he lost his own Temporal Constructural Element long ago) instead of a *baryon* (the combination of three quarks).

[2] <u>Commentary</u>: I don't know the origin of the title for this animation, I don't think it references the RARG gene.

[3] <u>Commentary</u>: This can be reduced to 5% or 8% if 10% is found excessive over a ***very large sample size***.

2 Constructural Elements – Presence

✓ Power activations that are not location-specific, such as Technology, do not cause this effect. This seems plausible from the simulation view; few object to technology – any problems caused by technology manifest themselves locally in unforeseen ways. This <u>creates an operational principle</u> for the simulation at least.

[4] Commentary & Citation: Sometimes when I read summaries of what people in earlier centuries, and especially the 19th Century, considered pressing and of the utmost importance to their civilization, they seem petty in hindsight, *considering what has happened since*, to wit:

✓ "[Eduard von] Hartmann considers a reopening of the huge field of phenomena, that were rejected in the Age of Enlightenment, as a great merit of the modern spiritistic movement. However, in his opinion, Spiritism threatens to become a public disaster in Germany, therefore the state should use its authority in order to interest scientists in a study of the spiritistic phenomena. He writes that the public has the complete right to know about these things, and since it is not able to formulate its own opinion, it only remains to wait for the conclusions drawn by the official representatives of science." – from Wikipedia article, "Spiritism," captured June 21, 2019.

   ▪ It's truly difficult to imagine that Spiritism in and of itself ever threatened to become a public disaster (however, 'occult thinking' played some part in Germany's later national disaster) and it's even more difficult to imagine the state using its power to compel or force scientists to study it! And worse, that the public will sit around on their hands waiting for the state scientist to provide them with an opinion on Spiritism matters. These three practically point out to several shifts in worldview since von Hartmann's book was published in 1885.

[5] Commentary & Citation: Not all alternate worldviews are potent, it takes more than daily briefings (or in one famous case, tweets) from a national politician to create potent alternate view:

✓ "Slotted in between Chairman Adam Schiff's daily paeans to conscience and Constitution and the witness' earnest introductions – Nunes fundamentally sought to change the channel on impeachment. The millions of viewers getting a steady drip of Trump's questionable activities on Ukraine were abruptly brought in, for five to ten minutes each day, into an entirely different political universe.

In that universe, Trump is totally innocent of all of the Ukraine allegations, and what's more, those allegations are just one more step in a coordinated and years-long conspiracy by an evil coterie of actors – Democratic Party operatives, the 'fake news' media, faceless and nefarious deep state bureaucrats, and even Ukrainians themselves – who will stop at nothing to destroy the president.

It was the same story, and the same handful of chapters, that Nunes told across every day of the public impeachment inquiry. Ultimately, they blended together, *becoming something like a prolonged shout into the void*.

Indeed, Nunes' remarks hardly ever left a lasting impact on the hearings themselves or the coverage of them. The viral moments went to the Republicans who focused laser-like on the Democrats' case. Nunes himself left the room each day with little beyond some attaboys from Trumpworld, a healthy dose of Fox News coverage, and plenty of snarky tweets from his dedicated online detractors." – Sam Brodey, "The Chronicles of Nunes: How His Impeachment Speeches Created an Alternate Reality for GOP," The Daily Beast, November 26, 2019 (emphasis added).

[6] Commentary: Ibn Khaldun's 14th Century cyclic theory of social cohesion might be a justification for the rise of Islam, but it can be equally seen as a warning to Islam. Tunisia where he lived had been part of the Roman Empire.

[7] Citation & Commentary: "Since 1875 the eventual triumph of the metric system in science and international commerce has been assured, despite continuing popular opposition in Britain and the United States. In fact, the metric system has met popular opposition in every country at the time of its adoption. **People don't want to change their customary units, which are part of how they see and control the world.** It is naturally disturbing to do so. This opposition has been largely overcome everywhere, except in the U.S., by economic necessity: the need to participate fully in the global economic system. Even in the U.S., economic needs assure the continued creeping adoption of the system in one area and then another. Those Americans opposing adoption of metric units often argue that the metric system is abstract and intellectual or that its use would embroil us in calculations. This is not true.

The metric system has been the customary measurement system in France for almost two centuries, in the rest of continental Europe for at least one century, and in the rest of the world for a least a generation or two. Most people in the world know exactly how long a kilometer is, how large a liter is, how much a kilogram weighs, and how

warm 25 °C is, because they use these units every day of their lives in the same way Americans use miles, gallons, and pounds. Outside Britain and the United States there is almost no need to convert metric units into something else. In fact, the way to avoid conversion formulas is to use the metric system. As long as Britons and Americans continue to use traditional units, they will have to remember how these units relate to the metric units." – Russ Rowlett, "The Metric System," http://www.ibiblio.org/units/metric.html, April 27, 2018 (emphasis in original).

- ✓ Mr. Rowlett hits the point perfectly, worldview is about imposition and control of reality, order out of chaos, and thus something as simple as a system of weights and measures is a part of worldview. I know how many miles I can walk in an hour from the experience of having walked uncountable miles (my Fitbit which I have worn continuously since April 2012, says I have walked 16,123 miles and 136,539 floors as of January 17, 2019, and I haven't walked very much in the last year), but I don't know, without calculations, how many kilometers I can walk in an hour. It's not part of my day, not part of my measurements – notice that metric is not used universally throughout GGDM, conversions are not provided – even though I remember the big government push in the 1970s to teach metrics in primary school. Politicians hardly dare to mention the issue now, as the U.S. has become increasingly nationalist and international resistant.

- ✓ The English system of weights and measures has become a *symbol* of the Anglosphere and popular resistance to the metric system (born of the French Revolution), a resistance to both internationalization and in particular, an internationalized weights and measures system invented by the French and adopted first and quickly by Continental Europe, which, for much of history, have been the natural enemies of Britain.

[8] Citation & Commentary: "The Gibson guitar people claim the origin of the word 'jamming' is in reference to music played at the Black Musicians Union Hall in Kansas City in the early 1900s. The late night playing between the musicians got so popular that they crowded up or jammed up the stage – hence the name." – Nancy Buchran, "We Be Jammin'!" Quepolandia (Costa Rica), December 12, 2013.

- ✓ The picture at the top right of the article is the classic one of Bob Marley ... because, of course! Because wasn't jamming an early form of 'culture jamming' within the spectrum of minority social divergence?

[9] Commentary & Citation: The 'gift of life' is a set of shackles. People abuse drugs, alcohol, food, substances, animals, children, themselves and each other because the universe doesn't give us the option of having never existed. You can live, die, commit suicide, hide in the night, but you cannot have never existed, when you are dead, that means you existed. There is no eraser, once you are conceived, you are a prisoner of this universe and cannot help but to get older. This is the essence of the human existential problem, we have always been able to see it in different ways: Literature, poetry, religion. In fact, it might be the defining mark of sapience, the 'existential consciousness' – the ability to see and experience the existential void through the limits of our sapience.

- ✓ "Though chains be of gold, they are chains all the same." – Bruce Cockburn.

- ✓ This is disturbing to read? Maybe you heard it before at the Bates Hotel:

  - ▪ **Norman Bates:** I think that we're all in our private traps, clamped in them, and none of us can ever get out. We scratch and we claw, but only at the air, only at each other, and for all of it, we never budge an inch. – Psycho (1960).

- ✓ You say that you are enjoying your life? Enjoying a life prison sentence? Live long and prosper.

[10] Citation: "'Meanwhile, back at the ranch...' is a catch phrase that appears in a variety of contexts. For example, it may be employed by narrators of American cowboy movies and TV shows to indicate a segue from one scene to another but there is often more to this than meets the eye. The expression originated as a stock subtitle in the silent movies and at first the reference to the ranch was literal. Later, as the phrase became a cliché, it was used more and more loosely and with a growing sense of mockery or levity, often with a vague focus. In this manifestation the phrase came into common use in unrelated contexts." – from Wikipedia article, "Meanwhile, back at the ranch," January 22, 2019.

[11] Commentary: Alia Atreides became regent of the empire at age 12 due to her accelerated growth, Children of Dune was published about 11 years after Dune, perhaps Herbert oddly signaling Alia's pending death the moment she became regent?

[12] Commentary: If you were to go back to the 1920s or 30s, you'd have to be careful not to refer to The Great War as "World War I" or use "WWI" in writing – you wouldn't conversationally call someone of The Lost Generation a WWI vet. The importance of the historiographic shift in 1945 to the looming Cold War Era cannot be overstated.

[13] Citation: Clarence Marsh Case, Outlines of Introductory Sociology (1924); see discussions 2 Culture and 1 Order generally, *infra*.

[14] Citation & Commentary: "People look for retreats for themselves, in the country, by the coast, or in the hills . . . There is nowhere that a person can find a more peaceful and trouble-free retreat than in his own mind .... So constantly give yourself this retreat, and renew yourself." – Marcus Aurelius.

✓ Emperor Aurelius was a Stoic Philosopher, so it is not intended as irony, though it strikes us so.

[15] Commentary: For example, I read a brief pop article about the Five Factor Model of Personality. I know it is an outward personality modeling theory and not a cognitive model – so that perhaps puts it into a different category, but they are certainly conjoined. The first part that my eyes focused on was the 'conscientiousness' trait, but it turns out that what is meant by the term here has nothing to do with meta-consciousness and little with self-awareness:

✓ "People who are conscientious are more aware of their actions and the consequences of their behavior than people who are unconscientious. They feel a sense of responsibility towards other and are generally careful to carry out the duties assigned to them. Conscientious individuals like to keep a tidy environment and are well-organized. They are keen to maintain good timekeeping." – "Five Factor Model of Personality," Psychologist World (article uncredited and undated). There is also an article on Wikipedia.

Reading the brief history from Gordon Allport and Henry Odbert in 1936 to Raymond Cattell to Robert McCrae and Paul Costa and Lewis Goldberg, I can't help but to think the Titanic theory sinks on gross oversimplification. I have heard of employers who require applicants to submit to personality assessments and I think it is highly suspect, of questionable value, and very probably prejudicial or discriminatory in a legal sense. Any personality assessment of a human probably requires a thousand questions at least, hundreds of 'traits' – there is a reason why Allport and Oddman were able to extract 4,500 words describing behavior and personality traits from the dictionary in 1936 – and in that even, it would be suspect in lack of what is called 'objectivity.' There is always a question in any psychological test or profile of the honesty and awareness of the individual being profiled. This, along with tedious, repetitive questionnaires, is the complaint about dating sites that use the Five Factor Model to profile users.

✓ All of this is quite aside from the fact that I think I would do 'terrible' on a Five Factor test and jobs that require applicants to submit to such are now rare as most people will not even apply. Psychologist will object, of course, that it's not like a pass/fail school test and thus there is no 'good' or 'terrible' result – but they cannot get past the fact – rather inherent in the lexical approach – that the model is clearly geared toward outward, social personality traits or appearances, and that the spectrums and scales are based on and slanted toward what is considered socially desirable, successful, positive-negative, or at least, acceptable combinations of social personality traits.

[16] Citation: "**How did it feel inside?** I arrived there, and I immediately felt like a character in the book '1984' by George Orwell – a place where you have to write that white is black and black is white. Your first feeling, when you ended up there, was that you were in some kind of factory that turned lying, telling untruths, into an industrial assembly line. The volumes were colossal – there were huge numbers of people, 300 to 400, and they were all writing absolute untruths. It was like being in Orwell's world. **What sorts of untruths did you write?** My untruths amounted to posting comments. I worked in the commenting department – I had to comment on the news. No one asked me my opinion. My opinions were already written for me, and I had to write in my own words that which I was ordered to write. **For example?** When I was there, there were sanctions [by the European Union and the United States in response to Russia's intervention in Ukraine] and the ruble started falling. I was writing everything that was the opposite: how wonderful our life was, how wonderful it is that the ruble was strengthening, and that kind of absurdity. That sanctions were going to make us stronger and so on and so forth." – Anton Troianovski, "A former Russian troll speaks: 'It was like being in Orwell's world,'" February 17, 2018.

[17] Citation: I found this paper in February 2006 and shared it with a blockchain guy, who appreciated the idea. I do not know where I found it, but in February 2019, I Google searched it again and learned that it was a Spring 2006 term paper at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for the Physics 569 Emergent States of Matter course. However, it also appears on https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/8dbe/4425265f376745f67095a446a644483aafa5.pdf. Semantics Scholar is a peer-reviewed research site where Guy Tal is credited as part of group authorship in over a dozen other papers on the site.

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