

Special points of interest:

- * A game is defined as a recurring set of transactions, concealed motivation, a gimmick, and a payoff.
- * Games are both necessary and desirable, and the only problem at issue is whether the games played by an individual offer the best yield for him.

Inside this issue:

"Stupid"	1
"I'm Only Trying To Help"	2
"NIGYYSOB"	3
"WAHM"	3



Games of Stupid, NIGYYSOB, WAHM, I'm Only Trying To Help You

The following is from an unpublished paper on "Games" written in 1986 by Franklin H. Ernst Jr., MD.

Encounter with the accountant: Phase I - Game of "Stupid"

"Yesterday I saw my accountant about finalizing my California Income Tax Return. He had signed the return. The reason, he said according to what he had learned after "looking it up" in the 1978 tax law is that he needed to sign it.

I commented that my previous accountant had not felt required to sign my previous tax returns. My current accountant responded: "That must have been before 1978." I denied that, and I couldn't recall the name of the firm, but it was one of the "Big 8." I got him to naming them. He named all of them except Price Waterhouse, where I had been going until I switched to him.

This was my accountant's first play of "stupid" and so I stayed with being confused, stupid myself, also.

My next procedure was to move the conversation over onto local politics. He "did not go to City Hall, either, last night." Then I recalled City Hall was not last night, but the night before to which he also promptly corrected himself. (This was so highly reminis-

cent of an acquaintance playing with me some 5 years ago: reference "not seeing him for so long, oh dear my mistake just three days ago we saw each other," when in fact we had not. I played along with him, too, agreeing in return transactions to each step of my play.) Next, my accountant moved the conversation over to the topic of Mike Gage, and redistricting. I let this go. He brought up the topic McQuaide, Sebastiani [both former political candidates]. I brought up the Asera vs. Sebastiani Assembly race and let him continue. Then he brought up Vic Fazio as our previous representative. Eventually when he ran out of his "things to say" on that I gently corrected him that Hannigan is our current representative in the Assembly. He started to argue, but in just enough intensity so as to encourage me to be challenged and correct him, which I did.

During this set of transactions he

was tighter faced, a tinge red-eyed. I thought to myself that these actions on his part were truly unbelievable. Here was a guy who on so many previous occasions had been so very up to date on just the very widest assortment of political events, without fail, never in error on anything. I did collect a \$99 check from him before leaving, a donation for my son's (Harry) campaign for Congress. The other area he covered was he could not donate more until talking with Harry. He said he wanted to know more about his positions on social issues.

"What?" I asked. "Military spending, the deficit, that military spending had to be cut back; that when the military gets strong the people get comfortable and begin to take things for granted." I asked him for his estimate of the percentage of budget going to the military. He said: "40%." I corrected him again: "Less than 30%."

Game Move	Game of "Stupid"
Hook	Full Bright
Angle	Half Bright
Con	Quarter Bright
Gimmick	Blank Out
Payoff	GRO GAF GNW GOW Each of the four varieties have been witnessed.

Game Move	Game of "I'm Only Trying To Help You"
Hook	Inquire
Angle	Correct, offer a correction to the other party.
Con	Reassure
Gimmick	(Gently?) Take to task "I'm Only Trying To Help You"
Payoff	GRO → Usually Get-Away-From GAF → or Get-Rid-Of. GNW Each of the four varieties GOW have been witnessed.

Again tightening of face and red-eyed, he must not have liked this assignment he had been given, i.e. taking an intellectual dive. He has been so used to the other positions assigned to him, namely on the basis of his "looking it up" then getting credit for being the MORE ACCURATE one in any debate.

Encounter with the accountant Phase 2 - Game of "I'm Only Trying To Help You"

The moves of "I'm Only Trying To Help You" are: (1) Inquire, (2) Correct, (3) Reassure, AND (4) (Gently) Take to Task, (5) Payoff.

"I'm-Only-Trying-To-Help-You (Get Your Facts Straight)" recycling them appropriately with him as long as he kept responding and I had time. In the background I had a deadline of departure in order to keep a scheduled meeting with Harry. The accountant may have been vaguely aware of this. In any case, his was the assignment to do what he could (at the social level) to delay my leaving, ie 10 minutes late. He was late: starting with me, and no (visible) preceding clients in the office. This also stood out, and the extra non-usual slowness in procedures he played with me.

HIS MOVES were those of "Stupid" (with a tinge of "Ain't-It-Awful" reference to the deficit) (1) Full Bright, (2) Half Bright, (3) Quarter Bright, ENDING with a (4), Blank Out (which he resented being required to go through with).

Although it might be thought that my putting him on the spot for a campaign donation might have wound him, I had mentioned to him during a previous meeting I would be asking for a donation at a later date. Yesterday's appointment was the first time he had ever taken a dive on me. Then too, there was no social requirement to have refused to come up with the name of PriceWaterHouse and be red eyed about that, too; Nor to have played confused about City Hall attendance night, a man who so routinely is so very precise and takes such pride in the real accuracy of those things he talks about.

Encounter: GAMES of NIGYSOB, WAHM

GAME with the Chairman of the Marin County Republican Central Committee during the Filante fundraiser at Gness Airport, Marin County late spring evening, 1986. This is where the Chairman had just called the meeting to order, and had just introduced Dr. Filante, and whom he

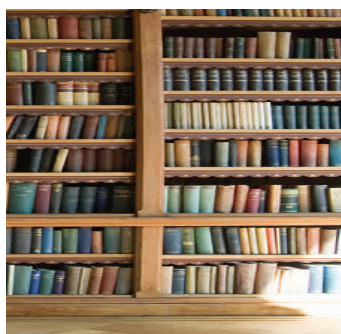
knew was going to introduce Governor George Deukmejian very shortly.

Me: NIGYYSOB, reference his "gleeful opening announcement" at their March meeting when Harry was invited to speak. I said how "very challenging" his presentation of himself is to me, and his "I don't mean to be." I got him to tell me he had no intention of raising any money for Harry's Congressional race, that Harry was not a viable candidate, the cause was useless, etc.

After his coming on so very heavy back to me, I then got him to partially reverse himself: "Indeed it was better that some one did enter the race as contrasted to give the district to Boxer totally uncontested." It was after this that I eased off and let him extricate himself from talking to me.

NIGYYSOB Game Moves of Hook, Angle, Con, Gimmick then to PAYOFF are:

- (1) I notice (have a comment, question).
- (2) I am offended (see it differently).
- (3) I take offense to (at) that AND THEN
- (4) Now-I-Got-You-You-Sob.
- (5) In this instance I got a Get-Rid-Of PAYOFF as he wanted to and did Get-Away-From me. I did not particularly feel any sense of triumph nor need to press the point to him further.



Game Move	Game of “NIGYYSOB - Now I Got You, You S.O.B.”
Hook	I notice (have a comment, question).
Angle	I am offended (I see it differently).
Con	I take offense to (at) his point of view.
Gimmick	“Now-I-Got-You-You-SOB”
Payoff	GRO GAF Each of the four varieties GNW have been witnessed. GOW

GAME AS A PROCEDURE:

In this instance it was essentially a procedure to go through. There will be consequences coming back from him, but those will probably be confrontational instead of indirect since this so far has been the way he handles affairs.

- (2) Briefly turning to acknowledge the other's noticing, presence.
- (3) Appearance of again ignoring and returning to "My own business." -
- (4) Getting called to account in such a way as to have a change in the way of personally perceiving the event that is "Why-Does-This-Always- Happen-To -Me ? (I hope it doesn't show what a charge/embarrassment I'm getting out of this - I hope, I hope, I hope!)."

Her statement is that she "never attends political activities with him". I did, however, establish with her that we had met previously at the Marin County Republican Lincoln Day Dinner on February 11, 1986 which she did attend, now this one for Bill Filante, MD. She was not drinking on 4-10-86, maybe holding one in her hand, BUT not sipping on it. I've seen him play WHAM, to a GRO Payoff, eg on the occasion of the "\$500 donation by a Republican to Boxer campaign" at that first meeting I attended with Harry.

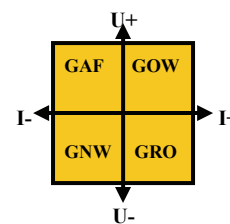
WAHM Game Moves dissected from a living event:

WHAM (Why-Does-This-Always-Happen-To-Me) was the game the Chairman "fell into." Hook, Angle, Con, Gimmick of WHAM at the social-behavioral level are:

(1) Gather in notice of self, meanwhile pretending not to notice it.

The probability is that the Chairman gets into one of the duo of these games many times each day. In 1986 I went out of my way to introduce myself to his wife, Jennie. The circum orbital lines of harshness radiating out from around her mouth would indicate the 1,000's of times he's played this with her and her proclivity for the complimentary GAME with him.

Harry reports the Chairman playing it a the next month's meeting. He chased off a prominent woman with comments suggestive of her husband's infidelity; to which she has been sensitized. Then too, Harry carried out a NYGYYSOB himself



Game Move	Game of “WAHM— Why Is This Always Happening To Me?”
Hook	Gather in notice of self, meanwhile pretending not to notice.
Angle	Briefly turning to acknowledge the others noticing, presence.
Con	Appearance of again ignoring and returning to “My own business.”
Gimmick	Getting called to account in such a way as to have a change in the way of personally perceiving the event that is “Why-Does-This- Always-Happen-To-Me ? (I hope it doesn't show what charge / embarrassment I'm getting out of this - I hope, I hope, I hope!).”
Payoff	GRO GAF Each of the four varieties GNW have been witnessed. GOW



Addresso'Set Publications

"Game Codes—Newsletter of Games People Play"

Franklin "Harry" Ernst III, Editor

P.O. Box 3009

Vallejo, California 94590

Phone: 707/643-5100

Fax: 707/644-6358

E-mail: harryernst@a03news.cnc.net

We're on the Web.
www.ListeningActivity.com
www.ErnstOKCorral.com

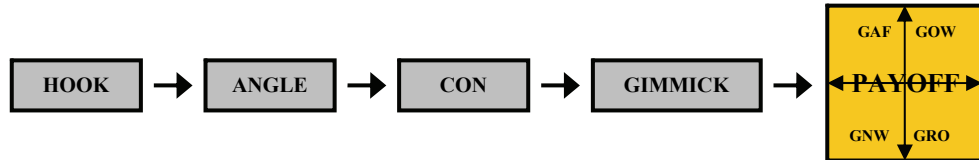
"Mastery of the universe is proportional to the symbols man has by which to represent his universe."

Game Codes -
 Newsletter of Games People Play

Copyright © 2012
 Franklin "Harry" Ernst III, Editor
 Addresso'Set Publications
 Copying for non-commercial purposes authorized.

Permission is hereby granted to any person, magazine, newspaper, other periodical, or media to reprint this newsletter in any single issue of the periodical in question, so long as two conditions are met: (1) the newsletter is printed word for word, including diagrams, figures, and footnotes, and (2) the following reference is given at the bottom of the first page on which the reprinted newsletter begins: "Game Codes - Newsletter of Games People Play" is published by Addresso'Set Publications, Franklin "Harry" Ernst III, Editor, P.O. Box 3009, Vallejo, California, 94590, USA.
www.ListeningActivity.com

A game is defined as a recurring set of transactions with ulterior transactions, concealed motivation, a gimmick, and a payoff. Eric Berne, M.D. used a particular variation of the duplex transactional diagram to represent the ulterior aspects of a game. Berne added the concept of switch in 1966 and introduced "The Game Formula." Con + Gimmick = Response > Switch > Payoff. The "Ernst Game Diagram" as described by Franklin H. Ernst Jr., M.D. in his paper "The Game Diagram" shows the phenomena of the variableness of a game and number of variations without contradicting "Berne's Game Formula." The Game Diagram" has five moves: Move #1-Hook, Move #2-Angle, Move #3-Con, Move #4-Gimmick, Move #5-Payoff. Diagrammatically it looks like this:



against the chairman and his associate at that same April meeting, pretending not to notice, had offered the minutes of the preceding meeting for passage and Harry objected with vigor to how they misrepresented him, how these inserted secretarial insinuations about Harry into the record of THE COMMITTEE.

**Encounters:
 Social Events and Games**

The Games People Play Revisited - - Their MOVES and PAYOFFS

"DO-ME-SOMETHING" (DMSD)

Harold Jarrett to John, his Board & Care Home caretaker: "John would you give me a cigarette (really an oblique, a hint to me to do him another cigarette)?"

John: "I don't smoke (Harold knows that, three years). Go take a nap (something else to do)."

Harold: "That would be rude to take a nap with guests (here)."

John: "Go see Suzie."

Harold: "OK. I'll go see Suzie (who will give him a cigarette for now)." (And he did go.)

Harold's payoff in that game event was a combination GAF-GOW to the game of DMSD. He AND John were reasonable satisfied. He had been repelled by John. He did leave John BUT it was a goal directed GAF.

John's game: I'm-Only-Trying-To-Help-You (IOTHY) and Payoff was to GRO Harold.

Harold is a 40 year old burned out schizophrenic who rarely hears (anymore) voices telling him to go have sex with girls in sight, or else scare them with a knife and talk of cutting them up if they refuse his crude advances. He is good looking, alert, friendly tones, good smile and has an inviting laugh.

The next hour I was with Tessie, 60, partially balding female, husky voiced, many years of seizures and delusions of being spied on and degraded. Her mother had been a

prostitute when Tessie was very small.

As I entered the home Tessie came rushing up to me in her so shuffle, telling about the abundance of recent seizures over the preceding 2 weeks, ending with "Dr., you gotta do something about that (change her medication schedule once more again)."

There were 12 transactions between us before this concluding comment of hers. To this last my response was to assure her of the importance of what she had been telling me and to capture her Adult by asking for the specifics and dates of her seizures, a routine we had carried out many times before. In the end she agreed with my reasons for continuing her present medication regimen for another 2 weeks until I saw her again. PAYOFF for her in this instance was to Get-Nowhere-With me FOR NOW; a GNW, temporary style.

To be continued