



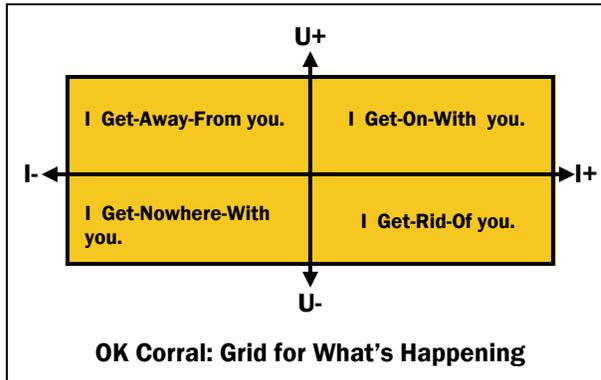
Transactional Musings

Volume 3, Issue 10
October 27, 2012

The OK Corral: Grid for What's Happening

What's OK?
The value, the attribute for "OK" will change from one time and place to the next. "What counts" isn't going to be the same everywhere you go. It may be "timeliness" one place, "manners" in another, attractiveness, riches or "being pore," a quick tongue, skill at jeering, family

You can't say anything the other person won't take as either an OK or a Not-OK. Events between people conclude with each experiencing a sense of personal OK or Not-OK. These experiences and the results on the person, what happens to him next, are what the OK Corral shows how to figure out and sort.



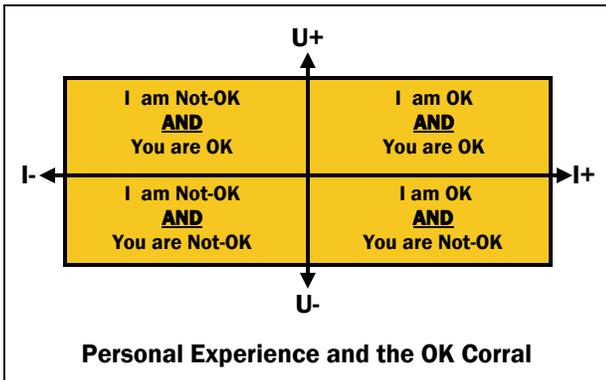
OK Corral: Grid for What's Happening

Special points of Interest:

"There is enthusiastic "peer" mutual respect, for GOW: Child to Child, and/or Adult to Adult.

"Freedom and Liberty in a society can be represented in the OK Corral: Grid for What's Happening. This is shown by the amount of OKayness of personal discretion available to the person."

Personal Experience



Personal Experience and the OK Corral

Each experience (event), at its ending, will have been one of the four kinds shown here.

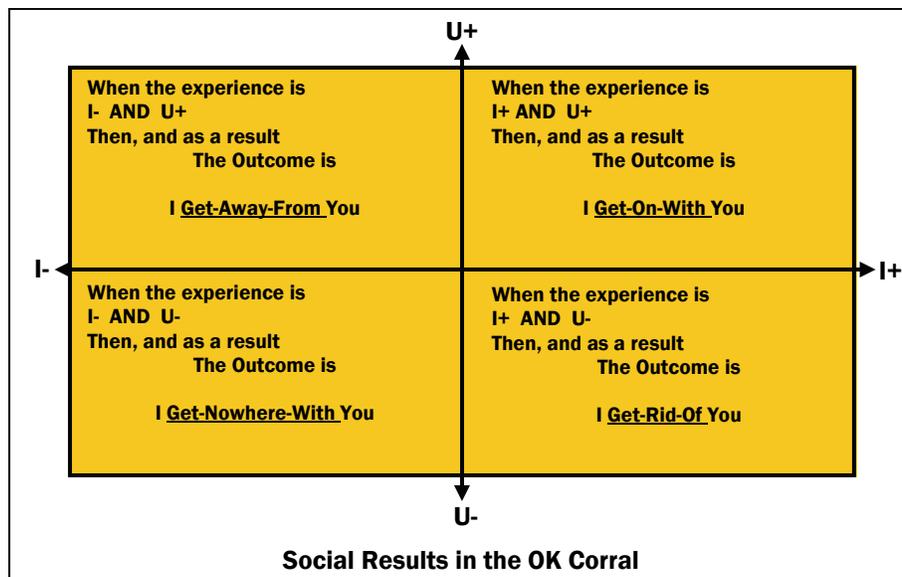
The "AND" in each corner is the KEY. "AND" is the key which determines the Social Outcome of the particular experience which "I AND you" had. Outcomes?

This diagram is not the OK Corral. The OK Corral is the diagram showing how event experience AND the result, the outcome action, are related.

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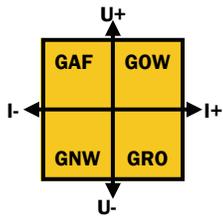
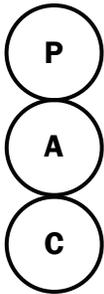
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tree, control, power, personal choice (discretion) and others. Remember, sometimes it is better to take a lower priority Not-OK if it is not your turf. Save your powder for another day. You don't have to bet your life on proving you are Right and Good, OK, when it's not a life-or-death matter.



Social Results in the OK Corral

"It is not until you can show respect that you can expect to receive respect."



Ninth Commandment:
"Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor."

Respect

Respect in the English language is a word used as a verb transitive or as a noun. "Webster's New World Dictionary" defines respect as **(v.t.)** 1. to feel or show honor or esteem for; consider or

treat with deference or courtesy. 2. to show consideration for; avoid intruding upon or molesting: as, respect his privacy. 3. to concern; relate to. **(n.)** 1. A feeling of deference,

honor, or esteem: as, lawyers have a great respect for him. 2. a state of being held in honor or esteem: as, he died without the respect of his countrymen. 3. consideration; courteous regard: ...

Mutual Respect

In his writings Franklin H. Ernst Jr., MD describes some examples of "mutual respect." The two diagrams referenced are the PAC diagram here, and the OK Corral.

There is enthusiastic "peer" mutual respect, for GOW: **Child to Child**, and/or **Adult to Adult**.



There is mutual respect between people with major differences such as **Parent to Parent**. The areas of talk for them is restricted (to GOW) so that they avoid antagonizing each other. It is restricted because of a major area of GAF-GRO (potential) between them.



If they don't agree to this restriction they could escalate the GAF-GRO to violence and/or mutual invalidation, and a permanent style GNW solution.



People will agree to a restricted area of Get-On-With for the sake of being able to continue talking to each other. "I may thoroughly disagree with your politics, but your research **(Adult to Adult)** corresponds so closely to mine."

There is obligatory mutual respect: **Parent - Child**, with and w/o **Adult - Adult**.

This would occur in a battlefield situation, on board a ship at sea, or in a prison.

Going along with custody instead of exercising their antagonistic rebelliousness: AND custody is businesslike in their job performances.

In these cases the predominant personality dynamic that counts come from the one who is in command. It is his authoritative quality of "I Am OK either way and no matter what you may say or feel about it." "When you do as I require we will get along OK. Otherwise, too bad, you lose."

In this form of mutual respect the one being supervised can join up by agreeing with the one in charge. This is done by behaving in the manner that indicates "Yes! I agree. You are OK. I'll do as you say, your way."

There is obedient mutual respect, without a mutual understanding of why. So also with obligatory, mandatory, and conforming forms of mutual respect.

There is (mutual) lack of respect:

Child - Parent, Parent - Child, or Child - Child.

No (behavioral) respect.

This is the Get-Nowhere-With form of mutual respect. "You leave me alone and I'll leave you alone."



There is the fiduciary form of mutual respect:

Parent - Child, Adult - Adult.

This is seen in most doctor - patient, attorney - client, architect - client, and some other professional relationships.

It is a dual level of mutual relationship: **P - C**, especially from the point of view of the one being served by the professional.

It is **Parent - Child GOW, Adult - Adult GOW**

especially in those instances where both parties keep their respective sides of a preceding mutually arrived at contract.

It is **Parent - Child GOW, Adult - Adult GOW** especially in those instances where both parties keep their respective sides of a preceding mutually arrived at contract.

There is family, parent and child mutual respect. This is either/both **P - C**, and **A - A** and/or alternates with **P - C** only.

There is “agree to disagree” mutual respect. This is **Child - Child** as a rule. Here the parties have decided, for now, to stop talking to each other in order to avoid challenging and antagonizing each other.

This is the mutual respect of staying “at arms length from each other.”

(GNW) Get-Nowhere-With is maintained so that neither one “gets in the face of the other,” to prevent rekindling the fires between them.



Tenth

Commandment:

“Thou shall not covet thy neighbor’s house, thou shall not covet thy neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor’s.”

Freedom and Liberty

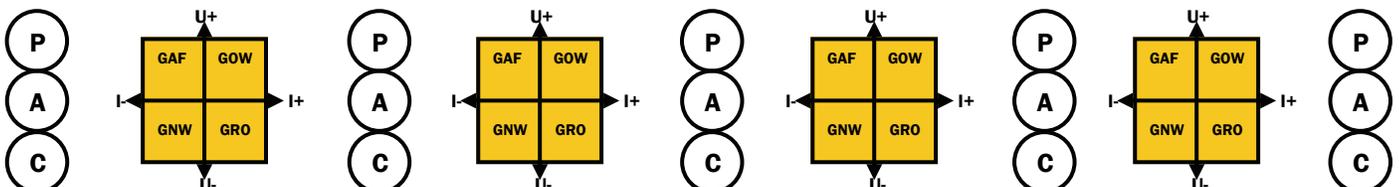
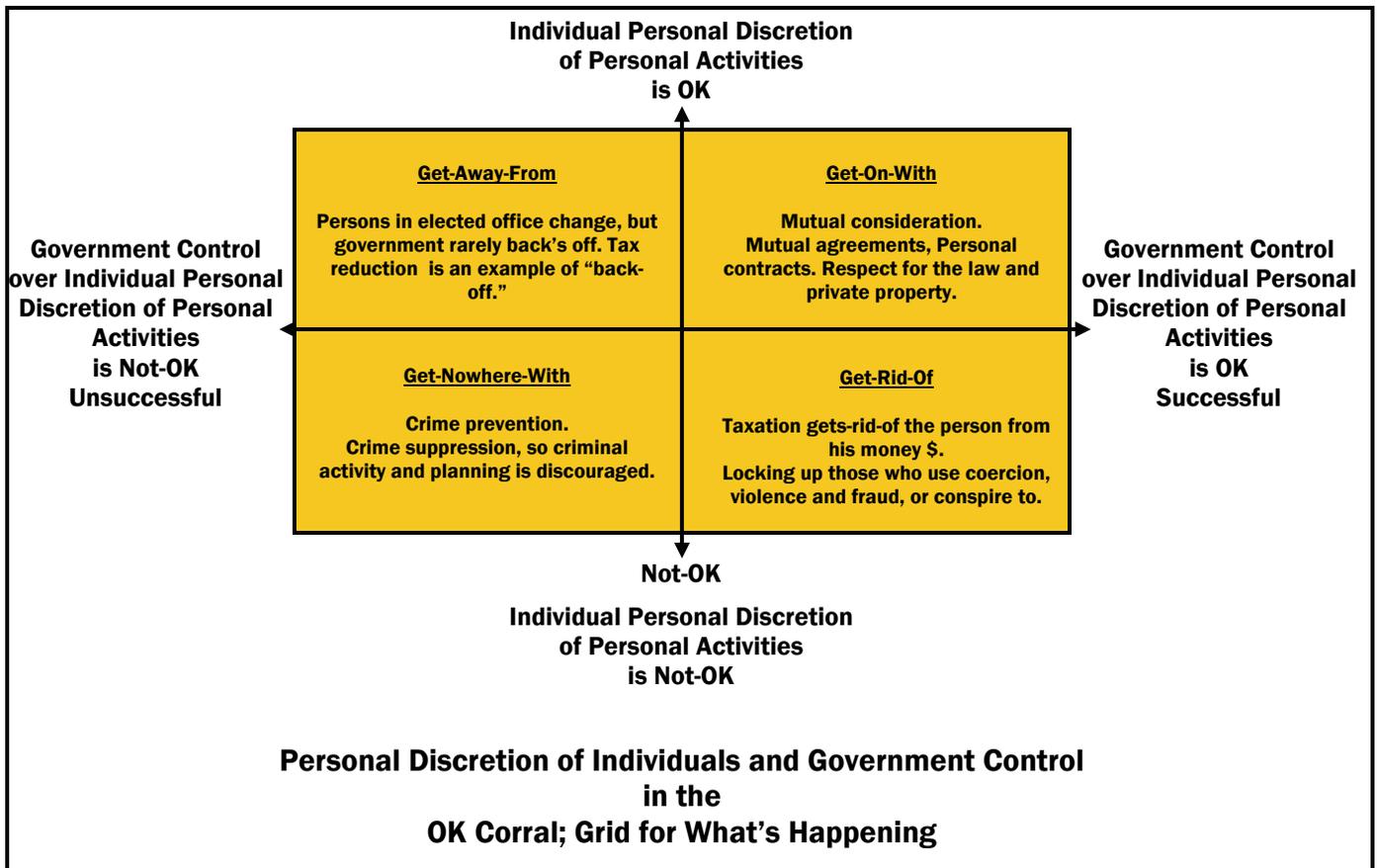
By Franklin H. Ernst Jr, MD

Freedom and Liberty in a society can be represented in the **OK Corral: Grid for What’s Happening**. This is shown by the amount of OKayness of PERSONAL DISCRETION available to the person.

Freedom and liberty are contingent on the amounts of individual personal discretion available, permitted by law (and by those in power).

Totalitarian societies outlaw most personal discretion of individuals in their dealings with others.

Government is “required” in order to provide society with an “atmosphere” where fraud and coercion by individuals is suppressed and controlled; so that the people in the society can get-on-with business, their own lives. More than that is a coercive society.





Addresso'Set Publications

Transactional Musings
Franklin "Harry" Ernst III, Editor
P. O. Box 3009
Vallejo, California 94590 USA

Phone: 707/643-5100
Fax: 707/644-6358
Email: harryernst@ao3news.cnc.net

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

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Going Nowhere (for the moment)

Driving around towns with a lot of indigents [in the late 1980's] a fairly common occurrence is that of having to stop at a cross walk for a pedestrian slowly ambling nonchalantly; even slower as if unaware of the traffic he/they are impeding. You could swear they are doing it on purpose, to keep you from getting to your destination.

The color of their skin and/or appearance may occur to you. Other physical qualities of appearance and behavior may stimulate your thoughts or mutterings about their mother's ancestry or lack of childhood courtesy training. In any case, the bottom line is that you are held up. For that period of personal time you are not going anywhere, while the cross-walker is exercising his "I got my rights." In fact, with or without his rights, he probably is not going anywhere with his life except back across that same street for the 19th time that day. You can get frustrated, fume, be annoyed at the cross-walker's lack of consideration for those he is holding up. It may eventually occur to you that this form of behavior by these cross-walkers is what their (lack of success in

their) life is about.

These impede to the reasonable progression of events in the lives of others who ARE self-sustaining, self-supporting - THIS IS the MEANING OF their LIFE to them. This form of activity may be the essence of being alive, of living to them.

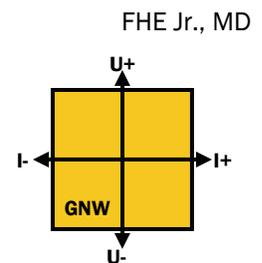
These cross-walkers are preventing you from getting somewhere. For that interval of time that you have been detained, it is a get-nowhere-with event for you. At the same time, as you look at the event again, it becomes clearer that so also it is a get-nowhere-with event for your detainer. He most likely, as I mentioned above, is not going anywhere either, BUT that doesn't bother him, if you were to ask.

THEREFORE: Regardless of the frame of mind either of you are in, regardless of personal goals, ambitions, destinations, social class, station in life, or personal configuration of the moment, — one thing is clear! Neither of you are going anywhere (for the moment). Both of you are, for the moment, involved IN A mutual GET-NOWHERE-WITH EACH OTHER life event.

From your point of view, as the driver, THE CROSS-WALKER holding you up is Not-OK. (Coincidentally, your own being delayed probably also makes you personally Not-OK with yourself - "Why didn't I go another way? Start a minute or two earlier?")

From the CROSS-WALKER'S viewpoint, while he probably IS Not-OK with himself (he probably envies your station in life, your possessions by comparison to his own), nevertheless, for that moment he has figuratively at least, given you the bird. By his behavior he has let you know that YOU ARE Not-OK with him either.

THEORY: The personality dynamics which determine a GET-NOWHERE-WITH (each other) outcome of an event between two parties are: I AM (WE ARE) Not-OK **AND** YOU ARE Not-OK.



Encounter

From The Encounterer, Vol. 1, No. 20
Pam in group: "Doc! I noticed myself doing something funny, real funny the other day" and then laughing while her eyes were reddening with chagrin and pathos. She continued: "I

was whipping on my son, Bobby, spanking him while I was telling him at the same time 'There, now this will teach you to lose your temper!' as I kept on hitting him. Even knowing what I was doing, I could not stop myself from doing

it then! And that's how I have been teaching him to have a temper." The patient also reported accurately that this simultaneous duality of awareness was ...

To be continued