



Transactional Musings

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Rackets People Play cont. - Racket Behavior

Racket Behavior

By Franklin H. Ernst Jr., MD
Continuing from the previous newsletters.

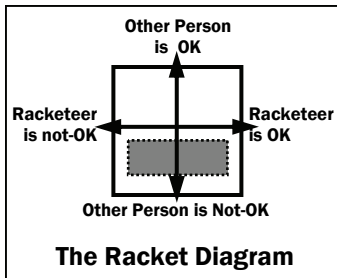
Four Classes of Rackets

- * Family Racket behavior,
- * Social Racket behavior,
- * Political Racket behavior
- * Criminal Racket behavior.

A racket is defined as a specialized display of feeling by one person here, the racketeer, which places a burden on the other person, victimizes him.

A racket has the effect of restricting the recipient's choices. The choices left to the person being racketeered with, are either to flee (get-away-from) the situation OR become mired down in (get-nowhere-with) the racket, with a racketeer.

The "open lattice" box enclosure is drawn across both lower quadrants of the OK Corral here in order to show the social effects of a person playing a racket. This is to show that the effect on the other person is to restrict his choices with the racket player down two out of the possible four; down to the racket player either getting rid of the other person or miring the other person down into getting nowhere with him.



["The First Circle" by Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn is about engineers being forced to develop eavesdropping devices while in prison. Stalin failed where the NSA has succeeded.]

Freedom

Free trade in the old Soviet Union was a crime. [Two people entering into their mutually agreed upon (private) transaction was a crime, because the transactions occurred without government interference, with no controlling intervention.]

[Most, if not all transactions between individuals in the United States of America, whether it be two people talking or buying/selling something is tracked/monitored by the "authorities." Other nations are doing this, too, with U.S. "help," unknowingly and knowingly.]

[Apparently there is a raging debate (in secret?) among "leaders" about "protecting" people. From what?

Two people talking? Private money transactions?]

[Is the government so desperate to collect taxes on all transactions that it has to monitor ALL transactions?]

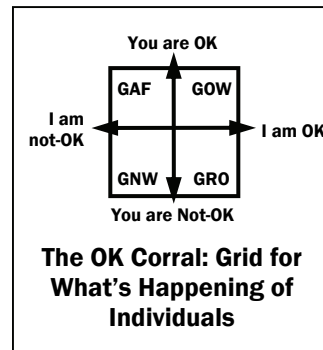
[Some "leaders" are so desperate (eager) that they are forming lynch mobs to get rid of "whistleblowers" who have brought attention to excessive - illegal, secret government activities. Insider deals? Coverups?]

[Are the "leaders" sworn to secrecy under threat of imprisonment? Embarrassed?]

[Systematic societal conditioning? False Flags?]

Rackets are blackmail, extortion. Criminal blackmail itself is a criminal racket.

In a free society the legitimate objective of government (intervention) should be to successfully control fraud, coercion, and violence by members of that society; not participating in it. AND government should leave to the individuals maximum leeway for arriving at mutual respect among individuals, for making mutual agreements and contracts.



Governments regulate behavior between individuals, parties. That's the sole function of government, to regulate the activity, to intervene. The only activity of a government, their sole activity is that of intervening between individuals, whether it is an external intruder, or intervening in an activity of the members. (M. Rothbard and Gary North use the word intervene and intervention.)

Special points of Interest:

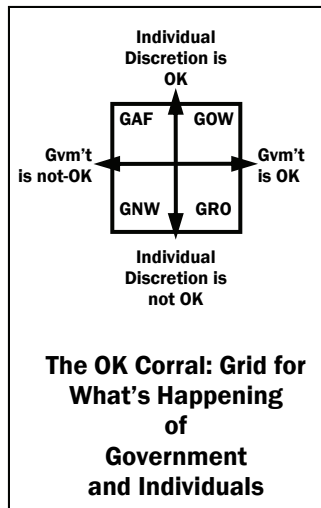
"In a totalitarian society the bureaucracy is totally controlling. Government intervenes and controls almost every conceivable form of personal activity.

"The goal of a totalitarian society is the total regulation over all human behavior. This can only be achieved by a total bureaucracy. In the total bureaucracy one of its branches issues permits or intervenes and has rules and regulations for every single activity that two individuals can engage in with each other.

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In a totalitarian society the bureaucracy is totally controlling. Government intervenes and controls almost every conceivable form of personal activity.



The total bureaucracy concentrates on intervening and controlling all the behaviors and activities of the members within the group.

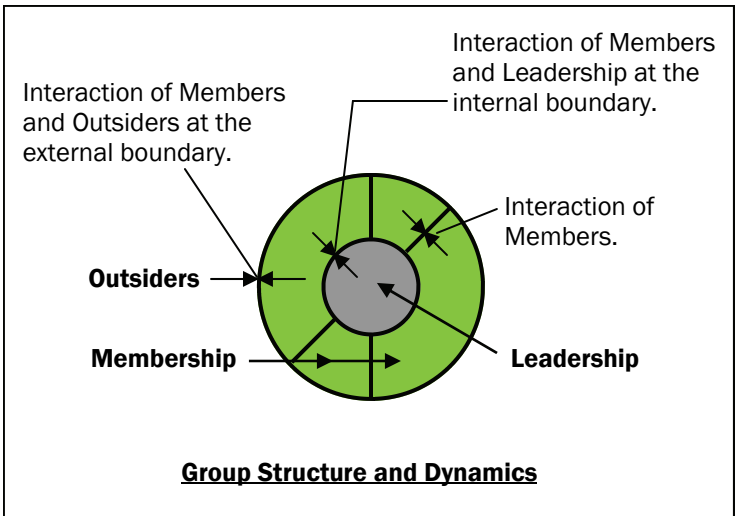
Remember, the leadership cadre and the membership cadre of Berne's dynamics diagram, structure of a group, the dynamics of a group? (See ["The Structure and Dynamics of Organizations and Groups"](#) Eric Berne, MD)

The structure of this diagram shows the leadership at the center and membership in the outlying portions along the border. And the classes of dynamics are those forces operating

- 1) between leadership and membership,
- 2) between membership and outside, and
- 3) those forces operating between member and member.

The goal of a totalitarian society is the total regulation over all human behavior. This can only be achieved by a total bureaucracy. In the total bureaucracy one of its

branches issues permits or intervenes and has rules and regulations for every single activity that two individuals can engage in with each other. The classic example [twenties years ago was a government regulation regarding] sexual intercourse between man and wife in China. How? The monthly menstrual pad check by the block menstruation warden. [It is not clear if this government activity is still going on.] [Will the newer U.S. "Medical Care" regulations get into this sort of thing, too?]



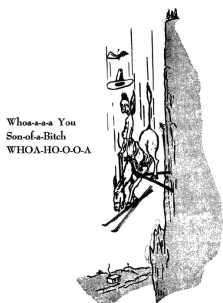
Organizational, Individual and Private Structure

Organizational, Individual and Private Structure from ["The Structure and Dynamics of Organizations and Groups"](#) by Eric Berne, M.D., page 60.

"The formal or organizational structure of a group is found in its constitution. For a large group, such as a nation, the constitution may give only the main outlines of the leadership and the departmental structure, leaving the lesser aspects of the minor structure to be set forth in manuals issued by the leadership of each

department. The Constitution of the United States indicates the tasks and the limitations of the House of Representatives, the Senate, the states, the President and the Supreme Court, all branches of the leadership or its apparatus or semi-independent divisions of the mother group. Within this structure, the government of each subdivision—state, county, city or borough—then can set up its own organizational structure and its own manuals, including local constitutions, charters, laws and ordinances. However,

it is easily recognized that the constitution of a group does not have to be a written one. For instance, the constitution of a psychotherapy group is usually understood by all its members without any of its articles being written down. An organizational structure has two important features. The relationships between the various organs are usually shown by an organization chart, and the strength of each organ is set forth in a manning table. Typical organization charts and manning tables



may be found in military manuals and books on management and political science.

The relationships between the organs are defined in the constitution according to their duties, seniority, responsibilities, accountability, privileges and limitations. **According to the American Constitution, the main task of the President is an executive one (to see that things are done properly).** He has seniority over all military officers and is responsible for the Armed Forces. He has the privilege of veto, but this also has its limitations. Finally, he is accountable to the Senate through impeachment. In legal matters, the distinctions between various organs are clear cut: only the Senate can try an impeachment; only the Supreme Court can try a lawsuit; only the President can grant reprieves and pardons for certain offences; and the House can do none of these things.

In practice, these functional differences are represented by geographic ones. Not only do Senators, Representatives and Supreme Court justices assemble in different places, but the meeting places themselves are often used in referring to these organs. This is particularly true in the case of the President, many of whose acts are described as coming "from the White House." This is also true of smaller organizations when statements are described as issuing from "the News Desk," "the boss's office," "the New York office" or "the Chair." In fact it is fashionable to send memos "From the Desk of . . ." as well as over a personal signature. Hence, in most cases an organization chart may be regarded as either functional or spatial. This is important because in operation the relationships between the departments of an organization are carried on through channels of com-

munication, which are determined by both functional and spatial factors.

Manning tables, like organization charts, can be divided into primary and secondary components. The primary components are those that are defined numerically in the constitution and whose absolute or relative strength cannot be changed without a constitutional amendment. The secondary components are those whose strength can be changed at the discretion of the leadership.

The organizational structure is one factor that gives a group its organizational identity. Identity depends on historical continuity, so that, even if there are some changes, it can be recognized that the group is the same from one epoch to another. If the structure is radically altered, then the group's identity is blurred, and it may not be immediately recognizable. Diplomats are confronted with the problem of "recognition" after a drastic change in the major organizational structure of a state or nation, as when the historical evolution is interrupted by a revolution.

Nearly every constitution provides for evolution in the organizational structure by due process. This provision, which is customarily placed toward the end, may be called the autotelic provision of the constitution. One function of the autotelic provision is to allow changes in the constitution itself and in the organizational structure without weakening the identity of the group. The autotelic provision of the Constitution of the United States is found near the end in Article V. The United States has the same organizational identity now that it had 50 years ago, partly because all the structural changes have been by due process. But Russia, i.e.,

the Soviet Union, has a different identity, partly because its organizational structure was radically changed by unconstitutional means. It was this change in identity that brought up the question of "recognition" after the Bolshevik revolution. The deciding factor as far as structure is concerned is a change in the primary organs of the organization chart.

The manning table gives the number of slots in each organ, and this provides a bridge between the organizational structure and the individual structure. The organizational structure itself is only a skeleton. A group does not come to life until it is activated by filling some or all of the slots in the manning table with specific individuals. These people form the individual structure of the group. So the press might ask "What does Washington (or London or Moscow) say?" or else "What does Roosevelt (or Churchill or Stalin) say?" according to whether it saw the leadership as part of the organizational structure or as part of the individual structure. The individual structure at a given moment is shown in the personnel chart (derived from the roster), which lists the names of individuals who occupy the slots in the manning table.

It is evident that the constitutional structure of a group is independent of its individual structure; in fact, the purpose of the constitution is to keep it so. The United States retains its organizational structure even after the most extensive changes in the personnel chart following a national election.

The fact that a group retains its organizational identity even when there is a complete turnover in its individual

In his book "[The Structure and Dynamics of Organizations and Groups](#)" Berne quotes Benjamin Franklin:

"Observations on my reading history, in Library, May Nineteenth, Seventeen Hundred Thirty-One

That the great affairs of this world, the wars, revolutions, etc., are carried on and effected by parties That the view of these parties is their present general interest, or what they take to be such

That the different views of these different parties occasion all confusion

That while a party is carrying on a general design, each man has his particular private interest in view

That as soon as a party has gained its general point, each member becomes intent upon his particular interest; which, thwarting others, breaks that party into divisions, and occasions more confusion."



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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structure is similar to the process found in living organisms. Normally, about 95 per cent of the atoms in the human body are said to be replaced in the course of a year, but this turnover in the atomic structure, which would correspond to the individual structure of a group, has little effect on the recognizable identity of the person. This is because the relationships between the new atoms are approximately the same as were the relationships between the old ones. This corresponds to the historical continuity of the organizational structure of a group. In both cases, a relatively small change in the major organizational (central) structure may produce much more profound effects than a complete turnover in the individual (atomic) structure.

Conversely, it is possible to make fundamental changes in the organizational structure of a group without necessarily altering the individual structure. Such a process is called reorganization (without "restaffing") and is most clearly illustrated in the reorganization of railroad corporations that are in financial distress, every step being subjected to detailed scrutiny under the laws regulating these situations, while the unions keep a watchful eye on the preservation of the individual structure. The cession of the Fiji Island to the British Empire in 1871 is another carefully studied situation in which the roster of a group was little changed, while the major structure and the identity (as well as the character) were radically altered.

Thus, the relatively permanent organizational structure and the transitory individual structure of a group are largely independent of one another.

The organizational structure and the individual structure together constitute the public structure, since they are both open to public observation. But each member has his own personal way of viewing the group. These private structures are based on personal needs, experience, wishes and emotions. For example, the Constitution of the United States gives each member of the United States Senate a slot of equal importance, but a constituent may see the Senate structure differently. He may regard his own senator as occupying the most important slot, with the rest of the Senate left in a single, undifferentiated slot for "other senators." "Common citizen" slots each have the same relationship to the Presidential structure, but a man who has received a personal letter from the President may see himself, rightly or wrongly, as much more important than his neighbors in his private group structure.

A convenient and psychologically apt way of representing such a private structure is represented in Figure 7. This is the way an experienced person is likely to visualize his private way of seeing the group. (1) The leader is commonly felt to be on a "higher" level than the members; this is revealed in such expressions as "What will they say upstairs?" or "It depends on the higher-ups." (2) The individual tends to think of his own relationship with the

leader as being the central problem of the group, the other members being pushed slightly off to the side. This applies even when the member feels himself to be a very peripheral person. If he is concerned about the group at all, his chief concern is likely to be the problem of his relationship with the leader.

Thus, the organizational structure of a group is based on its constitution; the individual structure is made up of the personnel who occupy the organizational slots at a given moment; and the private structure is based on the personal feelings of each member. These three aspects can be seen readily in a family group. The organizational structure is the official relationship between husband and wife and parents and children, as set forth legally. The individual structure remains the same, except for any additions, so long as the family endures. The private structure determines the outcome; for example, a psychological separation precedes a legal divorce or an elopement. It is interesting to note that the organizational structure of colonies of bees and ants is set up biologically rather than "constitutionally." The question of whether individuals recognize each other in this structure is still to be answered, and whether or not such organisms react as "private persons" toward each other, differently from what the organizational structure calls for, is still farther from a solution.