

CORPORATE DISTANCING

"The extraordinary point is that in all arts-painting, poetry, fiction, music-the modernist impulse has a common syntax of expression underlying the diverse nature of the genres. It is, as I have said, the eclipse of distance between the spectator and the artist, between the aesthetic experience and the work of art. One sees this as the eclipse of psychic distance, social distance, and aesthetic distance.

The loss of psychic distance means the suspension of time. Freud has said that in the unconscious there is no sense of time: one experiences the events of the past not as if they were of the present, but with the immediacy, the actuality, of the present.....The meaning of maturity, for Freud, was the ability to interpose the necessary distance, a sense of past and present, in order to make the necessary distinctions between what was past, as past, and what derived from the present.....

The breakup of aesthetic distance means that one has lost control over the experience-the ability to step back and conduct one's "dialogue" with the art.

The loss of social distance means the loss of manners and the erosion of civility, which has made contact between persons manageable and allowed individuals to have a "walking space" of their own.....In the personal sense, loss of social distance means an invasion of privacy, the increasing inability to maintain formal relations with others where desirable, to escape the crowd, or to define one's task and work as one's own. In mobilized societies, the individual is submerged in the Party, the group or the commune. In the hedonistic societies of the West, there is an emphasis on surface relationships and on quick exchanges between individuals that are mediated by personality and appearances."

Daniel Bell

Analogy:

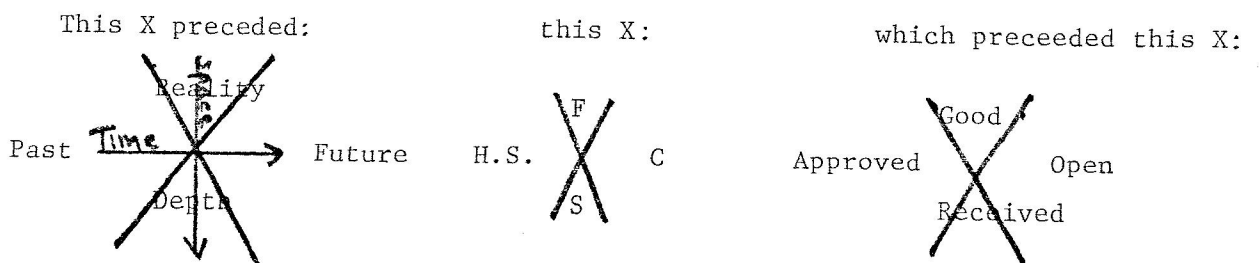
It is more like:

- a)creating corporate intuitions
- a)guiding a conversation
- a)discerning the essential
- a)the possible beginnings of a methodological breakthru

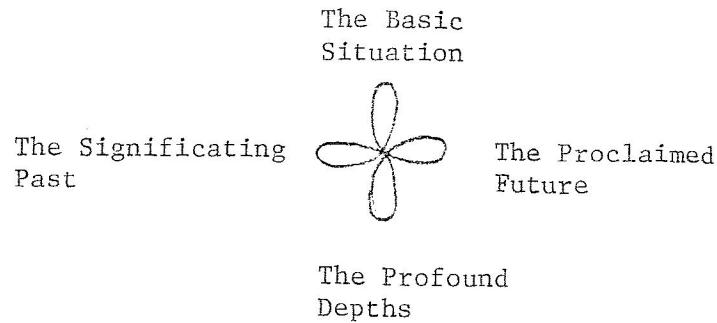
than:

- b)organizing corporate intuitions
- b)running a workshop
- b)recognising the existential
- b)a twist on a couple of long time procedures

Historical Roots:



The Method:



1. The Basic Situation: Assuring a clear, current and grounded articulation of the real situation.
 - a) Actual Data: stating all aspects and concrete happenings that clarify the current situation and position.
 - b) Genuine Haze: where the alternative routes or directions open seem obscure or conflicting.
 - c) Bold Moves: stating a powerful direction in order to change the standing ground and clarify the right questions.
2. The Significating Past: Assuring historical continuity in terms of time, space, and relations in order that the future is in total perspective.
 - a) Objective Data: stating the related data over a given period of time which has brought us to this current position.
 - b) Archaic Sureties: getting stated the things that we know work and the situations in which they were effective out of grounded experience.
 - c) Definitive Residue: stating as far as we can tell, the social, spiritual and imaginal result of these historic actions.
3. The Profound Depths: Assuring a valid and profound socio-spirit revolutionary anchoring.
 - a) Historic Guidelines: rehearsing fundamental methods, strategies and forms of revolutionary life and action.
 - b) Archaic Principles: confirming the root presuppositions of theology and sociality as they relate to a global vision of humanness.
 - c) Futuristic Imagery: grounding the images of the future in the context of the historic.
4. The Future Visioning: Assuring the concretizing of the revolutionary intents in order that the present strategies become clear.
 - a) Imaginal Timeline: grounding a projected direction in the reality of time.
 - b) Strategic Leap: grounding the projected direction in the reality of actions.
 - c) Long-range Resolves: grounding the projected direction in stated intentions and purpose in relationship to the overall global task.

Illustrative Questions:

1. Basic Situation.

- a) What is obvious now that wasn't?
- b) What are obvious advantages, weaknesses?
- c) What are less obvious advantages, weaknesses?
- d) What are the paralytic holds on our imagination?
- e) What would be some creative breakthroughs?

2. Significating Past.

- a) What were some of the formative happenings?
- b) What were some of the constructs that occasioned shifts?
- c) Name benchmarks, titles of the past?
- d) What are we sure about?
- e) What will survive? What has passed away?

3. Profound Depths.

- a) What will we always know, do, be, in this arena?
- b) What are some indisputable rules of thumb in this arena?
- c) What are historic principles in this arena?
- d) How does this relate to profound humanness for all?
- e) What are the new principles in this arena?

4. Proclaimed Future.

- a) What is the destinal image of this arena?
- b) What questions have you asked that you couldn't answer?
- c) What are the new modes of this arena?
- d) What are coagulative moves in this arena?
- e) Is it now, or do we wait for another time?

What order do you move in?

The questions of life which forces you to this method can originate in any loop. In one sense you can move around from one to another as your intuition directs you, however, often it has been found helpful to begin in the "significating past" arena as they reveal the absolute present at this moment, and then move to situation, depth and future. As you stand in any one loop, you must look over at each of the other three.