

A matrix of contradiction consists of a central triangle, which is the rational pole of the larger triangle which defines the arena of the matrix, plus four "orbiting" triangles which are the rational poles of larger triangles subsumed within the master triangle identified above (called hereafter the matrix triangle). Thus the four orbiting indices of contradiction all point to aspects of the contradiction seen behind the matrix triangle, which is centered in the relation of its rational pole to the whole. The relation of the four aspects to the whole demonstrates the principle of reinforcement in that the indices of contradiction (that is, the objective data) in the four aspects of the whole reinforce the index of contradiction in the central triangle (describing its relation to the matrix triangle), and together these indices point to the depth or master contradiction which is not there in any one of them alone.

To illustrate the complex by an example: The principal economic contradiction lies in the relation of Distribution (central triangle) to the Economic as a whole (the matrix triangle), subsumed by the relation of Surplus Outputs to Property Claims, the relation of Credit Exchanges to Exchange Mechanisms, the relation of Technological Resources to Resources, and the relation of Production Systems to Production (these are the four aspects of the economic matrix of contradiction).

The workshopping method in arriving at the principal contradiction underlying the matrix is as follows:

First, using the analysis of dysfunctions applicable to the whole matrix, locate the principal dysfunction discerned between the rational pole and the whole triangle. Then, using the same analysis of dysfunction, locate the secondary dysfunctions--these are the relationships (four) which describe dysfunction in terms of the category representing intensification of the rational pole of the matrix triangle in relation to the four aspects of the matrix. Hold this data as clues to what follows.

Second, moving to the analyses of dysfunctions which disclose the principal dysfunctions on the four aspects of the matrix, locate these as above.

Now you have the "guts" of five paragraphs as regards dysfunction. Do the same for the trends. The critical value in locating applicable trends is that these must be countervailing trends in relation to the operating dysfunctions. "Sick trends" are not helpful here, in that they are really dysfunctional.

By now you should be able to discern five sets of dysfunctions and countervailing trends on the matrix: one central pair and four "orbiting" pairs. Any other data is extraneous.

The clue to the underlying contradiction is the reinforcement of the dysfunctions and trends. If the analysis you use is correct, it will be seen that the four dysfunctions point to a single underlying source or dysfunction. This is necessarily more abstract than the clue indices, but should be illustrable directly in the same general social arenas that your data comes from. The trends will also disclose a common organizing basis from which they can be self-consciously woven together to create a master trend. This activity shifts the principal aspect of the contradiction which was originally the master dysfunction and is the proper thrust of revolutionary action as embodied in concrete proposals.

Recheck your analysis, using all your data, to be sure that you have identified reinforcing dysfunctions and trends.



The dysfunction and trend analysis given on the stratum chart which corresponds to the matrix triangle is the critical clue to the underlying contradiction. It holds data which directly states the central dysfunction and trend (relation of the rational pole to the whole matrix triangle). It also holds data which represents the relation of the intensified rational pole and its intensification to the four aspects of the matrix. It is these relations which organize and determine the functioning of the four aspects in relation to the whole. Therefore there are the "underlying" dysfunctions and trends which relate the single identified pair of dysfunction and trend identified above for each aspect to the intensification of the central dysfunction and trend which relates the rational pole to the matrix triangle. This data should confirm your analysis pointing to the underlying contradiction.

To repeat, the underlying contradiction in a given matrix is the polarity of a single master dysfunction and a master trend which organize the operating pairs of dysfunctions and trends located on the matrix through the principle of reinforcement. This contradiction is revealed only over against the revolutionary stance which analyzes all the data in terms of an articulated objective in terms of a broad social strategy.



PRINCIPLE INDEX	1	"The (Economic) matrix of contradiction is the relationship of five indices of contradiction involving the relation of (Distribution) to the (Economic) and four secondary Indices.
SECONDARY INDICES	2	In the secondary arena of (Resources) the index of contradiction involves the relation of (Technological Resources) to the whole.
	3	In the secondary arena of (Production) the index of contradiction involves the relation of (Production Systems) to the whole.
	4	In the secondary arena of (Property Claims) the Index of contradiction involves the relation of (Credit Exchanges) to the whole.
	5	In the secondary arena of (Exchange Mechanisms) the index of contradiction involves the relation of (Credit Exchanges) to the whole.
RATIONAL POLE OF PRINCIPLE INDEX	6	The (Economic) matrix of contradiction discloses a primary contradiction in the social order located in the relationship to the (Economic) of the (Distribution) process and its intensification in the (Consumption Plans) and the (Inclusive Equilibriums); the latter two are disclosed by the four secondary arenas defined above."



(locates arena)	1	<p>"The relation of (Distribution) to (the Economic) is the (central*) index of contradiction in the (Economic) matrix of contradiction, which functions as one of the (secondary) contradictions in society, as well as an aspect of the (primary) contradiction."</p> <p>*Use "the first secondary index" and so on for the others.</p>
(describes malfunction)	2	<p>After carefully checking your preliminary data against all the indices in the matrix for observable reinforcement of the principal contradiction you have discerned in the workshopping, write a concise statement of the social malfunction in the relationship described in sentence one above, along with a brief illustration, viz. "as illustrated by . . ."</p>
(describes countervailing trend)	3	<p>After carefully checking as above in sentence two, relative to the applicable trends, write a concise statement of the countervailing trend in society expressing the relationship described above in sentence one, as it cuts over against the malfunctioning described in sentence two, indicating the positive and negative aspects of the trend, if any, and including a brief illustration.</p>
(describes relation to ideological principle)	4	<p>Write a concise statement analyzing the operating polar relationship between the malfunction and the countervailing trend so as to disclose the fundamental disrelationship in society that both the malfunction and the trend are manifesting, as seen through the eyes of the appropriate ideological principle, and illustrate this fundamental disrelationship briefly. (This is the clue to the primary contradiction in the matrix.)</p>
(Example)	5	<p>"The operation of (malfunction) as over against (trend) in society, disclosing the underlying problem of (fundamental disrelationship) is exemplified by . . ."</p>



the concluding paragraph is the most crucial one in the section, in that it spells out for the first time the primary contradiction behind the indices of contradiction spelled out in the five body paragraphs above.

SENTENCE 1  (identify the principal contradiction)	"The principal contradiction : disclosed by the (Economic) matrix of contradiction is. . ."  Spell out as concretely as possible the underlying polarity, remembering that it has <u>two</u> aspects. This should be a simple, concise statement revealing the primary block you discern that prevents the complex of countervailing trends from predominating.
SENTENCE 2  (identify the master trend)	This sentence describes the <u>master trend</u> , or fundamental shove in the social order disclosed by the complex of trends in the indices which reinforce the master trend. You perceive this as a convergence of trends in the direction your ideological principle is pointing, e.g. all the goods. . . "The fundamental movement in the (economic arena of the social order is. . ."
SENTENCE 3  (illustrate disrelationships)	This sentence weaves together the reinforcement of the five indices of contradiction as they disclose the fundamental disrelationships identified in the fourth sentence of the five body paragraphs by illustrating concretely the "matrix" of disrelationships.
SENTENCE 4  (illustrate trend matrix)	This sentence weaves together the reinforcement of the five indices of contradiction as they disclose the matrix of countervailing trends by illustrating the matrix concretely. These should be spelled out so as to ground the master trend identified in sentence two above in specific goingonnesses.
SENTENCE 5  (revolutionary imperative)	This sentence points to the imperative to self-consciously direct the master trend so as to overcome the principal contradiction. Spell this out in terms of both the unblocking function (getting it loose in society) and the corrective function (cleaning it up for the sake of getting where you're going).



Disestablishment

Counter-  
valing  
Trends

Blocked  
Positive  
Aspect

Reform

Redirect

Anyone

Present  
Social  
Dynamic

Creative  
Trend

Proestablishment

Societal  
Malfunc-  
tion

Dominance  
Over-  
func-  
tion  
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~~Reversion~~  
Revision  
Rebalance

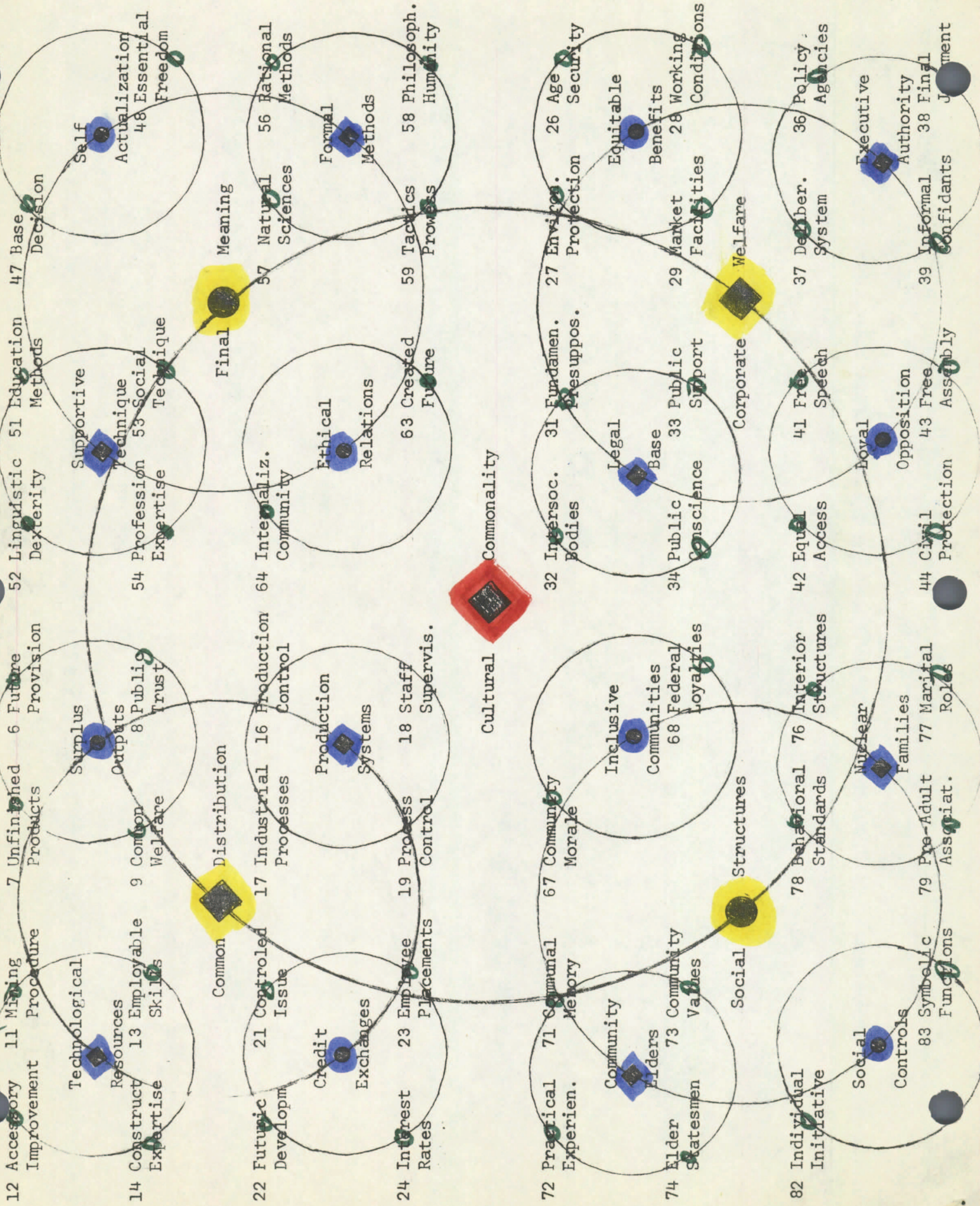
Restore

Power Structure

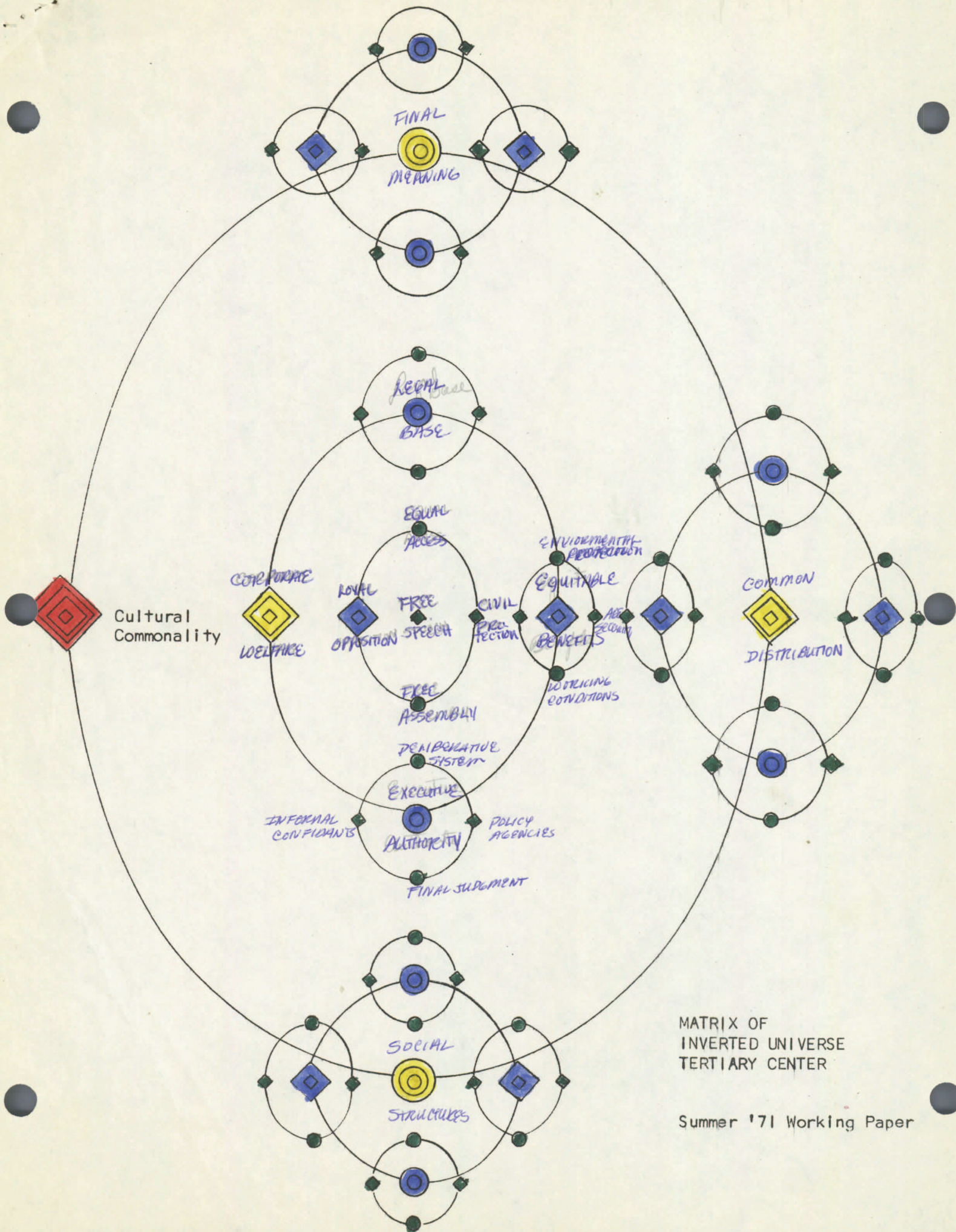
Collapse  
Under-  
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*Restructuring*  
~~Resuscitation~~









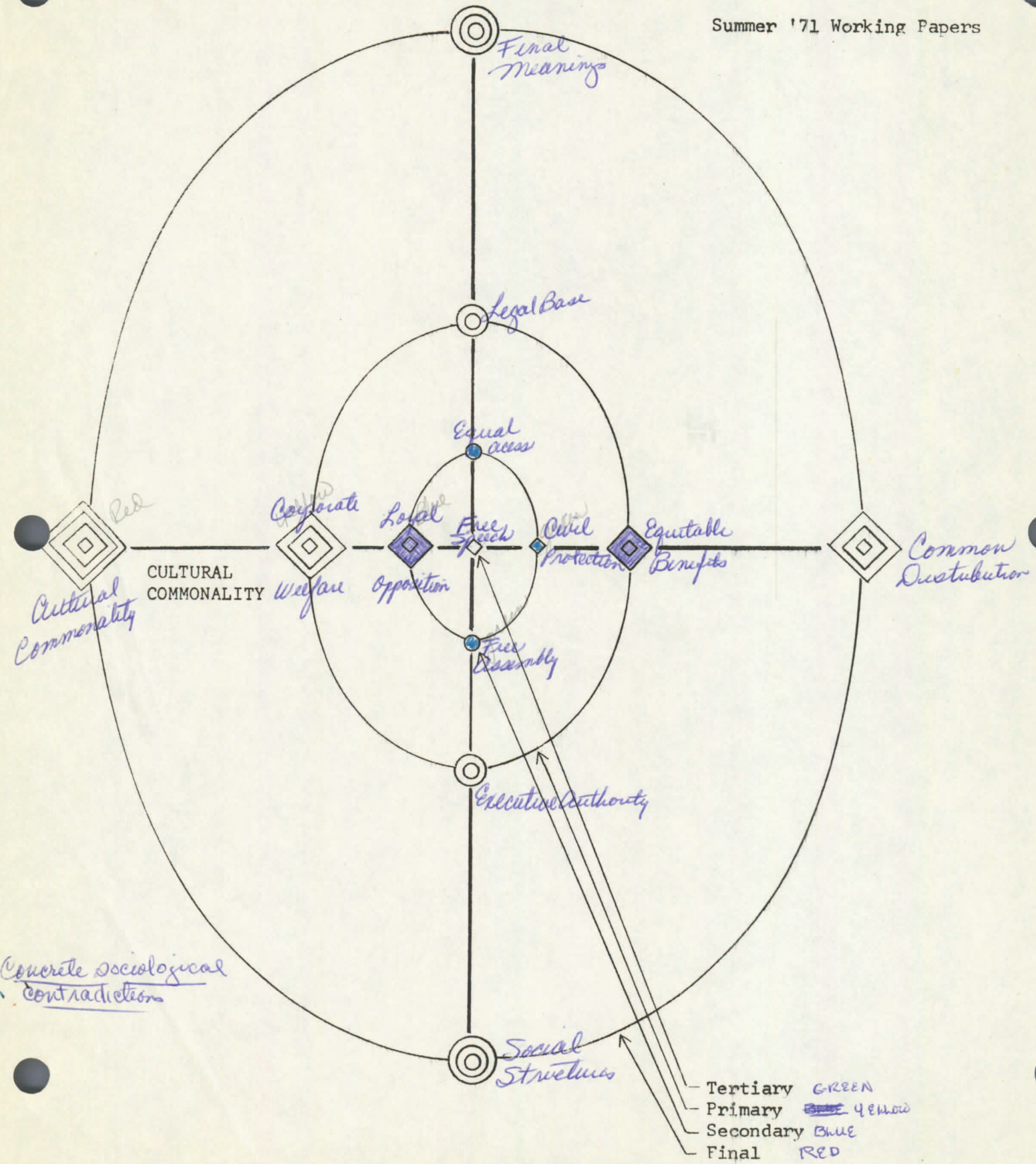
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# MASTER CONTRADICTION UNIVERSE INDEX

