

THE AMERICAN FOUNDING

THE BIG PICTURE

(THE FOUNDING FOR DUMMIES)

AVOIDING THE HUMAN PREDICAMENT

CONCEPTS:

- Tyranny
- Anarchy
- Human Nature
- Idealists vs. Realists
- Structure

TYRANNY

Organized rule of will

ANARCHY

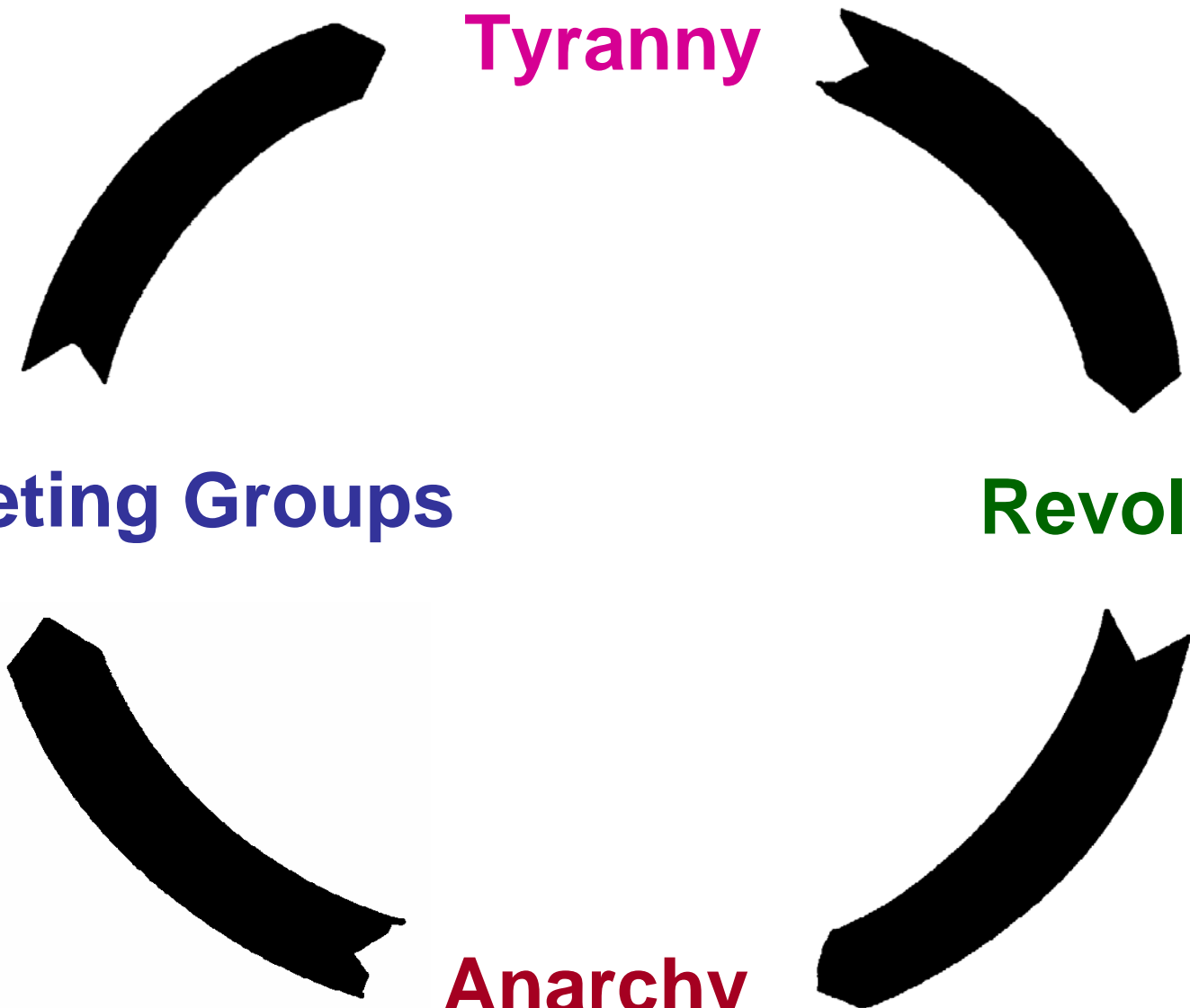
The absence of rule—the rule of chaos.

Tyranny

Competing Groups

Revolution

Anarchy



What is our
American Heritage?

Why are we free?

“A republic if you can keep it”



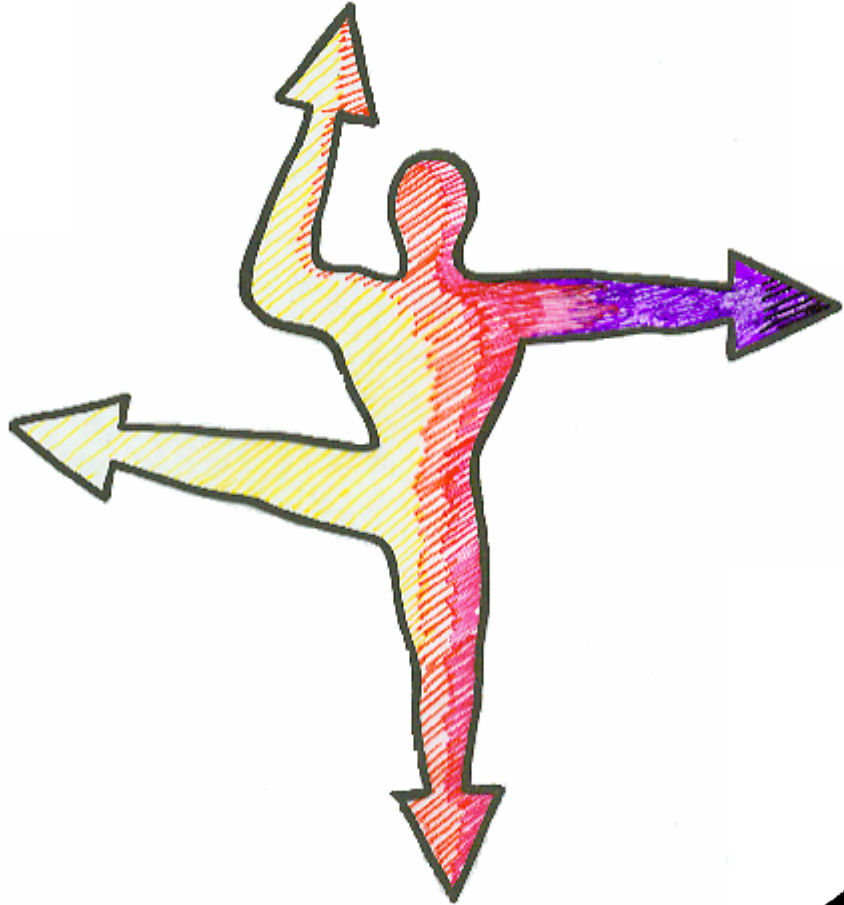
**The Human Predicament
& Human Nature**

Tyranny

Revolution

Anarchy

**Competing
Groups**



HIGHER LOVE (Winwood & Jennings)

Think about it, there must be higher love
Down in the Heart or Hidden in the Stars above
Without it, life is wasted time,
Look inside your heart, I'll look inside mine

Things look so bad everywhere
In this whole world, what is fair?
We walk blind and we try to see
Falling behind in what could be

Bring me a higher love...
Where's that higher love I keep thinking of?

Worlds are turning and we're just hanging on
Facing our fear and standing out there alone
A yearning, and it's real to me
There must be someone who's feeling for me

...I could rise above on a higher love...

Terrifying (Mick Jagger)

I'm lazy as a lion
I'm sneaky as a snake
I'm dirty as a dog
I get these strange... desires

I'm wily as a fox
I'm stronger than an ox
Terrifying love...

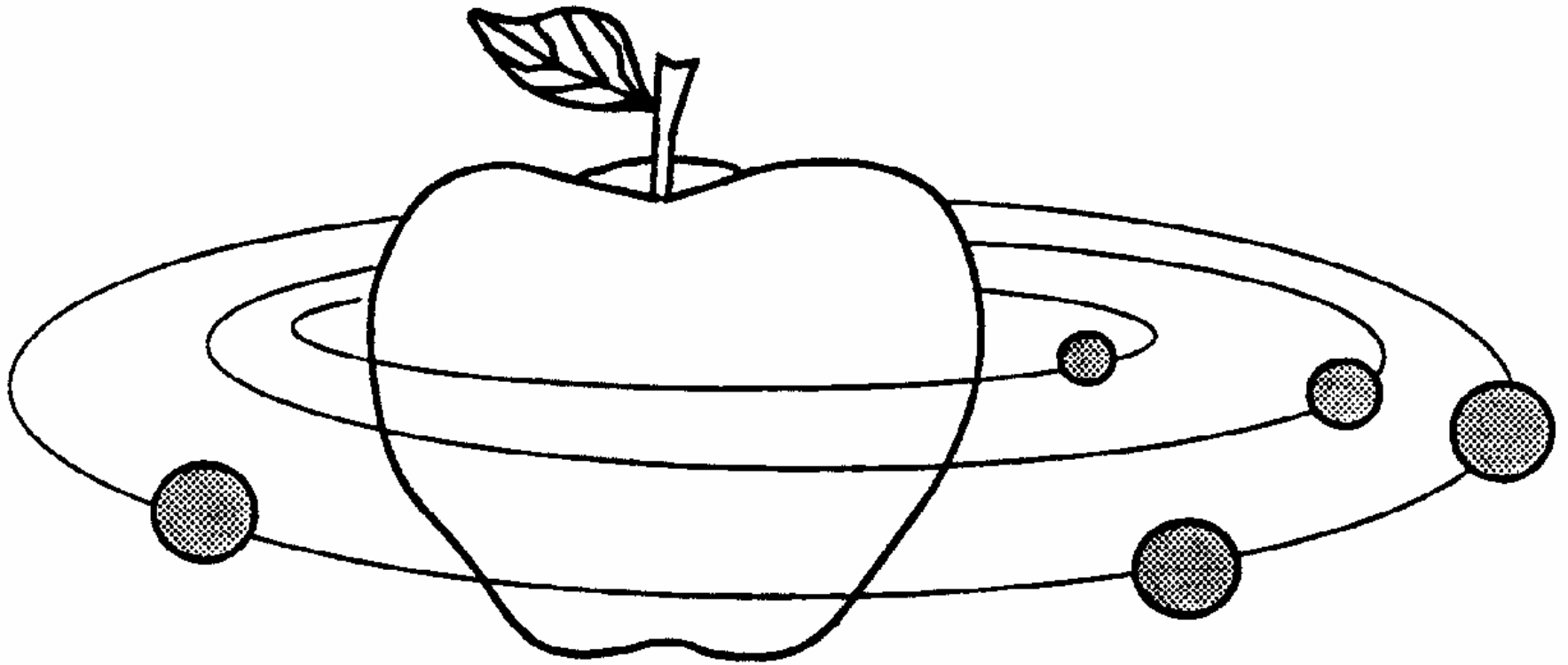
I'm faithful as a swan
I'm darker than a bat
I'm friendly as a bear
But tougher than a rat...

I'm restless as a cat caged up in a zoo
Terrifying love...

THE ENLIGHTENMENT



LAWS OF NATURE



IDEALISTS

vs.

REALISTS

1. Virtue!

2. Human Nature is malleable.

3. Evil tied to evil institutions (Private property, Inequality, etc.)

4. Classical Republics were based on virtue

1. Self-Interest!

2. Human nature is constant.

3. Evil exists regardless of institutions

4. Classical Republics were unstable and brief

Sally Faces Life

- I will go with Fred because I never tell lies or break commitments—period.
- I will go with Fred because the world will be better for all of us (including me) if we don't tell lies or break commitments.
- I will go with Fred because it will be bad for my reputation to dump Fred for Lance.
- I will go with Fred because Lance will respect me all the more and will undoubtedly ask me again.
- I will go with Fred because he is the marrying kind and Lance isn't.
- I will dump Fred because Fred would surely dump me in similar circumstances.
- I will dump Fred because in this world of trouble, white lies and broken dates are no big deal.
- I will dump Fred because it's the best thing for Fred. It's immoral to lead a nerd on.
- I will dump Fred because this is the chance of a lifetime.

STRUCTURE:

An organizational system which uses self-interest to check self-interest thereby channeling human nature toward a desirable outcome.

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