

## **The Color of Constellations:**

### **A Spiral Dynamics Perspective on the Human Drama**

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I recall one very dark evening out in the African bush. Only the light from the slowly extinguishing campfire provided any flickering illumination. When it finally reduced itself to softer red glows, one could finally visualize the majesty of the sky in the Southern Hemisphere, and even recognize the fabled Southern Cross. Only then could I begin to detect the other constellations, the unique pattern of stars that gave the word “constellation” its first listing in my internal lexicon.

But now, with the growing influence of the work of Bert Hellinger (who also must have seen the Southern Cross many times when he was working in South Africa), I have an appreciation for how he has brought to the surface the invisible “constellations” that set the course for the many different aspects of human behavior as we migrate through the mind forms of the cosmos itself. Whether watching stars or people, there are discernable patterns and sculptures, ones that we must understand.

This presentation will seek to add new insights into this search for a cognitive map of social relations and interactions, whether in a tightly focused family or organization brain syndicate, or even writ large on the landscape of an entire culture or society. For too long we have been trapped on the surface, chasing after behavioral stereotypes with only carrots and sticks in our tool kits. By profiling and revealing the deeper themes and trends that shape actions and behaviors, one can see the overall patterns with greater clarity, and then deal with the total system rather than pieces and fragments. Until we can shut out the bright lights that obscure our vision, we cannot envision the starlight full of constellations, both on earth as well as in the heavens.

#### **Enter Bert Hellinger**

Hellinger’s seminal work has been inductive in its origin in that his sense of the patterns emerged from years of experience, rather than deductively driven from any top-down academic theory. This is what makes his lifetime work so charming, intrinsically valuable and most certainly legitimate. No doubt he has mined the historic concepts of transference as depicted by J. L. Moreno in expressions of psychodrama. Yet, he has gone far beyond these historic antecedents as he has continued to map out the dynamics beneath the surface. His humility, along with his confessed lack of knowing how the whole system works, only add additional luster to his life’s work.

Hellinger believes that all humans have a soul, a core belief, an internal calling of sorts. When one lives up to this inner voice from a primal consciousness level, there is internal harmony and external peace. When the soul is damaged by self-delusions, profound lifestyle failures, or impaired by the intrusions from others, the whole system (sculpture) is out of alignment. And, even when an altruistic or love-generated motive causes a person to take on someone else's supreme calling, these actions disrupt the flow of peace and harmony. Often a short-term and only temporary settlement will supplant a longer term and more permanent solution. Unresolved problems from the past, consequently, continue to plague present realities and even restrict future options until they are brought into an accommodation of sorts. It's one thing to complain about the insults and hurts to the "inner child"; it is quite another to foreclose on that life chapter on behalf of current peace of mind and freedom of action.

In his years of experiences embedded in more than a thousand constellations, Hellinger has constructed three primary windows through which one could view the continual and constantly unraveling, morphing, and transforming human drama. His early work focused on family systems and intergenerational conflicts. In recent years he has expanded his horizon and span to include corporate executive suites and even entire societies. He is to be commended for this far-reaching vision. His work has identified three essential viewing windows that one should use in observing and profiling any complex human system in operation: (1) **Ordering**, (2) **Bonding** and (3) **Compensation**.

Through the **Ordering** window one observes the hierarchy of influence and control; the specific "henpecking order" or "who gets to tell whom what to do," or how "rank is pulled" to exercise dominance; or simply "what one's 'place'" is in the family network, the executive suite; the school room's rights and privileges, or the alpha, beta, etc. displays of wolves, dogs, males, females etc. Obviously, a lack of clarity can create loads of confusion; or competition for the various slots can spark conflict and trigger violence of all types. Weaker entities in the system may often attach to stronger entities just to be protected from others in the power alignment. Even battered women often return to the source of the pain just to "stay safe." Since any social Order assigns value to capabilities, competency and even seniority alignments, it is always vulnerable to significant shuffles and reconfigurations. We are constantly in motion as power arrangements shift, new personalities are inserted, or the name of the social game changes in front of our eyes. If you don't think so, look at what the 9/11 influence point in history caused. These invasive perturbations occur in our daily lives in a myriad of complex relationships. Once they happen, everything changes.

Through the **Bonding** window, one can monitor how the meaning-making and 'us vs. them" dynamic is working; how individuals identify with family names, group norms and icons, and even national cultures to establish a self-identity of worth – to them at least. Since individuals will move either closer or further away from the bonding core, such activities will, of necessity, unsettle many of the interpersonal issues and expectations,

and once again throw the whole constellation out of balance. Questions as to who is “in” and who is “out” are often raised in the internal dialogue.

And third, by observing these activities through a **Compensations** window perspective, one can analyze and keep an account of the gain:loss ratios; the trade-offs; the public or private “deals” that are made to establish equilibrium in the system. The negative aspects of **Compensation** are evident in attempts to “pay others back” for ancient grudges or exact a pound of flesh from someone who offended sometime in the past. Actions driven by the revenge motive may, at least in the mind of the perpetrator, restore a necessary balance. This may lead, alas, to the mutual down-ratchet of self-destruction as both parties (or societies) become locked in a death dance.

Of course, one actually needs to be able to watch all “windows” simultaneously, since they are so interconnected as action in one impacts the movements in the others. Since the focus is on the impact of change and movement of entities in the specific constellations, it might be useful to interweave into this living tapestry a new conceptual system that could well provide even greater clarity into the unique sculptures. This new model is called Spiral Dynamics and reflects the original work of Clare W. Graves and the expansive and advanced version in what is called SDi or Spiral Dynamics Integral.

### **Enter Clare W. Graves**

At the same time that Bert Hellinger was engaged in a search for the underlying patterns that determine health in family constellations, Clare W. Graves, Professor of Psychology at Union College, New York, was involved in a lifelong study of what he called “Levels of Psychological Existence.” He grew weary of refereeing among and between the established psychological theories of his day. He sensed that there was a deeper pattern to why each theory had emerged, and what new ones were on the horizon for human beings. He involved thousands of people in his research and observations and, like Hellinger, was constantly on the lookout for the magnet-like templates that were both invisible and potent. In his research he identified eight such patterns, with a ninth one on the horizon. These are often called stages, waves, vMememes, and value systems. In this presentation we will employ a color lens metaphor to fit well with the notion of the Order, Bonding, and Compensation windows through which we are watching social interaction.

**Life Conditions** generate **vMeme Codes** which impact **Minds and Ways of Thinking** which, in turn, create **Systems and Structures** which eventually influence and shape **Actions and Behaviors**. This paper will invite you to look beneath the surface to recognize the deeper vMeme Codes since they lie at the core of what forms constellations in the first place. Imagine, then, a three-dimensional Spiral of complex systems at work within people and in various human groupings.

## **Eight Stages of Social Development**

### The Colors of Constellations

A social stage is more like an emerging wave than a rigid step. Each stage is simply a temporary, transitional plateau that forms in individual and collective minds. Some call them “paradigms” or “levels of psychological existence.” In other writings I refer to them as valueMEMES or bio/psycho/social/spiritual DNA-type scripts that inculcate their codes throughout a culture, and even migrate around the planet on CNN and in 747s. These are fluid, living systems rather than rigid hierarchical steps. They form into spirals of complexity and exist within people, organizations, and entire societies. Cultures, as well as countries, are formed by the emergence of value systems (social stages) in the response to life conditions. Such complex adaptive intelligences form the glue that bonds a group together, defines who they are as a people, and reflects the place on the planet they inhabit. These cultural waves, much like the Russian dolls (a doll embedded within a doll embedded within a doll) have formed, over time, into unique mixtures and blends of instructional and survival codes, myths of origin, artistic forms, lifestyles, and senses of community. While they are all legitimate expressions of the human experience, they are not “equal” in their capacities to deal with complex problems in society.

Yet, the detectable social stages within cultures are not Calvinistic-like scripts that lock us into choices against our will. Nor are they inevitable steps on a predetermined staircase, or magically appearing like crop circle structures in our collective psyche. Cultures should not be seen as rigid types, having permanent traits. Instead, they are core adaptive intelligences that ebb and flow, progress and regress, with the capacity to lay on new levels of complexity (value systems) when conditions warrant. Much like an onion, they form layers on layers on layers. There is no final state, no ultimate destination, no utopian paradise. Each stage is but a prelude to the next, then the next, then the next.

**The Spiral exists within a person, a family, an organization, a culture, a society. We are not “on” the Spiral at any level. Further, *these are ways of thinking about specific issues; they are not types of people.* One cannot automatically deduce them from behavior. We need to always ask “the ‘why’ question” before we can uncover the operating vMemetic code.**

Each emerging social stage or cultural wave contains a more expansive horizon, a more complex organizing principle, with newly calibrated priorities, mindsets, and specific bottom-lines. All of the previously acquired social stages remain in the composite value system to determine the unique texture of a given culture, country, or society. In Ken Wilber’s language, each new social stage “transcends but includes” all of those which have come before.

Societies with the capacity to change swing between I:Me:Mine and We:Us:Ours poles. Tilts in one direction create the need to self-correct, thus causing a shift toward the opposite pole. “Me decades” become “Us epochs” as we constantly spiral up or spiral down in response to life conditions. Some social stages stress diversity generators that reward individual initiatives and value human rights. Other social stages impose conformity regulators and reward cooperative, collective actions. Societies will zigzag between these two poles, thus embracing different models at each tilt.

Once a new social stage appears in a culture, it will spread its instructional codes and life priority messages throughout that culture’s surface-level expressions: religion, economic and political arrangements, psychological and anthropological theories, and views of human nature, our future destiny, globalization, and even architectural patterns and sports preferences. We all live in flow states; there is always new wine, always old wineskins. Indeed, we find ourselves pursuing a never-ending quest.

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### THE LIVING STRATA IN OUR PSYCHO-CULTURAL ARCHEOLOGY

<i>Stage/Wave</i>	<i>Color code</i>	<i>Popular name</i>	<i>Thinking</i>	<i>Cultural Manifestations and Personal displays</i>
Stage/Wave 8	Turquoise Lens	WholeView	<i>Holistic</i>	collective individuality; cosmic spirituality; earth changes
Stage/Wave 7	Yellow Lens	FlexFlow	<i>Ecological</i>	natural systems; self-principle; multiple realities; knowledge
Stage/Wave 6	Green Lens	HumanBond	<i>Consensus</i>	egalitarian; feelings; authentic; sharing; caring; community
Stage/Wave 5	Orange Lens	StriveDrive	<i>Strategic</i>	materialistic; consumerism; success; image; status; growth
Stage/Wave 4	Blue Lens	TruthForce	<i>Authority</i>	meaning; discipline; traditions; morality; rules; lives for later
Stage/Wave 3	Red Lens	PowerGods	<i>Egocentric</i>	gratification; glitz; conquest; action; impulsive; lives for now
Stage/Wave 2	Purple Lens	KinSpirits	<i>Animistic</i>	rites; rituals; taboos; superstitions; tribes; folk ways & lore
Stage/Wave 1	Beige Lens	SurvivalSense	<i>Instinctive</i>	food; water; procreation; warmth; protection; stays alive

*Please note that we use colors to represent each of the Stage/Wave systems. These colors have no other significance; they are simply communication devices to enable individuals to represent the entire belief system with the simple symbol set. They also enable us to develop more attractive graphics.*

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The warm color vMememes – Beige, Red, Orange, Yellow – are inner-directed, with a primary focus on I:Me:Mine. The cool color vMememes – Purple, Blue, Green and Turquoise – are essentially outer-directed as senses of self and the webs of culture are constructed from the outside, in. These will have a We:Us:Our orientation. Each person will have a center of gravity which is the normal way that person makes priority choices, all things being calm and even. There will be vMememes in the basement, those coping systems that were once relevant but no longer. There will also be vMememes in the attic; those life-choices yet to be awakened since the Life Conditions that will call them forth have yet to appear on a person’s radar scope. These vMememes are essentially codes that play out their instruction themes in all areas of life, from sports to religion, from business to ethics, from philosophy to architecture, and from economics to politics. One

may, of course, express different vMemes in different areas, around different issues, and in diverse contexts. There will be issues **within** each of the vMemes and, of course, **between** the various vMemes.

To actually “see” the vMeme-at-work, one must have the appropriate viewing lens that enables a person to detect the code, recognize the pattern, and then craft the proper and healthy response. Not everybody will be able to “see” these deeper vMeme codes at work until they have been awakened and activated inside that person. This would suggest that different constellation leaders should be selected to deal with different individuals, families, and other groupings. In short, each person will have a unique color palette. It might be useful to employ complementary teams whose collective color lenses reflect the entire vMemetic color spectrum.

### **Looking at Constellations through vMemetic colors**

This last section will describe how the vMeme codes operate within Constellations, both in terms of the internal dynamics within that system or the nature of external conflict between and among the vMemetic connections. In short, you will be asked to put on the different viewing lens in order to see the invisible fields, the cultural webs that hold people in specific relationships, and the personal growth and development issues that often create havoc within an established and convertible system. And, of course, you will need the good sense and perceptual filters to be able to detect which vMeme(s) is (are) operative in a given episode or happening. Complex systems are often kaleidoscopic by nature, each in each turn reframing and reforming the color pieces. Even a Constellation experience itself will reshape what existed prior to the event, since we live in constantly altering flow states.

*We will describe each viewing system in terms of (1) the ranking system, how each divides humans along some type hierarchy; (2) the Bonding Index or extent to which there is social pressure to confirm to some cluster of ideas and acceptable core of beliefs; (3) the Compensation arrangement that determines who gets what in terms of assets, spoils, resources, or goodies; and (4) the Organizational Legend that represents the way people in a particular mindset would align themselves on a stage or platform.*

### ***The Beige Code, System, and Viewing Lens: Basic Survival***

At this stage of human existence, one is only concerned with survival – making it through the day and night. Higher-order priorities suddenly vanish in the midst of personal strategy, extreme suffering or deprivation. Simply staying alive is more highly valued. In this condition, humans gather together in protective clans to preserve what they have and fend off predators. The father in the survival clan eats first because if the strongest dies, the family has no hope. When humans are trapped in this condition, the caring family and community should respond in a sensitive care taking fashion, to first meet the basic physical and emotional needs.

- \*Criteria for Rank: High survival skills vs. Low Survival skills
- \**Bonding Index*: Low – death is too near
- \**Compensation Arrangement*: Low since everything is virtually hand to mouth
- \**Organizing Legend*: A Loose Clan

***The Purple Code, System and Viewing Lens: Safety and Security***

In the enchanted world of Purple, mystery, ritual, myth, tribal bonding, and respect for elders, including dead ancestors, reign supreme. Jungian archetypes – Noble Knights, Wicked Witches, Playful Elves, Queen Mothers, Powerful Wizards, and Evil Villains – dominate the scene. One’s place in the tribal order is determined by birth, kinship, and ethnicity. Here bonding is the most intense, and primal. The spirit of the African *concept of Ubuntu (mutual reciprocity) determines the compensation arrangement. All share equally in whatever is available. Conflicts are handled more through rituals than pay-backs. The role of the chief is to listen to the wise ones and then announce the consensus rather than dictate an outcome. Threats to the throne are commonplace as court intrigue often drives the political system. Because Purple is tightly bound, two competitive Purple systems or tribes often engage in quite serious warfare, as in the movie Lord of the Flies. Boundaries tend to be tight; icons such as special costumes, magical handshakes, territories to protect, and legends to preserve will make tribal members easy to recognize. When the chief, patriarch, or Queen Mother dies in a social system under the power of the Purple vMeme, all hell can break loose until, of course, he/she is replaced based on the traditions within the tribal order. Those who break away from the magnetic pull of Purple are seen as renegades or heretics since they have threatened the web of safety and security for all. One can often detect the amount of Purple by looking for family rituals, rites of passage, seasonal events, highly valued heirlooms that are passed through the generations, and a strong sense of identity with the “tribe.”*

- \**Criteria for Rank*: Close to the spirit source vs. Far from the spirit source
- \**Bonding Index*: Very, very high
- \**Compensation Arrangement*: high
- \**Organizing Legend*: A Tribal Circle, with chief, elders, and magic person in the inner core.

***The Red Code, Dynamic System and Viewing Lens: High Risk, Raw Power, Instant Gratification:***

In this social arrangement where predators strut on the scene and prey are in constant danger, empires are formed, either as micro (as in a Mafia-type family) or in whole societies (as in a kingdom or dictatorship). *“Express self, now, to hell with others”* is the overarching code of the jungle. It’s each person for themselves, in the dog-eat-dog world. Here one finds both acts of rebellion and heroic deeds that litter the landscape with legends of conquest, dominance, and bravery. This Red code might operate in the open, in outlandish displays of power and grandiosity or in may lurk in the shadows of intrigue, cunning, and deviousness. It develops on one hand the raw, expressive

independence in the terrible twos or preadolescent years, or may resurface in the form of the crusty aged who often develop the theme: "As the days dwindle to a precious view, I say to hell with everybody."

Red contains the motive for breaking free from restrictive rituals, from social obligations and demands, to stand tall in a personal quest to slay the dragons, thus earning one's spurs. It trusts only self; avoids emotional entanglements, and lives for today. The actions tend to be more impulsive than calculated; and there appears to be a different pain threshold. Red can absorb a great amount of physical punishment.

Any student of the Constellation methodology has encountered this Red vMeme at work in all kinds of power conflicts and egocentric actions within social units. RED demands to be at the top of the heap and will challenge any pretender to the throne. It can show neither weakness nor tears. Only within the context of its own family, clan, or tribe will it display much affection. It is not at all sensitive to matters of guilt, long-term obligations, or social responsibilities. Shame and loss of face are magnified in its priority system and it is quick to detect insults and threats to its macho and ego. It tends to find blame outside of self and has little respect for arbitrary rules (other than the ones it makes for others.)

*\*Criteria for Rank:* The one with the most power vs. anybody else who stands in its way. Here is the predator-prey relationship.

*\*Bonding Index:* Very Low since it is each person for self, to hell with others.

*\*Compensation Arrangement:* Both the haves and the have nots deserve their fate.

*\*Organizing Legend:* A top-down Empire with a single boss, then work bosses, then unwashed masses.

### ***The Blue Code, Dynamic System, and Viewing Lens: Meaning, Purpose, Standards, Obedience, Sacrifice, Discipline***

In this 4<sup>th</sup> Level system, **transcendent purpose** replaces extreme selfishness; a sense of responsibility begins to erode and replace the hedonist splurge; and the capacity to wait for the ultimate reward takes the place of the restless demand for instant gratification. The Red "I want it all and I want in now" gives way to a Blue "Save for a rainy day" ethic. Guilt becomes a primary motivator since one will be punished by straying from the established order, or violating the sacred code of conduct, or even failing to live up to internal principles. Here the same truth is accepted by all. The placement of people in the appropriate categories, class, and functions is full accepted as senior-driven system dominates the scene. There is a place for everybody and everybody knows his or her respective place.

One can expect, when the Blue vMeme is operative, a respect for traditions and pageantry; the capacity to embrace abstract ideas and causes (even to die for them), and a much longer timeline. The language is full of shoulds and oughts. One prefers to go by the book, and to live according to the accepted norms, whether written or passed



along. Righteousness, discipline, accountability, stability, perseverance, and order prevail. Higher authority dictates to secular authority who pass them along to the commoner. Society focuses more on punishment than positive rewards – more on length of service than great achievement.

\**Criteria for Rank*: More saintly vs. Less saintly – Higher in the ordered class vs. lower in the ordered class

\**Bonding Index*: Very high but to abstract causes, patriotic fervor, and “doing right”

\**Compensation Arrangement*: Determined by hard work and loyalty to “the system.” Focus is on future.

\**Organizing Legend*: A closed system Hierarchy that determines levels of authority

***The Orange Code, Dynamic System, and Viewing Lens: Empowerment, Advancement, Improvement, Manipulation, Progress***

The shift away from the dependency inherent within the heavy Blue Bonding and the belief in Divine Fate control into the freedom of the autonomous self of Orange is quite a change. Gone are the restrictions, unquestioned conformity, and fear of punishment for mistakes and missteps. Here one celebrates independent thought, pragmatic decision-making, bottom-line benefits, and material pleasure. One learns how to negotiate in a win:win configuration. There is now time for goal setting, for exploring many different paths and options, and for personal empowerment – the critical themes of Orange. “Express self now, in a calculated fashion, but not to raise the ire of others.”

Success is the result of high energy, strategic moves, internal needs to win and achieve, and a desire to take control of one’s life. In this world of high status and competitive urges, one will need to rely on their own personal resources. They will network freely; make deals with others and exert every effort to show evidence of having “made it” in this world. Unlike Red that needs to exploit and turn others into victims, Orange needs others to be winners, too. For Orange, the real payoff is not in monetary gain, but in using it as a way of keeping score. Orange will have the capacity to pick up from a failure and move on to the next success. It has that unique blend of optimism with a “can do” philosophy of life. It tends to see opportunity in everything and has a strong sense of ways to improve and enhance the future. It will not be that loyal to abstractions, causes, or other people UNLESS this loyalty will pay off for them in some regard. When you detect this Orange vMeme in a constellation group, you can expect it will compete with you for the attention and control of the group; it will tend to take charge and cast the Orange glow over the entire activity. Events and happenings will be rationalized as mistakes in judgment rather than human failings. Like Red, it will not be that open or transparent, unless this behavior is deemed to be helpful to its own agenda.

\**Criteria for Rank*: The Most Successful vs. the Least Successful or winners vs. losers.

\**Bonding Index*: very low since everything/everyone is either for sale or can be negotiated.

*\*Compensation Arrangement:* Those who win have earned the goodies in life; those who are losers must accept their fate and do the best they can.

*\*Organizational Legend:* The Enterprise Hierarchy where movement up and down is a function of individual achievement.

***The Green Code, Dynamic System, and Viewing Lens: Sensitivity, Equality, Consensus, Humanness, Transparency, Feelings, Acceptance***

This fairly recent vMemetic Code has emerged out of the Ages of Industry, Technology, Affluence and Enlightenment to declare that in all of these undertakings the basic human being has been neglected. The inner being have been bypassed and ignored. Our science has left us numb, without heart and soul, and with only the outer manifestations of success. The “Good Life” was only measured in materialistic terms. We have now discovered that we have become alienated from ourselves, as well as from others. There is now a quest to get to know one’s self, as well as connect and commune with the selves of others. The focus shifts from personal achievement to group and community-oriented goals and objectives. The needs and feelings of people gain greater priority than fame, glory, power, riches, dominance, and control. Everyone should share equality in our accomplishments as a people; none should be left behind to suffer in any manner. Any idea, structure, or institute that divides us should be questioned if not removed. We are all one human family and all deserve an equal place around the table. All voices should be heard and respected. “The People” should make critical decisions. No one should be able to judge anyone else’s motives, or views, and perspectives. Truth does not exist since each has his or her own version of it, and all are legitimate since they are social constructions – that’s all. As a result, everyone within the constellation should have a say, be free to speak, and encouraged to participate fully. The Bonding is to the idea of humanity itself, as opposed to any immediate group or abstraction. Until all are free; none of us is free.

Boundaries that separate people should be reduced; the interests of all should be considered on every issue; no single person or elitist group has any right for special treatment; we must all join hands and hearts to address the causes of fear, hunger, racism, exploitation, conflict, and violence.

*\*Criteria for Ranking:* While the more sensitive may be of a higher order than the less sensitive, it is simply a matter of time before we are all equal in the eyes of others

*\*Bonding Index:* Very, very high but on those of like-mindedness

*\*Compensation Arrangement:* All should share equally in everything

*\*Organizing Legend:* A circle of equals

***The Yellow Code, Dynamic System, and Viewing Lens Authentic, Natural, Systemic, Flowing, Integral, Flexible, Integrity, Knowing***

While the full display of this Yellow vMeme is years in the future, one can begin to see elements of it today. It has a higher respect for competency than rules; it judges self against self rather than self against others; it appears to live by an informed yet

disciplined inner compass; it is able to adjust to the frequencies and even wears the costumes of each of the other vMememes when it deems necessary. This worldview appears committed but not driven; it can enjoy the best the world has to offer but doesn't really need to have anything. Compulsive habits seem to have vanished along with fear. It tends to hang around until something, some inner voice, calls it to a task that it accepts on its own choosing. If its words are heeded, it will give you the very best it has but it will not tarry long if it senses it will not be heard or has nothing to offer. Since it is a I:Me:Mine system, it takes its individual freedom and autonomy quite seriously. It cannot be bought, manipulated, or exploited. It has a very sensitive "crap" detector and will shoot straight. Because it senses a big picture and the way everything is connected to everything else, it is constantly painting on a much larger canvass than most. It gets bored quickly with little minds and selfish, game-playing agendas. Yellow knows too well its own limits and blind spots and tends to simply let them exist. There is no need to be perfect or complete, or to please anybody else. It will not play "sensitivity" games since it has already been there and done that. Yellow gets to the core of issues in a hurry and will quickly spell out a myriad of options. It has no need to convert people, win people over, push people into doing something they don't want to do, or make quick and all-encompassing judgments of people, their past – their present potential – or their future destiny. While this does not describe a loner per se, the Yellow vMeme does hear its own drummer, and is most often content with itself. It has nothing to prove.

\**Criteria for Ranking:* The more knowing vs. the less knowing

\**Bonding Index:* Very low, yet will be able to do so freely where appropriate

\**Compensation Arrangements:* tends to live lightly on the land but uses resources well and wisely

\**Organizing Legends:* Whatever fits the occasion and the people involved

***The Turquoise Code, Dynamics System, and Viewing Lens: Holistic, Multi- Dimensional, Resonant, Mystical-Spiritual, Living Systems, Energy-Focuses***

While one may find fragments of this specific worldview in a growing number of people, it does not yet have enough history for it to have penetrated into either family or national interactions. It will appear as more a topic of conversation and speculation than a well-defined vMeme code. We just mention it here to indicate that it is yet a minor system in the total human story but, as Life Conditions shift, it may begin to have a higher level of visibility.

**Conclusion**

Each of these vMememes has its own story and has created its own movie with a script already written, with the preferred outcome already set. In a given Constellation experience, one may encounter all of the codes in operation at a given time. The people selected to represent various individuals in a real-life constellation, will bring their vMememes with them, and will be able to participate in the human drama through those

viewing lens. Yet, during the Constellation itself, individual choice-making will often be overrun by the vMeme codes themselves as they express their frequencies, rhythms, and ultimate outcomes. Here may be where the mysterious forces begin to shape and meld the whole interaction, so that the unfolding drama has a life of its own.

As a result, these color vMemetic codes will have an effect on the conceptual systems that pass in front of the Order, Bonding, and Compensation windows. They may enable the Constellations practitioner to gain a glimpse of a deeper truth, the critical tipping point in the dialogue, or the basis for understanding what really happens when the fields are in conflict. Perhaps this understanding of the dynamic Spiral will enable these practitioners to enrich even further the experience of the constellation to the many thousands of people stand to benefit from the insight.

We hope to provide all of those interested in the Constellations methodology the knowledge to acquire all of the viewing lenses so they can get a much clearer picture of the underlying patterns in human endeavors.

Rather than seeing only the Southern Cross in the Southern Hemispheric sky, we hope they can detect the invisible Spiral that guides the psychological migration of humans over our evolutionary pathway.

To rephrase the old radio serial from the 1940s called *The Shadow*: “Who knows what lurks in the minds and hearts of men; only the Spiral knows.”

Don Edward Beck  
2002