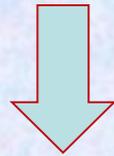


Evolving r3.0



David Sloan Wilson, President, Prosocial World
r3.0 2021 conference

“There is grandeur in this view of life...”

--Charles Darwin, 1859

“Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution...”

--Theodosius Dobzhansky, 1973

The Great Constriction

- For most of the 20th century, the study of evolution was restricted to *genetic* evolution.
- Genetic evolution was framed in terms of *individual and genetic selfishness*.
- Evolution was portrayed as *without any kind of purpose*. Organisms just vary and only the immediate environment does the selecting.

Paradigmatic Change...

- Darwinian evolution is any process that combines the three ingredients of variation, selection, and replication.
- The evolution of prosociality can be explained at face value.
- Evolution can be consciously directed—and **must** to achieve the kind of societal goals envisioned by r3.0.

In short...

- A theory that has had little to offer conscious cultural change efforts suddenly has much to offer.
- Purpose of this talk is to encourage collaborations in the form of **field sites** for conscious multilevel cultural evolution.



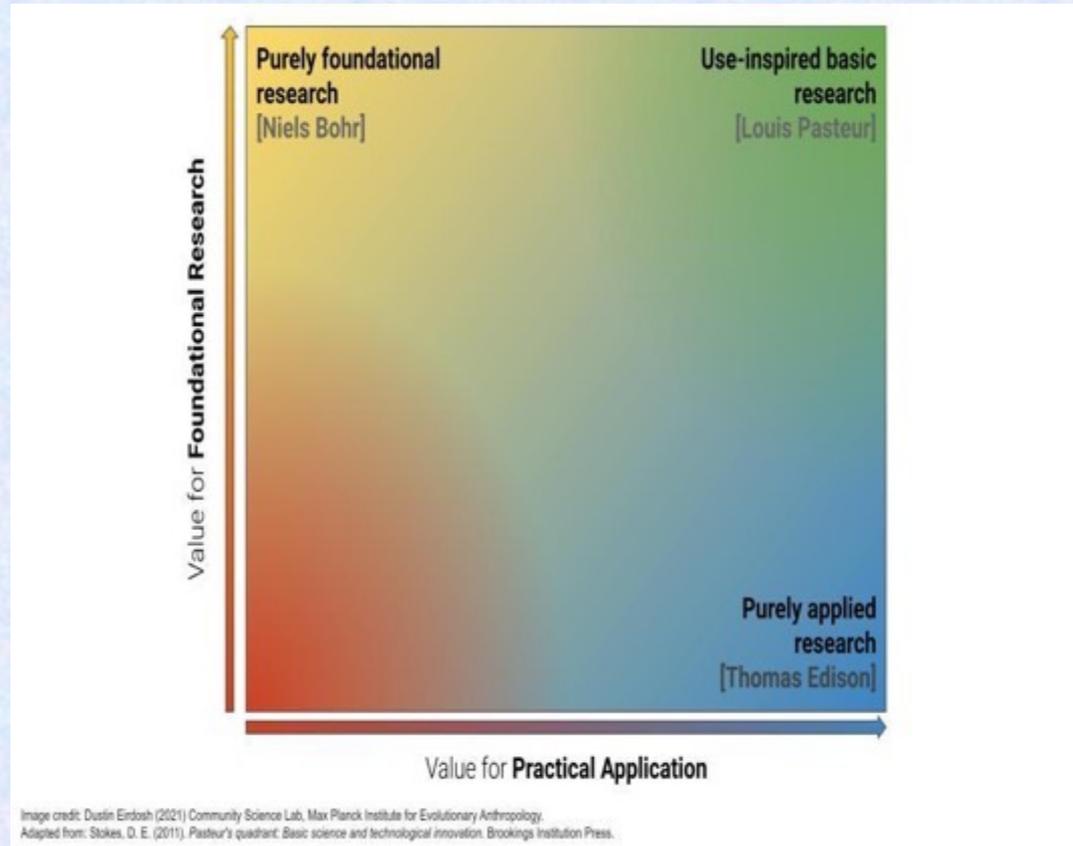
The “Added Value” of an Explicitly Evolutionary Perspective includes...

- A genuinely authoritative theoretical framework to replace the false authority of neoclassical economic theory.
- More generally, a paradigm that can replace individualism in all its forms.
- Going beyond general complex systems theory with key concepts (e.g. Multilevel Selection) that are *specifically evolutionary*.

More Added Values...

- Treating our symbolic meaning systems as an inheritance system, comparable to our genes.
- Highlighting the need for inner (symbotypic) and outer (phenotypic) change in conjunction with each other.
- Scientific understanding of spirituality in a way that does not undermine and even enhances its value.
- A generalization of practical governance and change methods around the common denominators of **cooperation** and **adaptability**.

Combining Foundational Research and Practical Applications



- Studying people from all walks of life, as they go about their lives.

Done With, not Done To

- Prosocial methods are inherently equitable and participatory.
- In the spirit of Participatory Action Research and cultural anthropological methods that are highly respectful of the cultures being studied.

PW's Ambitious Goals

- To create a worldwide scientific community for the study of multilevel cultural evolution in real-world settings.
- To create a worldwide community of trained facilitators for working with groups (already > 600 from >30 nations) .
- To create a worldwide ecosystem of field sites and facilitating organizations.

“Bottom-up” and “Enlightened Top-down”

- “Bottom up” = working at the scale of small, functionally oriented groups as a fundamental unit of human society and the “cells” of “multi-cellular” society at larger scales.
- “Enlightened top-down” = organizations in a position to facilitate conscious cultural evolution at lower scales and coordinate with conscious cultural evolution at higher scales.

Defining a Field Site

Any population of people interested in working with us to help consciously steward their cultural evolution to achieve prosocial goals.

The starting point for all field sites

- An existing cultural/environmental system chosen as the target of selection.

- A school system

- A healthcare system

- A bioregion

- A group of people with at least some capacity to influence the system.

- Minimally, “bottom-up” capacity at the scale of small groups.

- Even better, with “enlightened top-down” help from capacitating organizations.

The starting point for all field sites

- From this starting point, PW methods are used to identify ambitious but feasible goals, which are carried out by small action groups whenever possible.
- Initial success at feasible scales increases the capacity to influence the system at larger scales.
- Goal is continuous engagement and improvement, not in-and-out training.
- Each field site becomes part of the worldwide ecosystem of field sites.

Highly fundable...

...but don't wait for the money!

- We have numerous grant-supported projects to initiate field sites.
- We expect the field site concept to become an increasingly "easy sell" to funding agencies on the basis of its success.
- **Grant support is not required to become a field site.**
- **We are organized to work with any group that wants to become a field site, no matter what their starting capacity.**

“It sounds wonderful, but we’re way too busy to add something like that to our plate!”

- This is a sure sign that you are not stewarding your long-term cultural evolution as much as you need to!
- Consider composing a small team within your organization to learn enough to make an informed choice.

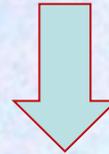
Current projects most relevant to r3.0

- Evolving a sustainable future in the UK (funded by the ESRC).
- Regenerative agriculture in the American Midwest (funded by Nicholas Jordan's "Forever Green" program).
- Implementing Prosocial in Latin America, with Joe Brewer's Earth Regenerators as a partnering organization (funded by the Templeton World Charity Organization).

Evolving r3.0

To learn more:

- Email me to discuss possibilities.
- Talk with Ralph, Bill, Joe and others who have already become acquainted with PW.
- I will be present during the entire r3.0 conference to learn more about its many excellent initiatives.



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