

Building a Path to Peace



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Imagine a Washington...

where diverse stakeholders are empowered to
creatively solve problem together,

where the divide between east & west is only
geographical,

where government is trusted,

where rural communities are vibrant & resilient,

and they coexist with healthy, sustainable
populations of predators.

Was it war or peace that made this possible?

What is Conflict?

- Inherent
- Destructive vs. Constructive
- An opportunity
- Provokes fight or flight reaction
- Multiple scales
- Complex & dynamic



What is Conservation Conflict Transformation?

- Peace embedded in social justice
- Multiple scientific disciplines
- Destructive → Constructive
- Focus on relationships, process, systems
- Prevent collateral damage
- Foster long term change



Why Conservation Conflict Transformation?

- The solution to war is not more war
- Destructive patterns repeat & deepen
- Yesterday's solution → today's battle
- 90% of challenge is social
- Emotions drive decision-making
- Multiple scales



What are the challenges?

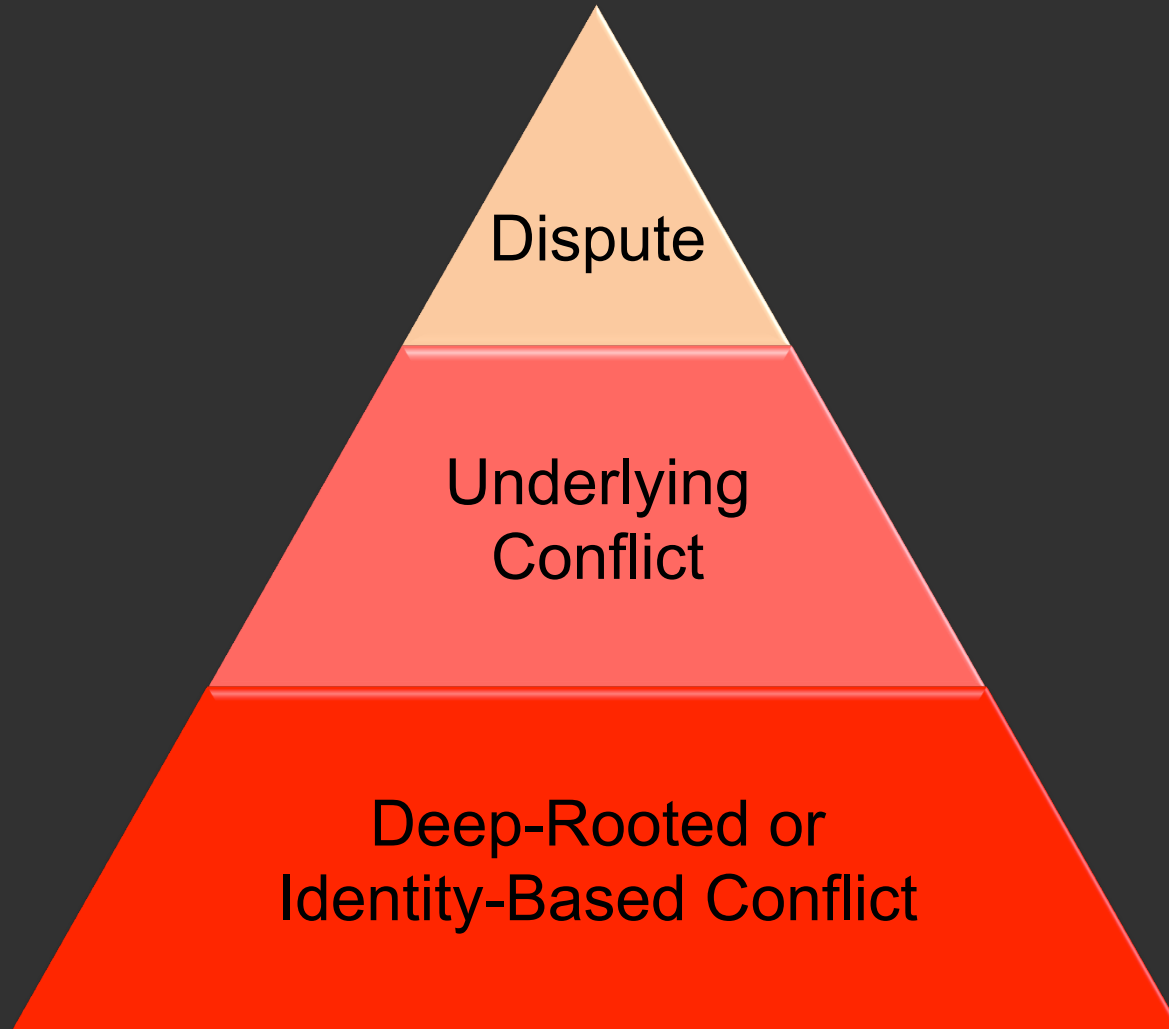
- War is clear, familiar, rewarded, appears strong
- Peace is subtle, unfamiliar, appears weak
- The past is not an indication of the future
- Requires a change in thinking & approach
- Pursuing peace during war takes courage
- Social/news media
- Scale



An analysis of conflict

Levels of Conflict:

An Orientation to Conflict Transformation

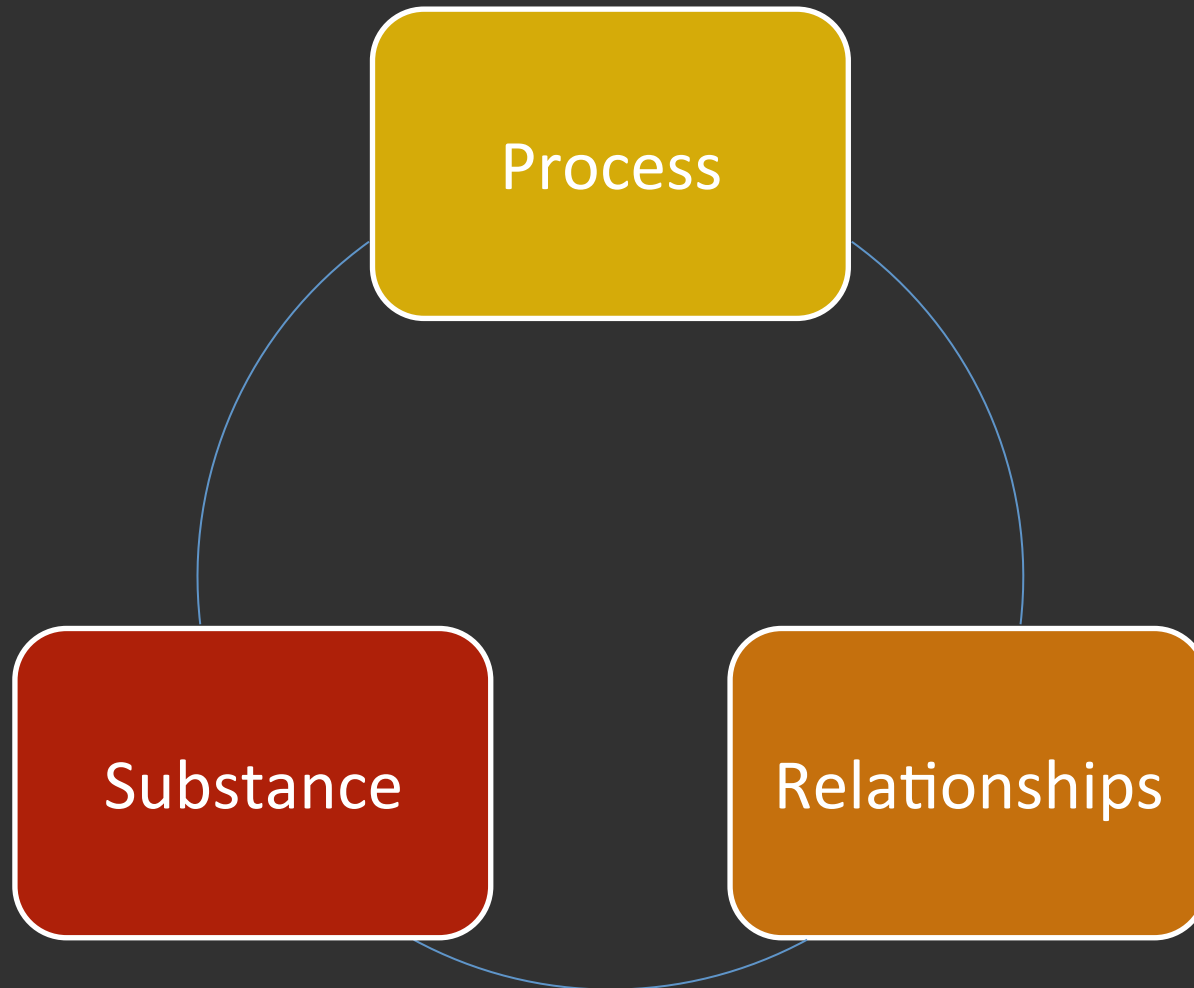


HUMAN NEEDS

- Identity
- Recognition
- Security
- Connectedness
- Meaning & Personal Fulfillment
- Freedom



Three Dimensions of Conflict



Systems Conflict



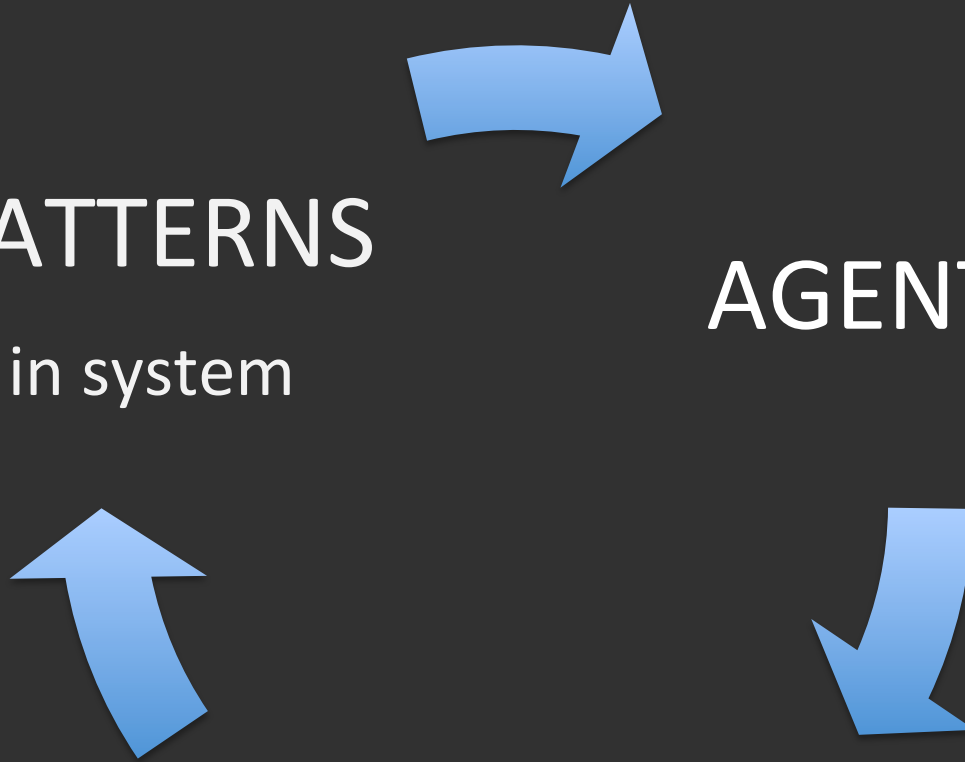
Complex Adaptive Systems

PATTERNS

in system

AGENTS

INTERACTIONS



Two Games: Which are you playing?

Finite Game	Infinite Game
Fixed Boundaries	No Boundaries
Fixed Rules & Players	Rules & Players Change
Predictable	Unpredictable
Goal: To Win	Goal: To Keep Playing

Power Dynamics in War

- Reactions vary
- Powerful:
 - Law, education, political action, money
 - Socially acceptable
- Powerless:
 - Foot-dragging, dishonesty, false compliance, desertion, poaching, slander, sabotage, threats
- Weapons of the weak are instruments for resistance and political protest

Implications: Power & War

- War oppresses all
- Contest of who has the bigger hammer
- Cycle repeats & deepens
- Casualties: people & wildlife
- Action: Balance power & secure needs

Secure, resilient communities are no longer weak, so they stop using the weapons of the weak.

What's happening in Washington?

- It's not just WAG or wolves
- Engaging systems & multiple scales of conflict
- Intragroup & intergroup conflict
- Creating space for creative problem solving & reconciling relationships
- Capacity building
- Institutionalizing change

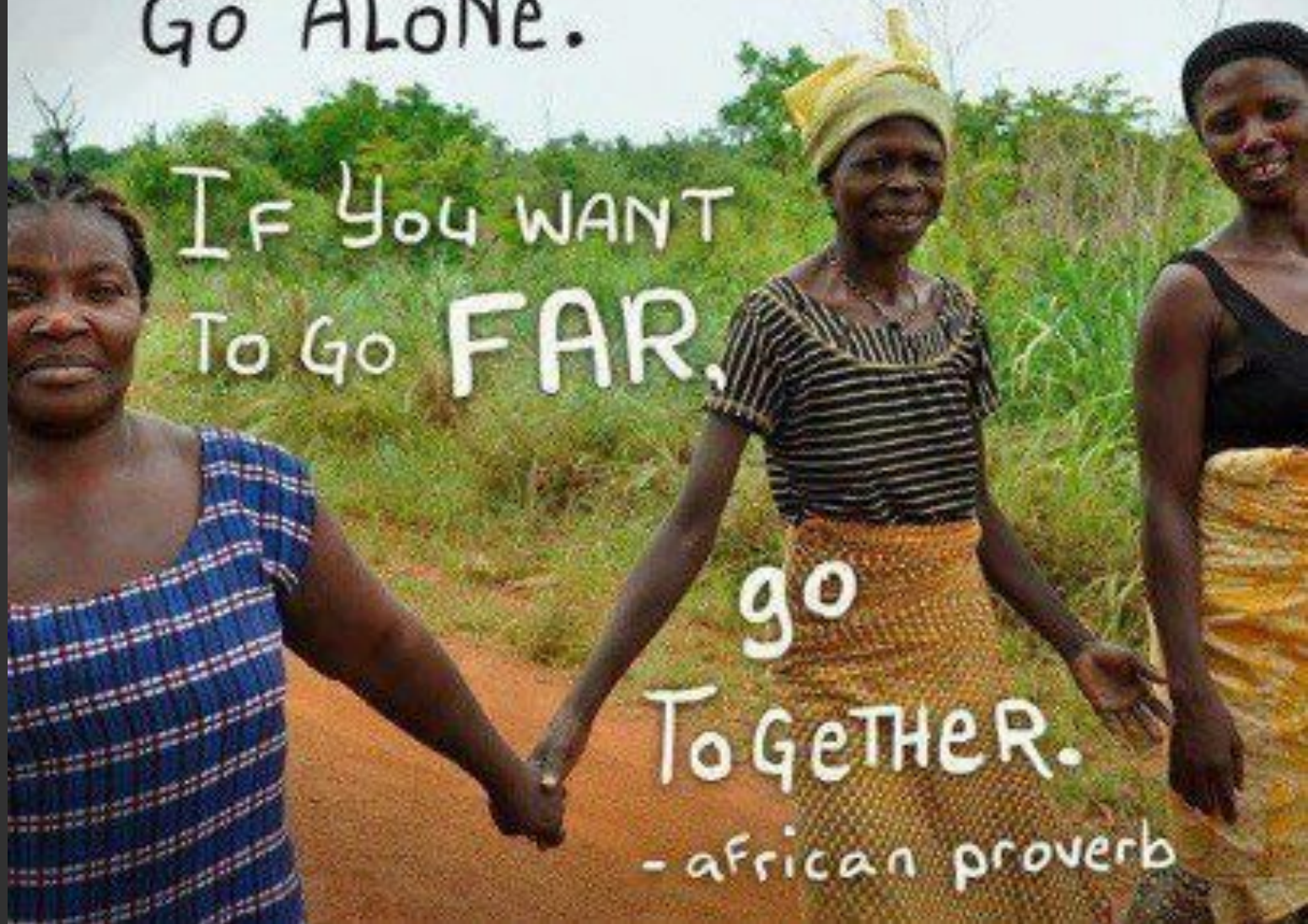


IF YOU WANT TO GO FAST,
GO ALONE.

IF YOU WANT
TO GO FAR,

go
TOGETHER.

- african proverb



Thank you!