



Centric Model OF Moral Evaluation



What is morality?

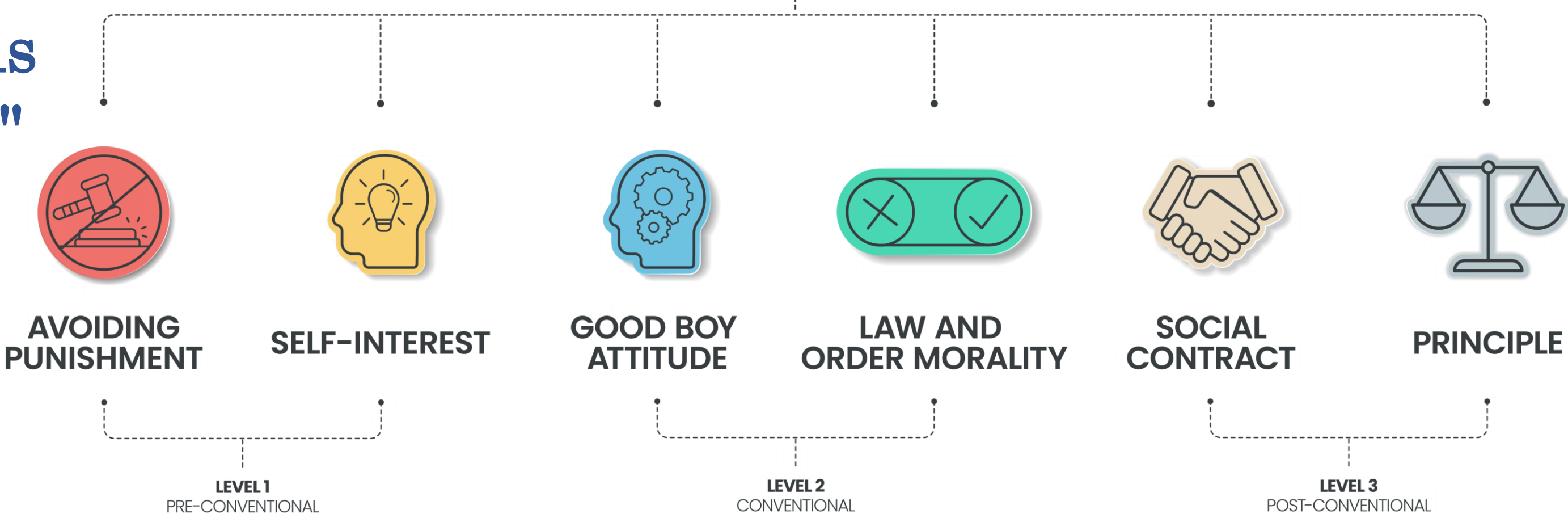
Even though we could cite many definitions and argue about their validity, the fact remains that we all search for a description or specification of moral rules we could follow and fulfill our own as well as social expectations of being a virtuous human. Moral and civic virtue have been an essential element of the concept of meritocracy in all known cultures and continue to guide us in creating the ethical rules of our social life.

Morality as an object of human search

The desired ideal state forms the core of various paths in the human search for ethical rules across multiple dimensions. Two main currents are considered here. The first is the internal one, in which we compare the evaluated fact with our internal conception of right and wrong and the value system of our moral environment, which shapes our value system. The second current arises in the moral environment through interactions (such as debates or discussions) between moral subjects (people participating in a moral discussion) and is weighed against shared values, the so-called public morality. These could be represented as two spheres of search, with the ethical ideal at the center, which dictates the "azimuth" of the evaluation. Thus, *centric*.

People strive for such a state of society's ethical order in which there is no need to talk about morality; let us call this state of ethical "utopia" *Etopia*

SIX STAGES OF MORAL DEVELOPMENT



Methodology

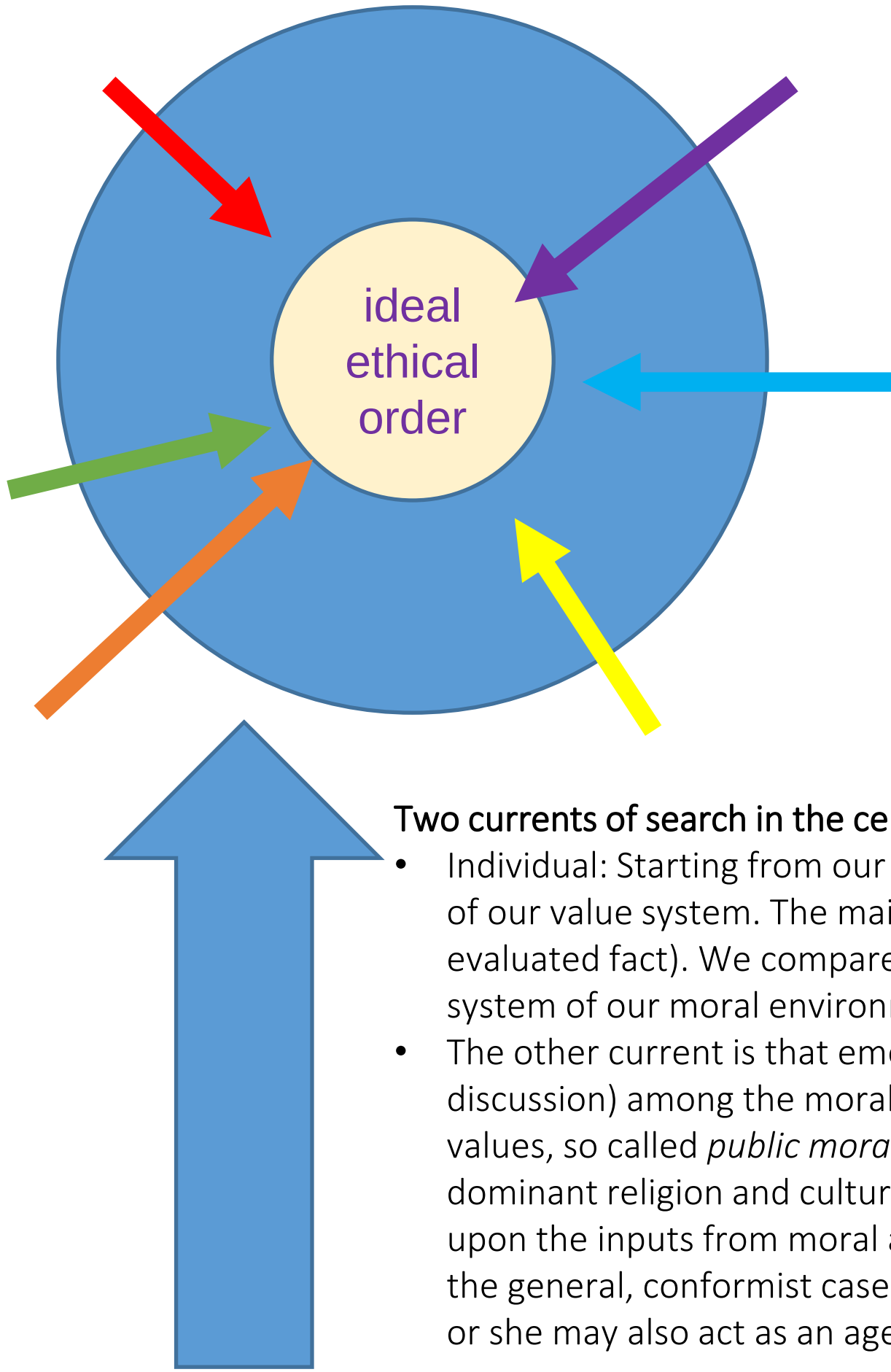
- Qualitative research
- Thematic analysis

Main sources:

- Sandel, Michael J. The Tyranny of Merit: What's Become of the Common Good? London: Penguin Books, 2021.
- Legutko, Ryszard. The Cunning of Freedom: Saving the Self in an Age of False Idols. First American edition. New York: Encounter Books, 2021.
- Sandel, Michael J. Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do? 1st pbk. ed. New York: Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2010.
- Frankl, Viktor E. Man's Search for Ultimate Meaning / by Viktor E. Frankl. London: Rider, 2011.
- Shafer-Landau, Russ. Fundamentals of Ethics. Sixth edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2024.
- HJI course THE 5141 Ethics and Social Justice

ToDo:

Develop evaluation framework based on Unification Thought



Two currents of search in the centric perspective:

- Individual: Starting from our inner impulse to act morally we evaluate facts of our reality through the filter of our value system. The main elements of evaluation are reason and intuition (a feeling about the evaluated fact). We compare the evaluated fact with our inner notion of right and wrong and the value-system of our moral environment, which conditions our sense of values.
- The other current is that emerging in the moral environment as a result of the interactions (like debate, or discussion) among the moral subjects (people engaging in a moral discussion) and weighing against shared values, so called *public morality*. Such a public notion of right and wrong emerges mostly on the basis of the dominant religion and culture of the region. Members of such particular society or social groups decide upon the inputs from moral authorities, cultural developments or religious and scientific currents. Beyond the general, conformist case, when the individual just follows the rules posed by the moral environment, he or she may also act as an agent influencing the settled system of values.

- a state of ethical order where moral rules are no more necessary
- morality emerges in the “gap” between current and the ideal state
- many ways targeting the center—**centric model**

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