

The Problems of Making Social Change Prognoses in View of Generational Change

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Making social change prognoses, specifically in the scope of technological and ecological change, should be preceded in many cases by epistemological and empirical theories and methods. The fundamental problem of the majority of social change analyses is that they are covered in ideology. Many analysts take for granted the assumption that the more technological contemporary society is, the more advanced the level of development. Another assumption is that, whatever change advances ecological needs (whatever that means), automatically advances humanity. The paradox depends on technology connecting to society also connecting with technological life assumed to have a higher quality than without technology. Nature also tends to have a greater value than society. Long range thinking, as a result, is disconnected from societal developmental planning. It is important to state clearly that, what has been accepted as beneficial by one generation may be considered dangerous to further functioning of society by a subsequent intergeneration. Furthermore, longitudinal timeframe analysis often begins to show the deep effects only *after* changes have already taken place. This is why it is important to begin to question at what *tempo* these changes should take place, and in what *time frame* knowledge should be pursued. The point of the current poster session is to argue that there are enormous benefits of technological and ecological prognosis extended beyond one generational cohort. The ultimate goal therefore is to model technological and ecological reality in ways that are responsible for the actual *needs* in an active generation in a given timeframe. Prognosis of this type should ultimately be a prognosis of future generational cohort needs in light of strategic planning.

Why the prognosis perspective is important for the project. It would be difficult to imagine any type of social change research without an extension beyond historic and current perspectives. Planning social change is the imminent domain of European society.: The higher level of GDP, the stronger the pressure to participate in the process of social planning and activities. Good planning however, should be supported by limitations of the influence of myths, even when these originate in the area of science.

Elaboration of the project

Project:
Social change in ecology and technology in
the generational dimension

Conception of the Axis of Modern Civilization (macro level)
non-determination opening of culture and institutions
roles of long term cultural models and long term structures
roles of internal pluralism innovations for social complexity
aspects of axis: primary, civil, and transcendental
social movements
axis elites
crisis of social structures

Conception of Generational Revolt (meso level)
central potential of generations
cultural potential
education potential
ideology and mythology
material basis
levels of crisis between generational cohort
1. value structure
2. ideas
3. institutionalization

Conception of the Quality of Life (micro level)
material qualities
safety qualities
environmental qualities
health and self-autonomy
cultural and spiritual
participation
interaction
free will and decision-making in life and aspirations

Individual analyses are the introduction to the social individual in the whole of the characteristic of cohorts. For the determination of social and cultural demographic changes are exploited. The results prepared for the project determine the categories which recognize generations. This individual determination serves meso and micro level change research,

through biographical interviews. Analysis at this level enriches secondary data analysis research reflecting individual level research. Macro level analysis is accepted as a given.

The remaining elements of the research project involving details of questions, hypotheses, variables, factors, methods, terrain, time of research, procedures of research, and the treatment of results will be in the report.

Expected results

Conception of the Axis of Civilization enables the determination of important social change types appropriate for contemporary times. This calls to mind the question, are these correctives presented with some kind of intensification in social systemic research ? This is the foundation for representation of technology and ecology which takes the form of phenomenon, process, measures in research areas:

- non-determination opening of culture and institutions
- roles of long term cultural models and long term structures
- roles of internal pluralism innovations for social complexity
- aspects of axis: primary, civil, and transcendental
- social movements
- axis elites
- crisis of social structures

Conception of generational revolt (meso level): Generational rebellion concepts apply since for the civilization perspective important categories matter. In light of the cultural size or measures of ecological and technological changes , generations are useful as theoretical material for this type of analysis, where the importance of the construction of generations is made possible in cohort groups that participate in new technologies and their use to create their own identities (rock generations).

- central potential of generations
- cultural potential
- education potential
- ideology and mythology
- material basis
- levels of crisis between generational cohort

Pressures: In research these pressures take the form of three areas:

1. value structure
2. ideas-
3. institutionalization

Conception of the Quality of Life (micro level): The microanalysis level indicates elements situated in modernity and change in its values. The quality of life as theoretical material has been chosen relative to subjective evaluation of important elements shaping individual behaviors. Generations take the form of the concept of the quality of life. The quality of life frequently improves more than objective signs factually indicate under existing pressures, as well as passing changes or existing potential changes. In these circumstances, culture is smashed materially and symbolically, at the subjective level. Things and ideas are divided in the scope of needs and assessments: to have and to be – make separate measures in individual consciousness.

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