Social Science Research and Wikipedia

Andrea Forte
Georgia Institute of Technology
Assumptions

Necessary
Unavoidable
Useful
Constraining
Two Dimensions
(Burrell and Morgan, 1979)

Assumptions about the social world

Assumptions about (social) science
Assumptions about the Social World

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Conflict</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stability</td>
<td>Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration</td>
<td>Conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consensus</td>
<td>Coercion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Regulation/maintaining the status quo*  

*Radical change*
## Assumptions about Social Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominalism</td>
<td>ontology</td>
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<td>Anti-Positivism</td>
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<td>Voluntarism</td>
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<td>Ideographic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Realism</td>
<td>Positivism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Determinism</td>
<td>Nomothetic</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Four Paradigms of Sociological Thought

- Subjective
  - Radical Humanist
  - Interpretive
- Objective
  - Radical Structuralist
  - Functionalist

Order
Conflict
Four Paradigms of Sociological Thought

- Subjective
  - Solipsism
  - Existentialism

- Objective
  - Conflict Theory
  - Social Action Theory

- Conflict
- Order
Know your toolkit!