

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

Order

Conflict

Stability

Change

Integration

Conflict

Consensus

Coercion

Regulation/maintaining the status quo

Radical change

Assumptions about Social Science

Subjective

Nominalism

Anti-Positivism

Voluntarism

Ideographic

ontology

epistemology

human nature

methodology

Objective

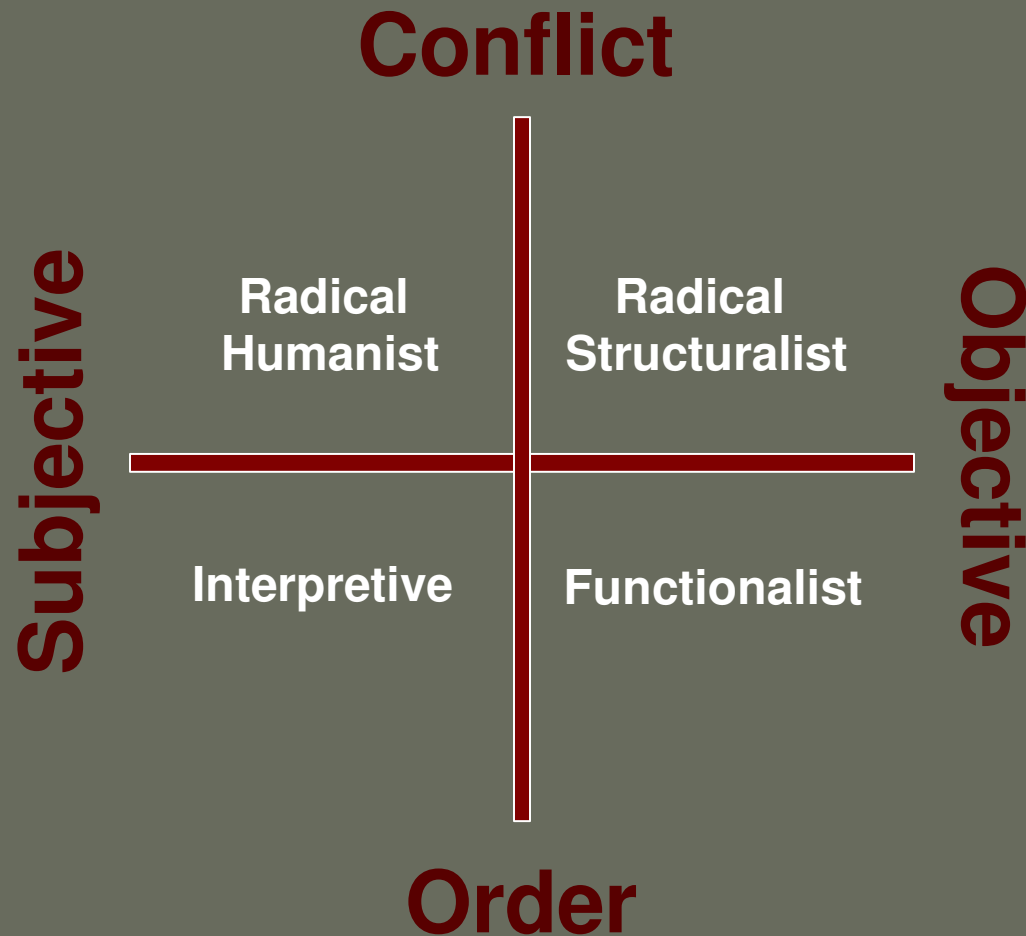
Realism

Positivism

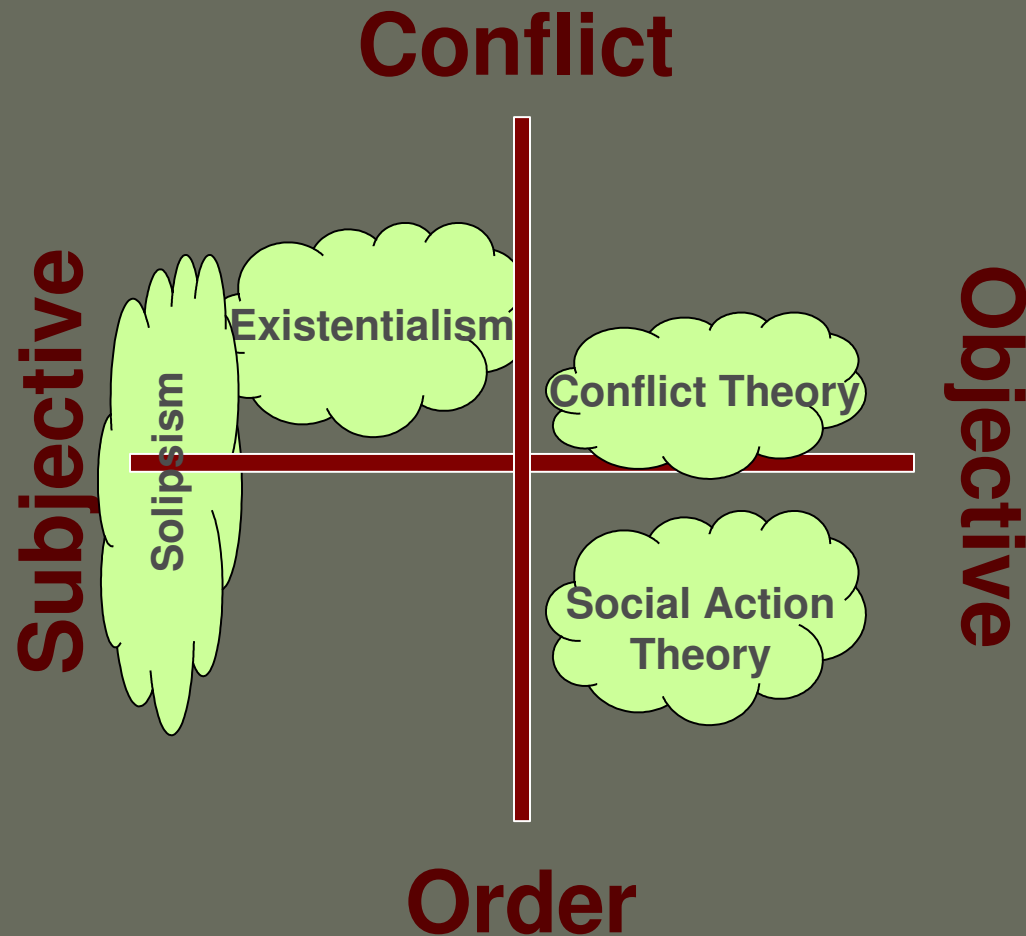
Determinism

Nomothetic

Four Paradigms of Sociological Thought



Four Paradigms of Sociological Thought



Know your toolkit!

Burrell, G. and Morgan, G. Sociological Paradigms and Organizational Analysis, *Ashgate Publishing Company*, Aldershot, 1979.

Hirschheim R and Klein H, *Four paradigms of information systems development*.
Communications of the ACM, vol 32, no 10,
1989, 1199-1216.