

SOCIAL CONFRONTATION EPISODE

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- I. Fairly narrow theory, focusing on conflict over conduct or rules of conduct.
- II. What triggers a confrontation episode?
 - 1) Parties must (believe themselves to) be interdependent
 - 2) One party, who is dissatisfied with conduct, must **initiate** a confrontation
 - a. Two possible **dimensions** of the initiating act:
 - Focus
 - Explicitness
 - Five **strategies** related to explicitness of initiation:
 - 1. Hinting
 - 2. Seeking Confirmation
 - 3. Blaming/Accusing
 - 4. Emotional display
 - 5. Emotional statement
 - 3) The **receiver** must be willing to acknowledge that a complaint has been lodged and honor complaint as one that is over behavior or rules of behavior.

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III. If parties agree there is a conflict over behavior or rules of behavior, then theory establishes a decision tree for determining outcome.

IV. Possible outcomes:

- 1) Legislation
- 2) Remediation
- 3) Reaffirmation
- 4) Remedy
 - a. Cessation
 - b. Statement
 - c. Redress
 - d. Punishment
- 5) No resolution

Social Confrontation Episode Theory

- A. Is the implied rule mutually accepted as legitimate?
- B. Is this a special situation?
- C. If invoked, is the superseding rule mutually accepted as legitimate?
- D. Did the confrontee actually perform the behavior in question?
- E. Does the behavior constitute a violation of the rule?
- F. Does the confrontee accept responsibility for the behavior?

