

Implications Wheel



RUI 2018

Drury University

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Road Trip



I am going to take you on a journey today to a place you visit every day, but you are often unaware of it.

The Hermans in 1885



19th Century Scouts

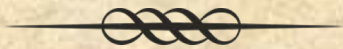


Before a wagon master rolled the wagons, he sent out scouts to see what was over the horizon.

The scouts provided crucial information that allowed the wagon master to make quicker decisions with higher confidence and move the wagons forward at a faster pace.



21st Century Scouts



21st century leaders need scouts.

But instead of searching the topography, these scouts need to search for a preferred future.

The unknown frontier for your Chi Alpha group is the next 5 to 10 days, months or years.



Don't Wake Up in a Roadside Ditch



The Future is...

What comes to your mind?



God Backcasts



☞ “We humans write history by looking at the past. God always backcasts. He began with the end in mind. The future is always incipient in the present. Before the foundation of the world, the Lamb was slain.”

☞ Reggie McNeal, *The Present Future*, Jossey-Bass, 2003

God Backcasts



- ☞ “...He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into **an inheritance that is imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfailing, kept in heaven for you**, who are being protected by God’s power through faith **for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.**
- ☞ **Therefore**, get your minds ready for action, being self-disciplined, and set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 1:3-5, 13.

Foresight



Definition

- Foresight is the ability to **anticipate events** before they happen.

Definition

- Foresight is dynamic and stresses the **process** rather than an isolated act.



The Aim is *not* to Predict



It is rather to “map” the
near-term future insofar as
this is possible.

Two Assumptions



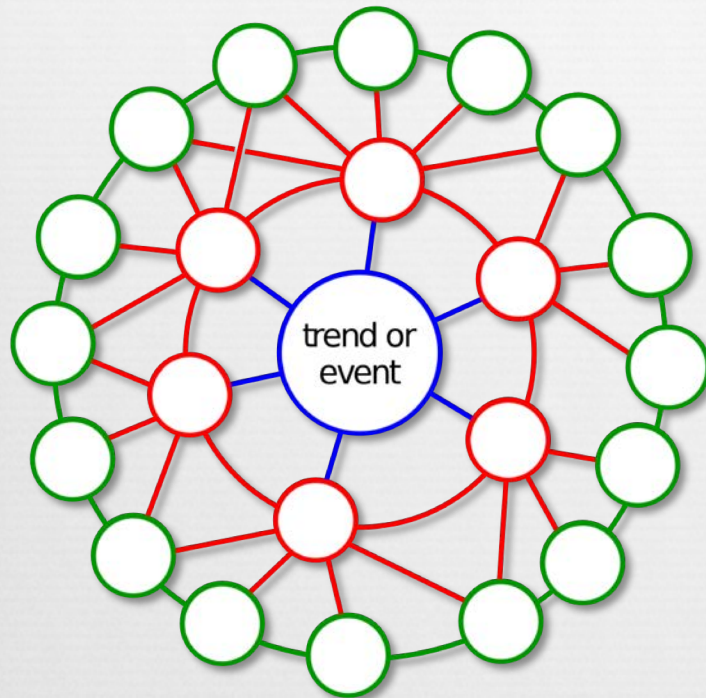
- ❑ The future is uncertain.
- ❑ While the future is uncertain and much of it beyond our control, we can control many aspects of it.
We choose our future: we create it by what do or fail to do.
- ❑ Visions and strategies linked to a clear sense of implications make us better able to shape the future we prefer.

Why use the Implications Wheel?



- Change in Policy
- Emerging Trends
- Strategic Goals & Objectives
- Conflict Clarification
- Team Building
- Teaching Tool
- Impact of Event that has or might occur
- Wild-Card Events

The Implications Wheel



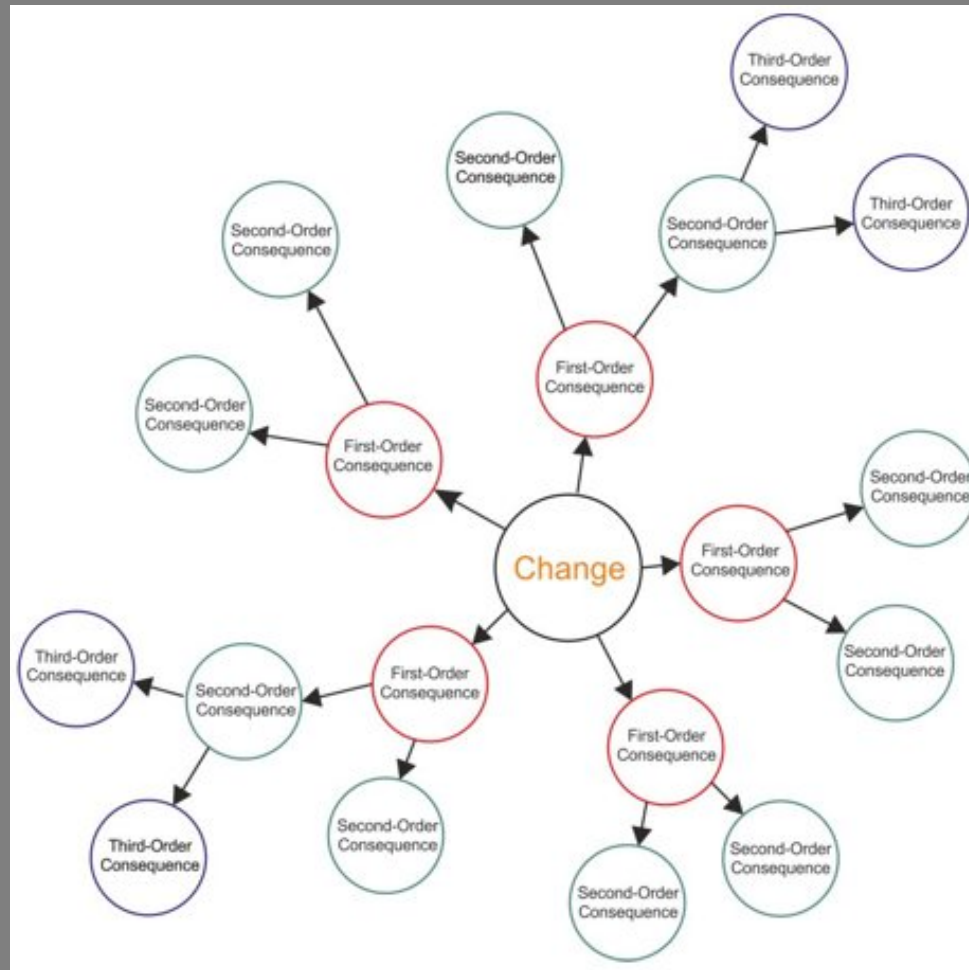
Center: is a concise statement of the change being explored.

The **first order implication** occurs as a direct result of the **center**.

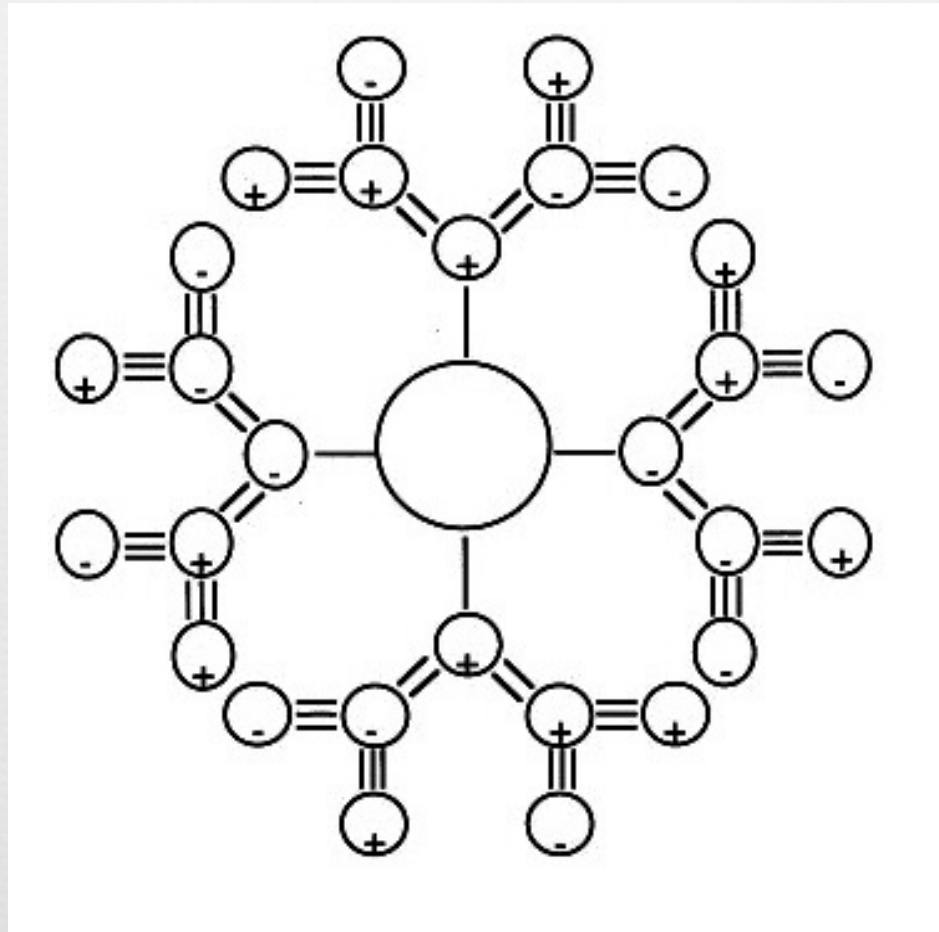
The **second order implication** occurs as a direct result of a **first order implication**.

A **third order implication** occurs as a direct result of a **second order implication**.

Implications Wheel



Implications Wheel



Implications Wheel

The Goal



- The goal of the following exercise is to **develop action plans that increase the likelihood of a positive outcome** and **action plans that decreases the likelihood of a negative outcome.**

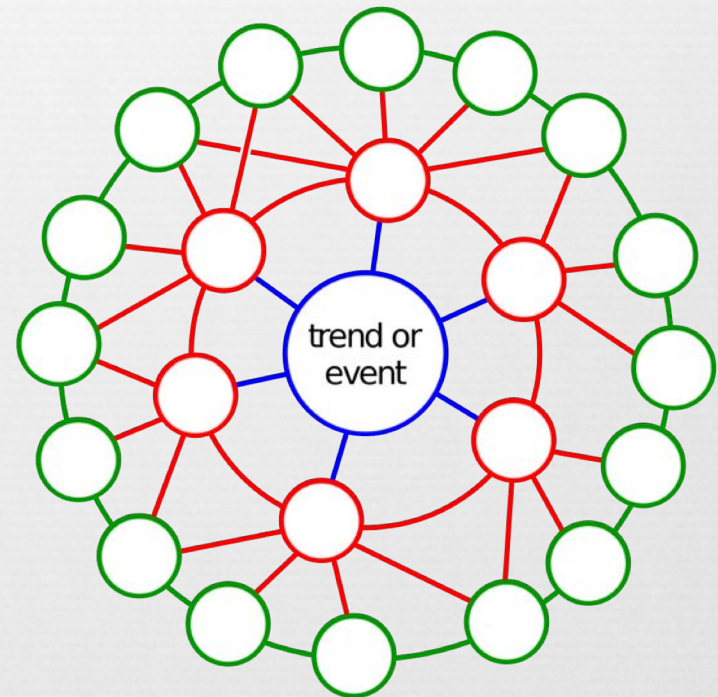


Implications Wheel

Step One



- ① Draw a center circle.
- ② Place an issue in the center circle.
- ③ It could be an emerging **trend**, a creative **idea**, a strategic **objective**, or an **event** that just happened.
- ④ Use a **black marker** until further instructed.

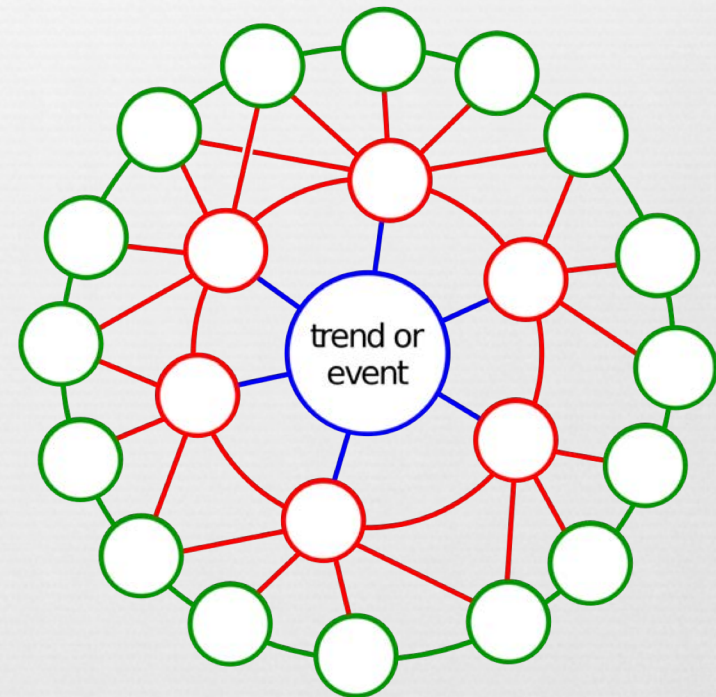


Implications Wheel

Step Two



- ① Your team should ask, “What would happen as soon as the center issue occurs?” or “What would happen if...?”
- ② Generate 4-7 answers to this question.
- ③ These are your first order implications.

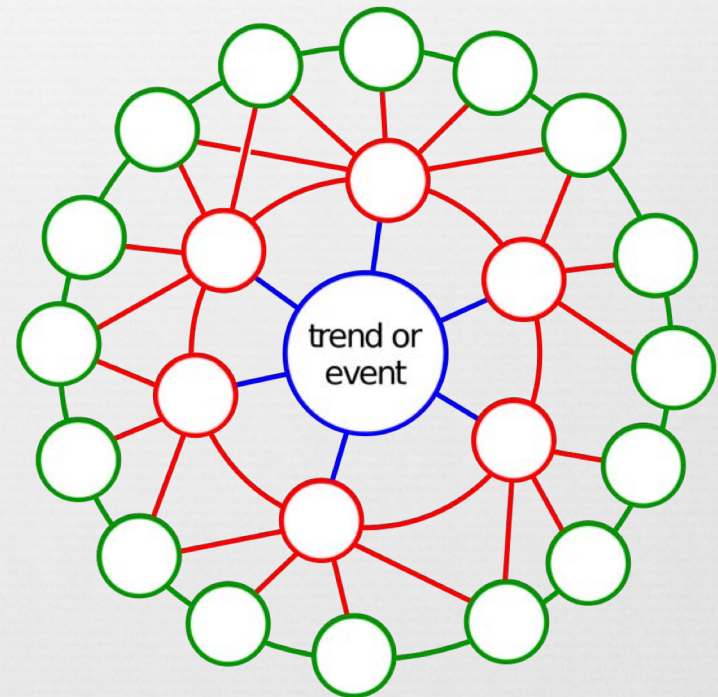


Implications Wheel

Step Three



- ① Your team should then generate at least 2 **second order implications** for every **first order implication (+ / -)**.
- ② You will accomplish this by asking, “**If this happens, then what could happen next?**”

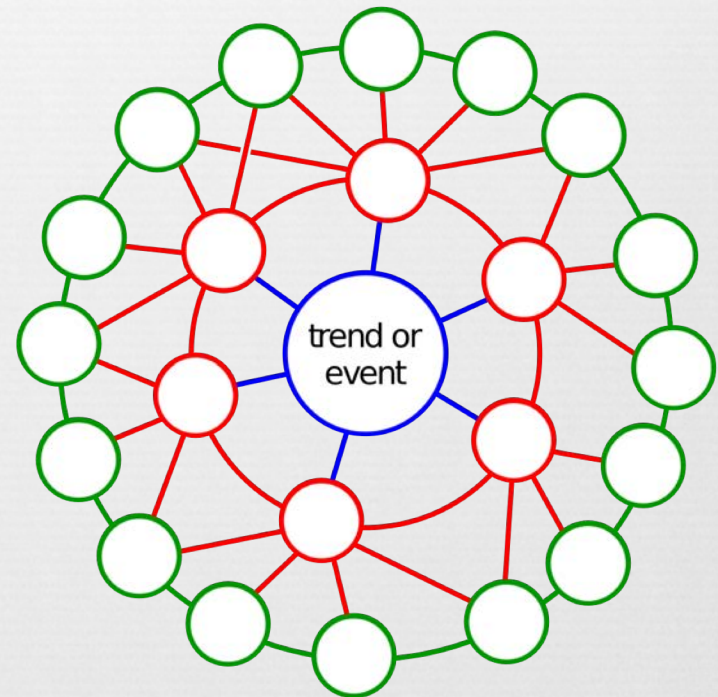


Implications Wheel

Step Four



- ❑ Your team should then generate at least two **third order implications (+/-)** for every **second order implication**.

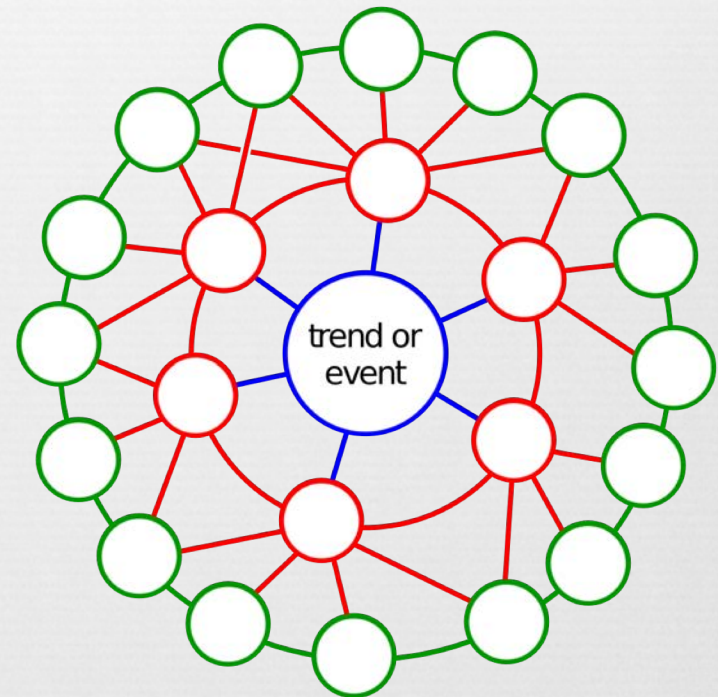


Implications Wheel

Step Five



- ① Score your wheel by using a **blue marker** to indicate a positive implication, a **red marker** to indicate a negative implication, and leave a circle **black** for neutral implication.
- ② If some implications could be both +/- mark them both $\frac{1}{2}$ **blue** and $\frac{1}{2}$ **red**.



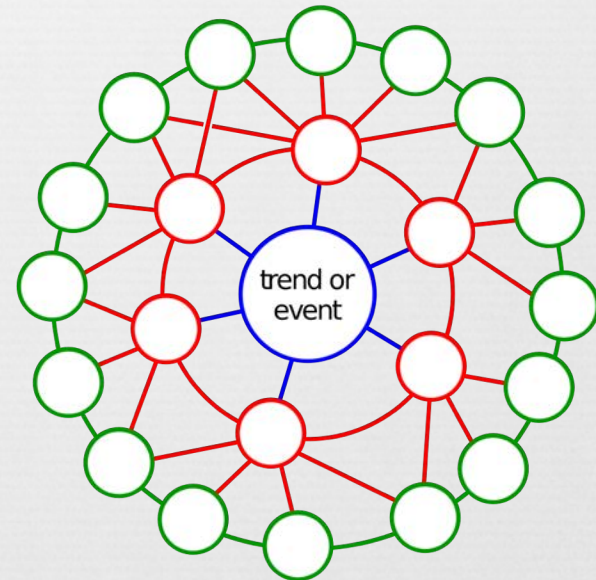
Implications Wheel

Step Five



Build Bridges to Increase Success

- ❑ Identify significant **positive** implications that have a **low** likelihood of occurring.
- ❑ Trace these implications back to the center.
- ❑ **Determine action plans** that **increase** the likelihood that these will occur.



Implications Wheel

Step Five



Erect Barriers to Prevent Undesirable Outcomes

- ❑ Identify significant **negative** implications that have a **high** likelihood of occurring.
- ❑ Trace these implications back to the center.
- ❑ **Determine action plans** that **decrease** the likelihood that these will occur.

