

EVOLUTIONARY SYSTEMS, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMICS SCIENCE

In closing this book I realized that for some years now I have been referring to “the new field of evolutionary systems science” without defining it.

The field of systems science originated with biologist Ludwig van Bertalanffy and South African general Jan Smuts early in the 20th century. The vision and purpose was to transcend the customary barriers between all the separate fields of natural and social science, to simply apply whatever findings best fit the question or problem at hand.

Though respected, this approach was generally viewed askance as a rather slippery proposition by all the separate fields, each comfortably locked within themselves by cherished references and separate languages. Over time this new field found a home for itself in its own International Society for Systems Science (ISSS) and a welcoming and well-financed base in the defense industry in World War II, and afterward in the corporate business world.

This alignment became its primary identity: to tackle big problems with a lot of money involved. But with the arrival of cybernetic, chaos, complexity, and self-organizing process theory, systems science began to take on a much more exciting new identity. Searching for language to describe it, I came to the conclusion the best term for what was happening was *evolutionary* systems science.

Moving beyond the military, business, and a peripheral academic status among the separate fields of science, here was this new thrust of something happening linked to the great historic stream of thought exploring reform, revolution, and all other ways of advancing human evolution.

That is, the emerging goal was to go beneath surfaces to discover how to change the present world of injustice and exploitation into something better. The goal was to get at and advance what *should* be, rather than what *did* prevail.

Historic roots, I felt, could be glimpsed in sources as diverse as Jesus, Gautama, Confucius for religion, Heraclitus and Aristotle among the Greek philosophers, *I Ching* for early China, both Marx and Engels and Darwin in the 19th century.

All were fundamentally concerned with evolution, some above all with moral evolution. This to me became the meaning for evolutionary systems science, both as a

new term and as a very exciting emergent new scientific field.

Evolutionary Political Science and Evolutionary Economics

In this book I am, also for the first time I know of, naming and beginning to define another new field: that of evolutionary political science.

I've done this as the logical outcome to a long string of previous books and articles moving toward the conviction expressed in chapter ten. As expressed there, in terms of history and advanced evolution theory I make the case that we “shall fall short until we face up to the fact that any adequate theory of human evolution must go beyond biological and all the other levels of evolution to include political, economic, and moral evolution at the cutting edge. Contrary to the dictum that science must always be objective, neutral, above the fray, we must recognize the bedrock systems dynamics of partnership systems and the P-attractor versus domination systems and the D-attractor—and thereby the requirement that if all that we value as humans is to survive, *we must choose sides, and for the better side, fight.*”

Naming and beginning to define this new field is further needed because of the strong probability that in the twilight of the Super Neo hold on mass mind they will try to do to political science what (as shown in the final chapters of this book) they tried to do to sociology and psychology. That is, by slapping the word “evolutionary” to “political science,” again they will blindly set out in the name of progress to actually nudge political science backward toward the old paradigm.

What is needed is pointed up by the background to the development of the relatively new field of evolutionary economics. This term was first used by progressive economist Thorstein Veblen. One of the great co-founders of the field of systems science, progressive economist Kenneth Boulding, launched the new field with papers in journals and books including, in 1981, *Evolutionary Economics*.

In keeping with Darwin's original vision for the completion of theory, both Veblen and Boulding were notably motivated by the moral, human, future oriented, and systems scientific thrust for Darwin's second revolution, rather than the blinded counter-revolutionary thrust as outlined in this book for the Neos and Super Neos.