

How to Understand Power

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<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-to-understand-power-eric-liu>

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Key points:

WHERE POWER COMES FROM
HOW IT'S EXERCISED
WHAT YOU CAN DO

Definition:

POWER n.
IS THE ABILITY TO
MAKE OTHERS DO
WHAT YOU WOULD
HAVE THEM DO

Focus of this video:

CIVIC ARENA

“Where power means getting a community to make the choices and to take the actions that you want”

Your notes:

WHERE POWER COMES FROM:

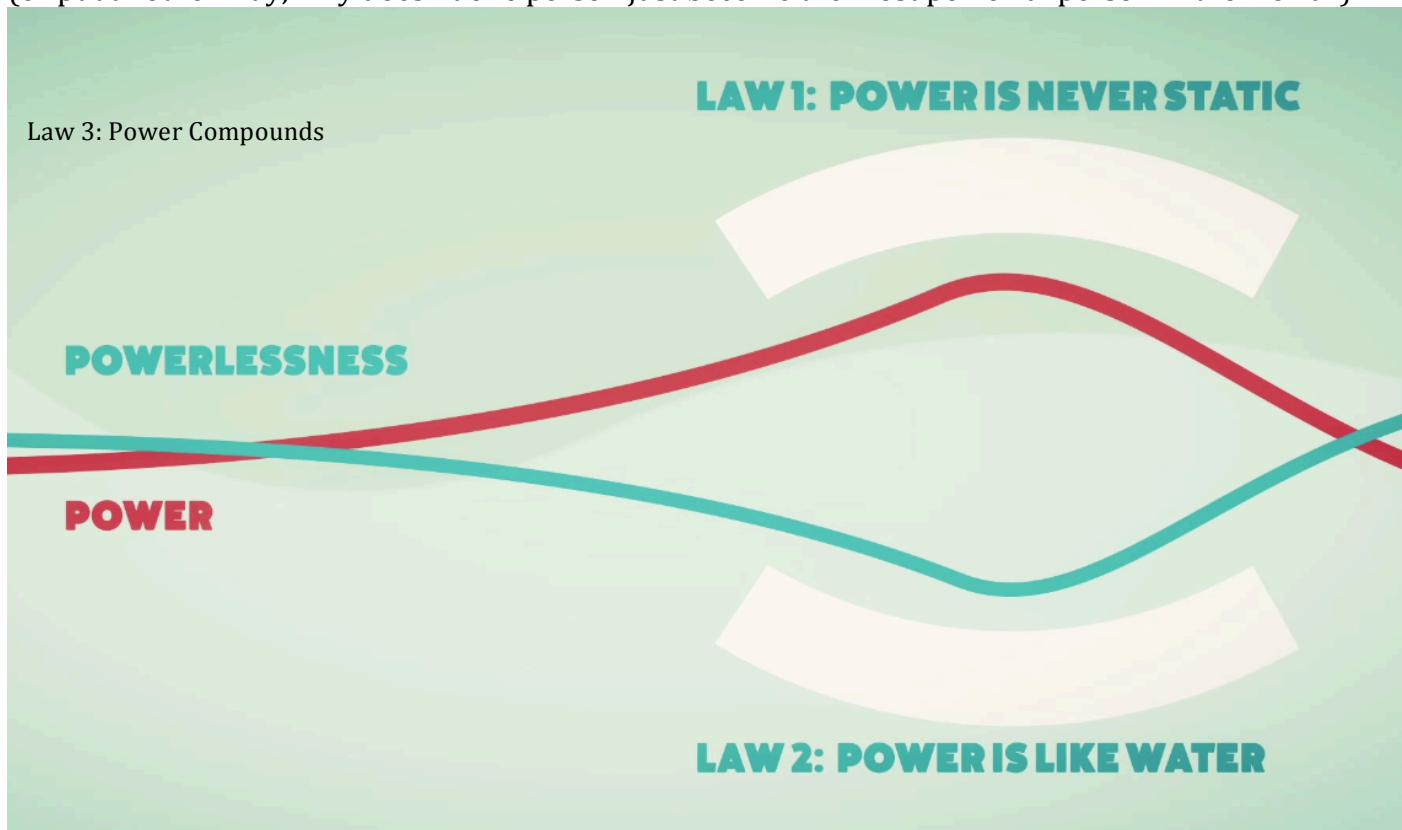
6 main sources of civic power

- 1. PHYSICAL FORCE**
- 2. WEALTH**
- 3. STATE ACTION**
- 4. SOCIAL NORMS**
- 5. IDEAS**
- 6. NUMBERS**

Your notes:

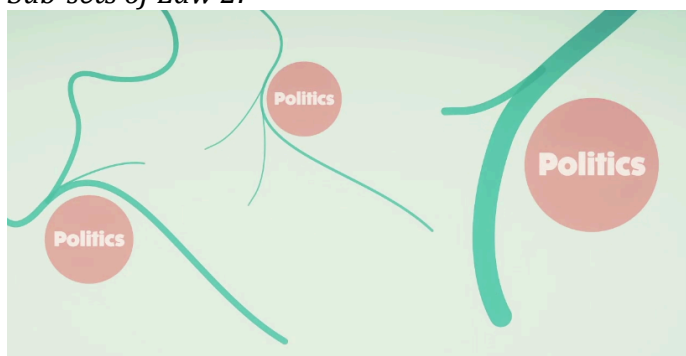
HOW POWER IS EXERCISED

3 Laws of Power: How they relate to each other
(or put another way, why doesn't one person just become the most powerful person in the world?)

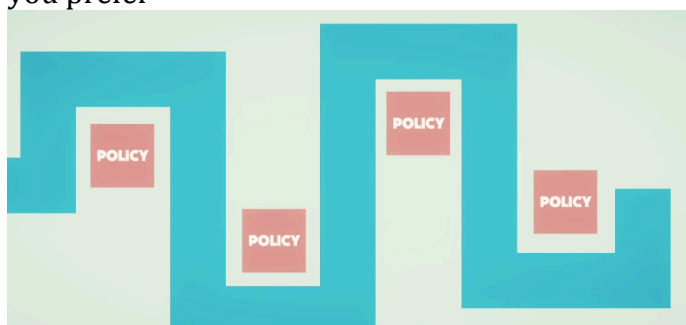


Sub-set of Law 1:
Act or be acted upon

Sub-sets of Law 2:



^Politics is harnessing power in the direction you prefer



^Policy is power frozen

Sub-sets of Law 3:
Power begets more power
Powerlessness begets more powerlessness

Your notes:

WHAT YOU CAN DO



“Don’t like how things are...? Map out who has what kind of power and arrayed in what systems. Understand why it turned out this way, who made it so and who wants to keep it so”

You have the right to be “an author of change”

Study strategies, then practice them

FINAL POINT:

Why do you want power?



Your notes:



ASSESSMENT CRITERIA reminder:

IA2 = Investigation and analysis of ways in which power structures operate in societies.