Master-Table 19

The groupings of levels of ethical rule generating ethical authority.
Abstract authorities, labelled in the content column, emerge from grouping the seven levels of ethical rules to form a structural hierarchy (G"-1 to G"-7).
Groups within these groupings define ethical authorities needed in any society. See Master-Table 27 for further properties and relationships of the groupings.

G	Nature	Function in Society	Content (Group Structure)	Characteristic when Ascending the Groups	Implications for Social Design	Some Typical Errors
G"-1:	Recognizing authority unequivocally	To ensure that constraints defined by recognizable authorities can become binding obligations on all.	Ethical **Rules** (7 monads)	Groups reflect progressively greater autonomy and weight of ethical responsibility in making choices.	Primal authorities of seven distinct types must be respected by all established authorities.	Confusion about what different types of rule can achieve; an excessive use prescriptions and laws to enable coercion.
G"-2:	Maintaining community acceptably	To ensure that choices affecting the community and its viability can be authoritatively guided.	Ethical **Principles** (6 dyads)	Groups reflect progressively greater demands for willing cooperation amongst members of a society.	Government is about using principles. Scholarship to develop and assess ethical principles is needed.	Treating principles as rules and failing to see that principles need to be weighed and balanced against each other.
G"-3:	Socializing individuals dogmatically	To ensure that members can be coherently and authoritatively oriented to ethical challenge and change.	Ethical **Positions** (5 triads)	Groups reflect progressively more powerful societal requirements for conformity with ethical rules.	Orchestrated public debate is needed for progress, so freedom of expression and association are essential.	Regarding positions as if they were unitary e.g. only one form of distributive justice, only one valid ethic.
G"-4:	Protecting identity deliberately	To ensure that conformity can be sustained above an authoritative and self-chosen minimum.	Ethical **Standards** (4 tetrads)	Groups reflect progressively profounder conceptions of social identity, each of which needs protection.	Progress depends on developing standards, and providing for monitoring and arbitration.	Confusing standards which define an ideal, an actual, a goal, or an expectation with standards which define a minimum and an identity.
G"-5:	Judging conduct virtuously	To ensure that differing views of right conduct can be definitively resolved by an authoritative judgement.	Ethical **Frames of Reference** (3 pentads)	Groups reflect a progressive move from respecting the past, through handling the present, to creating a better future.	There are three types of justice and social power. The law mediates between custom and morality.	Over-valuing or under-valuing one of the frames; trying to fuse distinct frames.
G"-6:	Regulating obedience legitimately	To ensure that categorical obedience can persist authoritatively in society through time.	Ethical **Imperatives** (2 hexads)	Groups reflect a shift from pragmatic and temporal considerations to spiritual and eternal considerations.	The ultimate personal and social sources of obedience are absolutes and laws respectively.	Attempting to unify temporal and spiritual powers in one authority to avoid intrinsic tensions; over-personalizing societal authority.
G"-7:	Engendering will freely	To ensure that each member can be authentic when authorizing and sustaining what everyone deems right.	Ethical **Order** (1 heptad)	The group of all levels reflects the sustenance of a social order which unifies all inner-personal and outer-social obligations.	The need for all to create a society in which what each member ought to do is what each wants to do.	Denying the need for communal restraints on individuality; denying the need to maximize personal autonomy.

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