

Master-
Table 21

Properties of the seven types of binding rule in society.
Respect for rules is based on recognizing the primal authorities in community life. All actual or instituted social authorities appeal to these. Rules must be unequivocally respected but each provides for a different degree of freedom in practice. See text for further details and explanation and cf. Master-Tables 16 & 17. Note that Master-Table 17 provides details of the function and application of rules, differences in changing rules, their particular advantages, common criticisms, and the related ethical disposition.

Monad (Level)	Type of Rule and Focus	To Whom the Rule Applies	Primal Authority	Basis of Compliance	Quality of Adherence	Personal Freedom & Weight of Responsibility
1 (L ⁻ -1)	Prescription constrains actions.	Members as elements of a community.	Community leaders	Social control via impersonal command	Certain-incontestable (because capable of precise specification and assignation).	Absolute minimum (because constraints are precisely specified).
2 (L ⁻ -2)	Convention constrains attitudes.	Members diffusely in the mainstream of a community.	Community as a whole	Social pressure via public opinion	Uncertain-contestable (because partial, fuzzy and evolving).	Minimum (because responsibility is shared with others).
3 (L ⁻ -3)	Tenet constrains beliefs.	Members of associations within a community.	Each person's conscience	Personal control via inner conviction	Certain-incontestable (because based directly on inner experiences).	Moderate (because internally controlled but partly unconscious).
4 (L ⁻ -4)	Right constrains entitlements.	Members of social classes in a community.	Class power	Personal pressure via special interest	Uncertain-contestable (because members challenge explicit rules).	Near maximum (because under direct conscious personal control).
5 (L ⁻ -5)	Maxim constrains functioning.	Members of a moral community.	An ethical teaching	Social pressure for personal control via moral exhortation	Certain-incontestable (because so obviously good and right).	Maximum (because rule-breaking may be personally advantageous).
6 (L ⁻ -6)	Law constrains enforcement.	Members of an officially bounded community.	The law	Social control of social control via legalized coercion	Uncertain-contestable (because open to interpretation and revision).	Maximum* (because of freedom under the law).
7 (L ⁻ -7)	Absolute constrains freedom and duty.	Members of all communities at all times.	Ultimate values	Personal control of personal control via free will	Certain-incontestable (because so abstract and all-embracing).	Absolute maximum (because the meaning and use must be left up to each person).

*Laws may reduce freedom if they are used where other types of rule are required, if society is treated as an organization, or if the legal system does not operate by consent.