

POSSIBILITY

I. Introduction

Physics

ability to have physical effect, strength
what one(it) can do, (natural) ability.

Power

Law

A power is an ability on the part of a person to
produce a change in a given legal relation by doing
or not doing a given act.

Sociology

Max Weber's concept of power
(Annexes #1)

II. Power

1. Etymological Approach

Latin > posse..... can, be able to

→ N. Potestas ---- power, sovereignty

→ N. Potentia ---- power, efficacy, virtue, ability, right

2. Potential quality of power

Not every power needs to be manifest in a conflict situation. Some power, as long as it has legitimacy or authority, can be Acknowledged even when it is not in active use. Once a right is considered Illegitimate, the way on in which it is manifested doesn't make any big difference in the exercise of the power. For instance, Some of the Constitutional rights such as the right to live a better life, until it is infringed upon by the others, are not to be insisted or seen for its characteristics as a passive power.

However, this doesn't imply that it is worth less respect. On the contrary, one is forced to respect and not infringe upon the others' rights with the same consideration as he makes for the ones manifested in a conflict situation. To be brief, power is acknowledged not only by its actual exercise in case of positive power but also by the legitimacy it is given for passive power, and when we say the potential quality of power, we get the most idea of it in a context of the latter, its legitimacy.

3. An propensity of Power

1) Man & Desire for the Power

-- What is the relation between Man and Desire for the Power

(1) Russel

The difference between man and animal

Animal: Instinct, preferential necessity

Man : Desire to expand

(2) Hobbes

A general inclination of all mankind, a perpetual and restless desire of power after power that cease only in Death.

(3) Conclusion

Man will try to get the more power lest he should lose his present position(power)

2). But some kind of human being looks indifferent to the Power

(C.Merriam)

Person Power hungry person , Power indifferent person

Impulse The aggressive impulse of the strong, The surrender impulse of the weak

--What is the reason?

(Erich Fromm)

- a. Man can not live alone
- b. Masochism & Sadism
- c. Masochism & Sadism --- has the some root.

(Sado-masochism)

Does it come out separated or incremented in a person?

--Erich From "sado-Masochism"

III. Exercise of Power

1. Abuse of Power

- Right of Resistance

2. Efficient Exercise of Power

- Maximization of Power

3. Control of Power (Separation of Powers)

1). Philosophers

- a. Baron Montesquieu
- b. James Madison

2). The Definition of 'Separation of Powers'

Division of powers among the President, Congress, and the federal Courts

1	1	1
Legislative Branch	Executive Branch	Judicial Branch

3). Separation of Powers - Blend of Powers

- a) Congress
 - The power to consent treaties made by the President
 - The power over government funds
- b) the President
 - The power to veto laws passed by the Congress
 - The power to request Congress to pass new laws
- c) The Supreme Court
 - The power to judge the constitutionality of executive and legislative actions

BUREAUCRACY

1. The main theme of Max Weber; Rationalization

- 1). What is rationalization for Weber?
- 2). Rationalization and Bureaucracy

2. Power

- 1) Weber's view of the social world - in the respect of conflict theory
- 2) 3 dimensions of power
 - (1) class
 - (2) party
 - (3) status

a. the 3 pure types of Authority

The validity of the claims to legitimacy may be based on:

- (1) traditional grounds
- (2) charismatic grounds
- (3) rational grounds

3. Bureaucracy

1) **Legal Authority with a bureaucratic administration staff**

2) **Characteristics of bureaucracy**

a. The principle of fixed official jurisdictional areas

b. The principle of office hierarchy and of levels of graded authority

a. Written documents

b. Office management

e. The working capacity of the official

f. General rules

3) **Presupposition of bureaucracy**

4) **Disfunctional consequences**

a. **The Merton Model**

b. **The Goulder Model**

c. **Other consequences**

ANNEXE 1

On Power

1. Concept : the Probability/ of persons or groups out their will/ even when opposed by others.

2. Max Weber's concept of Power

a. Max Weber's fundamental concept of Power.' Class. Status. Party.

- Class: the outcome of the distribution of economic power
- Status: normatively defined a kind of social power
- Party.' political groups active in pursuit of various goals.

b. Max Weber's emphasis on Status (compared with Max one of his contemporaries)

- to have the power over the power the ruling groups should have legitimacy or authority.
Max Weber says there are three bases of authority: traditional (ex. religion), rational-legal (ex. gov.), and charismatic.

c. Examination of Weber's concept:

Ills concept of power can be built into the notion of Intention and Conflict.

carrying out their will ----- > Intention (a quality of conscious, rational and calculated action in Pursuit of a specific goal). Cf.. unduly exercise

even when opposed by others -----> Conflict

Weber assumed conflict or antagonism as substantial, therefore no power can be ever used in a consensual context

Problem: Where there is a genuine legitimacy of the power by the mutual agreement or persuasion

Cf.> David Lockwood

Power refers not only to the capacity to realize one's ends in a conflict situation against the will of others but also to 'the capacity to prevent opposition arising in the first place'.

--- While Weber insisted that power only be manifest itself in a conflict situation, Lockwood contested power is a also latent force.

3. Power as Potential in relation to Power Resources

When we consider power resources, power is a dispositional concept: it refers to the possibility of a certain action occurring rather than its actual occurrence. So, power is a potential quality of a social relationship, and as such depends on actor's access to power resource. Economic resources such as wealth are vital but many other power resources exist; For example, organizational capacity, expert knowledge, control of information and reputation for power itself. The last of these is a unique power resource ;it depends not on the actual possession of power but the mere belief by others that it is possessed.

Equally, one does not have to own a power resources but only to control it. Between **all** time potentials for power and their manifestation, lies one's willingness to use it. Potential power depends on certain attributes. However, manifest power is revealed not by attributes but through relationships. and part of the definition of a social relationship is its reciprocal nature. Consequently the exercise of power involves feedback. Subordinates must have some effect on superpredicate for there to be any relationship at all.

Similar Concepts of Power

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1. Power (權力)

M. Weber - " Possibility to achieve one's will against the resistance of particular group or individual in social relationship.

B. Russell - " the production of intended effects "

H. D. Lasswell - " power is a special case of the exercise of influence : it is the process of affecting policies of others with the help of actual or threatened severe deprivations for nonconformity with the policies intended),

→ Capability or force to move group or individual regardless of their will by particular group or individual **in** social relationship of human being. It must entail compulsory elements and sometimes physical forces to support and validate the compulsory elements. The key concept of power can be described as "*domination by power*" and does not doubt whether the power of the dominator over the governed is conceded by the society or not.

* Different Theories of Power

T.Hobbes, J. Locke, Carl J. Friedrich

2. Influence(影響力)

- 1) Distinguishing the concept of Power and Influence
- 2) Using the concept of Power and Influence interchangeably

→ Result of influence by an actor regardless of any reactions by others
→ Unlike power, compulsory elements and promise of compensations are unnecessary
→ So if the exercise of influence threatens to deprive the values or entails compulsory elements, it develops into power.

Ex) President persuading people to reduce spending to overcome economic crisis.

3. Authority(權威)

Robert MacIver - "*Authority is established right to lead people, solve the controversy, make decisions over certain issues and making policies in social relationship. Authority has at least the characteristic of legitimacy and impersonality.*"

→ Authority can be defined as legitimate power conceding the exercise of power to be just in certain social relationship.

4. Violence (暴力)

1) Psychological Violence

By using the principle of conditioned reflex, it makes people to obey when inflicted with psychological violence. It is a means to dominate people by driving them under fear and anxiety with threatening, blackmailing or any other invisible violence.

Ex) Hakenkreuz

2) Physical Violence

It is an ultimate means(ultima ratio) to dominate by political power. It can be conducted under an extreme condition with no alternatives to dominate active rebellions.

Ex) Military forces, Police, Prison

Narrow Concept

→ Violence is a form of power with illegitimate compulsory elements.

Ex) Exercise of power by gangs or illegitimate violence group

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Miranda and Credenda of Political Power

→ Miranda and Credenda of political power has made people obedient internally. In modern society, the principle of Miranda and Credenda is used to justify the exercise of power.

1. Miranda (Symbol of Identification)

Symbol is a sign with an intention to deliver the message. Political symbols like power, authority, state, parties are invisible and representing these symbols are national flags, national anthem, uniforms, architectures and so on. By promoting these symbols, it has the function of consolidating the people of a state.

2. Credenda (Symbol of Rationalization)

Every human being has rational characteristic as well as characteristic of sensibility. The symbol that relies on characteristic of sensibility can be described under principle of Miranda. The principle of Credenda is a symbol of people's tendency trying to rely on rational aspect of human being. It is to reasonably persuade the governed the legitimacy of political power and also maintain political power.

- 1) Any forms of political methods should be supported with the respect of the governed.
- 2) Situation of obedience towards authority
- 3) Creating atmosphere of sacrifice to achieve public goods
- 4) Political power is monopolizing the legitimacy.