

Values
Politics
Action

and

Forest School

Richard Irvine
October 2013

Keep **politics**
out of
education

All

pedagogy

is

political

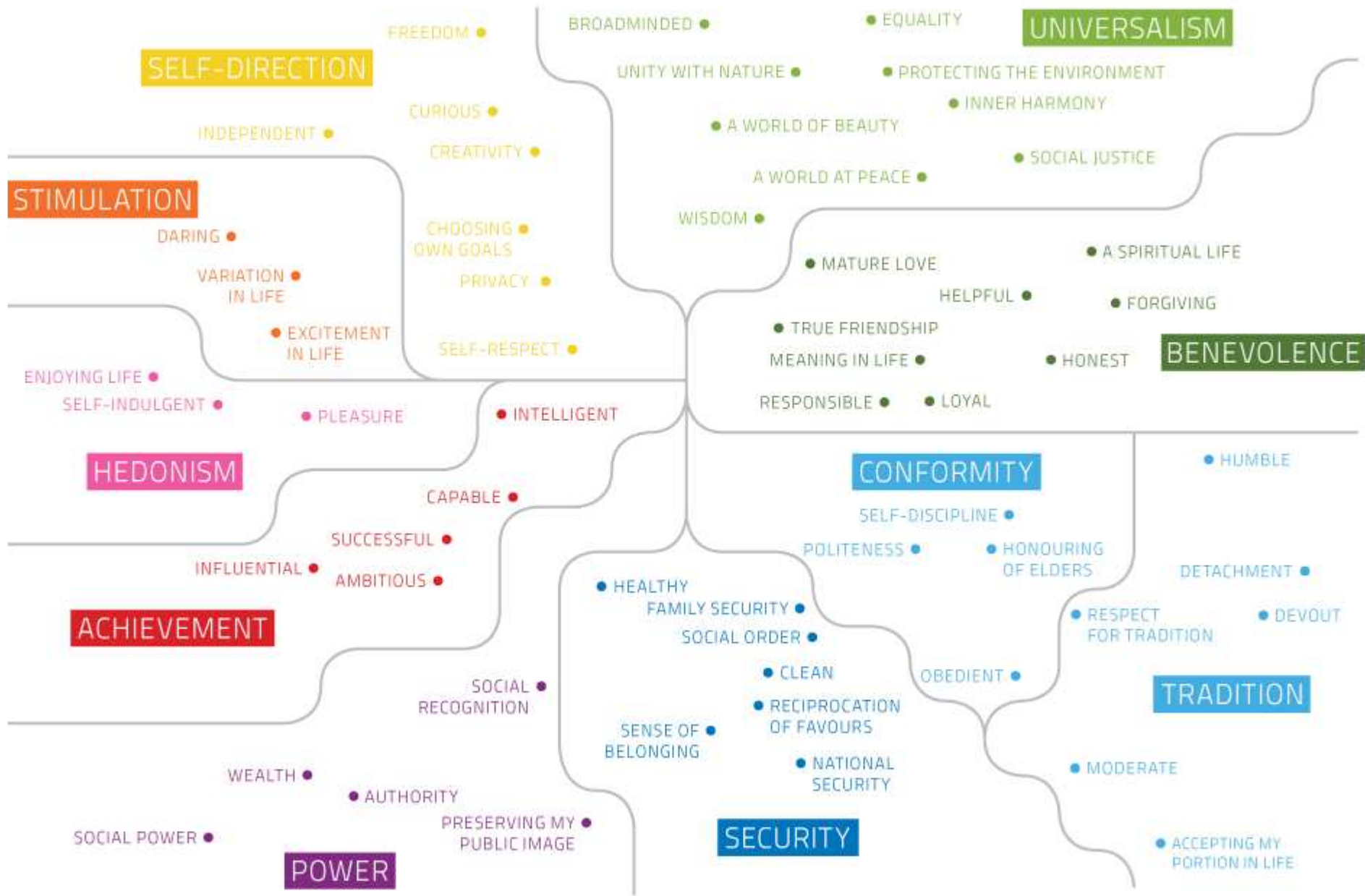
"There is no such thing as a **neutral education** process. Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate the integration of generations into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity to it, or it becomes the '**practice of freedom**', the means by which men and women deal critically with reality and discover how to participate in the **transformation** of their world."

Richard Shaull, drawing on Paulo Freire

How?

- Interaction with **Government**
- Talking to other **outdoor** and adventure **educators**
- Our 'Business' **ethics**
- Education for **social change**
- Power** relationships within groups
- Choice of '**content**'

(Not to mention the politics of the FS community)

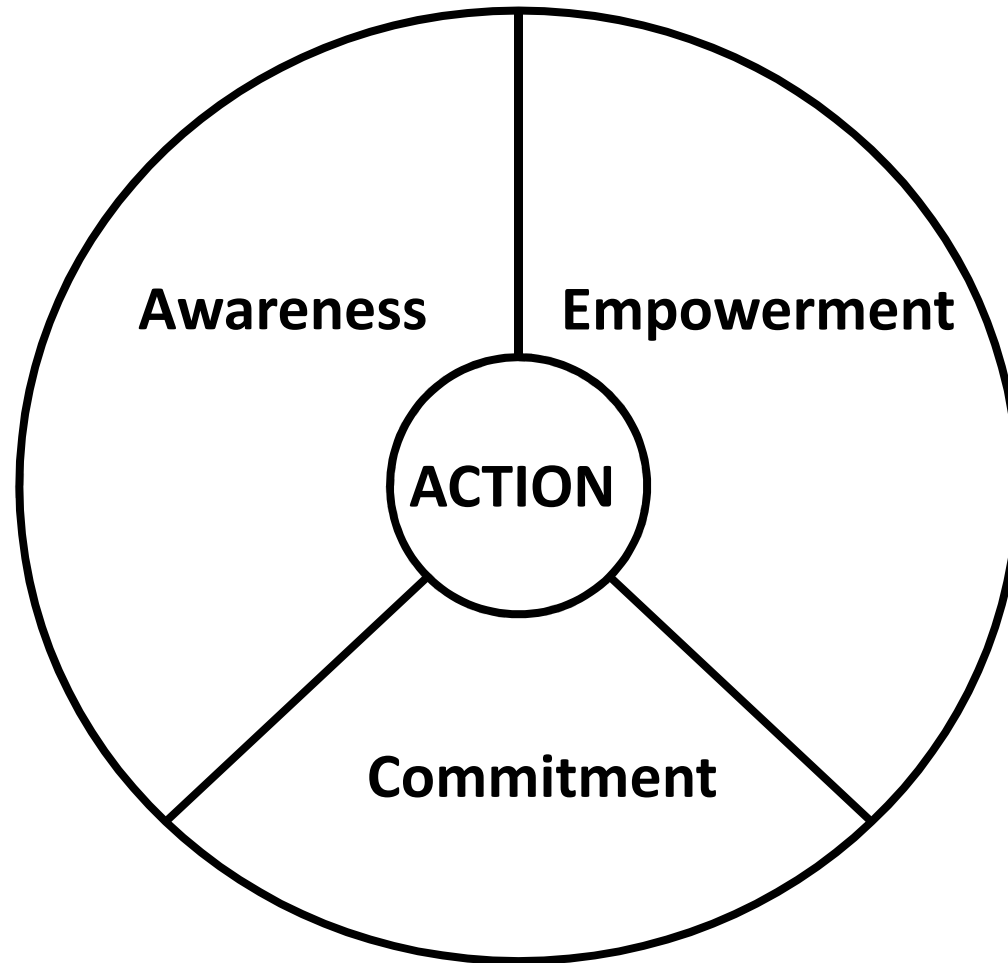


Common Cause Handbook
Valuesandframes.org

Tim Kasser

Faculty.knox.edu/tkasser/

Values - Action



Cooper in 'Values and Outdoor Learning' (2000)

Method

is

the

Action

“Experiential learning is “**outside**” literally and figuratively – the mainstream. It is meant as a conscious form of rebellion in a sense. It is **rebellion** against tradition, against enlightenment notions of progress, intelligence and human worth..... there exists an element of **insurgency**, of “wildness” in the Thoreauian sense against the status quo of education”

Jay W. Roberts – Beyond Learning by Doing

"have **patience** with everything unresolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves as if they were locked rooms or books written in a very foreign language. Don't search for the answers, which could not be given to you now, because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. **Live the questions now.** Perhaps then, someday far in the future, you will gradually, without even noticing it, live your way into the answer. "

Rainer Maria Rilke "Letters to a Young Poet" Letter 4.