

The Uplift Pattern Language

http://www.nooron.org/know/uplift_pattern_language

Uplift patterns relates to a pattern language for uplift, a way of supporting positive discourse for humanitarian uplift. By focusing on the positive form of discourse, we are creating unknowledge which in turn shapes our discoveries. Combining patterns in novel ways allows us to create Uplift tapestries, weaving together what we know is uplifting with the voids in which these uplift patterns have not been applied. In the same way that the periodic table of the elements gave us a framework for discovering new properties of the elements, the uplift tapestry gives us a framework for discovering new patterns of uplift. Uplift patterns may be specialized to specific domains of discourse, for example HIV/AIDS orphans.

1. Appreciative Inquiry

1.1. AKA

Call to Inquiry

1.2. Intent

Appreciative Inquiry is about the coevolutionary search for the best in people, their organizations, and the relevant world around them. In its broadest focus, it involves systematic discovery of what gives 'life' to a living system when it is most alive, most effective, and most constructively capable in economic, ecological, and human terms. AI involves, in a central way, the art and practice of asking questions that strengthen a system's capacity to apprehend, anticipate, and heighten positive potential. It centrally involves the mobilization of inquiry through the crafting of the "unconditional positive question" often-involving hundreds or sometimes thousands of people. In AI the arduous task of intervention gives way to the speed of imagination and innovation; instead of negation, criticism, and spiraling diagnosis, there is discovery, dream, and design. AI seeks, fundamentally, to build a constructive union between a whole people and the massive entirety of what people talk about as past and present capacities: achievements, assets, unexplored potentials, innovations, strengths, elevated thoughts, opportunities, benchmarks, high point moments, lived values, traditions, strategic competencies, stories, expressions of wisdom, insights into the deeper corporate spirit or soul-- and visions of valued and possible futures. Taking all of these together as a gestalt, AI deliberately, in everything it does, seeks to work from accounts of this "positive change core" -- and it assumes that every living system has many untapped and

rich and inspiring accounts of the positive. Link the energy of this core directly to any change agenda and changes never thought possible are suddenly and democratically mobilized.

1.3. Motivation

Building a database of Appreciative Inquiry questions and their reputation

1.4. Applicability

A form of group discussion which is driven by questions whose answers address the positive core values of the members of the group.

1.5. Method

Support via Call to Inquiry method, which collects a community a question, and facilitates the interview process, either in person or via electronically facilitated means

1.6. Consequences

AI begins a dialog, opening up new opportunities to Do Something

1.7. RelatedPatterns

PosValues

1.8. References

<http://appreciativeinquiry.cwru.edu/intro/whatisai.cfm>

2. Imagine Community

2.1. Intent

Patterned after Imagine Chicago, and internationally via Imagine Nepal.

2.2. Related Patterns

Appreciative Inquiry

Pos Values

3. Positive Core Values

3.1. AKA

Virtues

3.2. Intent

Connecting people and organizations according to their positive core values requires an approach which is able to pierce through a cynical shell which often obscures the positive core underneath. Through the use of Appreciative Inquiry, Positive Psychology, Positive Deviancy, storytelling, and many other techniques, we will create an ever-expanding web of interaction which replicates successful, uplifting ideas and actions.

3.3. Motivation

To create an information space for positive discourse, and a language of uplift based on discovering and replicating successful ways of communicating positive core values. To create a metaphor for human relations which is inclusive of, but not dependent on, personal spiritual, religious, and cultural beliefs.

3.4. Applicability

The foundation upon which the uplift model is based, that there are positive core values of humanity which are common to all, and that by providing ways of connecting people to express and act on these values, we will achieve a self-organizing, self-propagating cascade of uplift

3.5. Method

Communicating these values at all levels of the space. Asking users to confirm these values as part of the acceptable use criteria for joining the space.

3.6. Consequences

People will come to expect others to interact in positive ways.

3.7. KnownUses

These values are the core of the entire uplift space

3.8. References

<http://appreciativeinquiry.cwru.edu/intro/whatisai.cfm>

<http://www.positivepsychology.org/taxonomy.htm>

4. Solar Cooking

4.1. Intent

This pattern describes the creation of solar cookers to assist those in less developed countries cook their food with less dependence of firewood.

4.2. Motivation

reduce cost of cooking, gathering fuel, and environmental load.

4.3. Applicability

Most effective in areas with significant sunshine. Less expensive, cardboard boxes do not work in areas with monsoon season

4.4. Method

teach people to build solar cookers from simple materials, including cardboard boxes, plastic sheeting, and aluminum foil.

4.5. Consequences

Reduces deforestation and desertification, reduces walking time to gather fuel, reduces air pollution.

4.6. KnownUses

Kenya

4.7. RelatedPatterns

PermaCulture

WomEmpowerment

4.8. References

<http://solarcooking.org/>

5. Uplift Hotline

5.1. AKA

Hello Peace

5.2. Intent

This pattern establishes a dial-in telephone hotline which people may call to talk to people on the other side of political, religious, or culture divides. It provides an opportunity for people to connect at their positive core values in a safe manner. Ideas and stories which emerge from the hotline relationships can be used to further detect and replicate uplift patterns.

5.3. Motivation

Overcome tensions and dividing issues and allow people to communicate at their positive core values and concerns for community uplift.

5.4. Applicability

Two or more groups divided by social, political, or cultural barriers can use an anonymous telephone hotline system to meet each other, discuss differences in a safe, positive environment

5.5. Method

Set up a hotline which allows dial-in access for people to call each other.

5.6. Consequences

Improved social cohesion, relief of tensions, community building even in the face of tensions. Conversations may trigger other stories and patterns of uplift.

5.7. Variations

Can this be used for other forms of uplift, for example on-line chat rooms, etc.?

5.8. KnownUses

This hotline started in Israel, and drew 25,000 callers per month several months after it started.

5.9. RelatedPatterns

PosValues

5.10. References

<https://curly.mindtel.com/upspace/Communities/hellopeace/>

<http://www.hellopeace.net/callnow.htm>

6. Womens Empowerment

6.1. Intent

This pattern uplifts of woman, family, community, or village by teaching women to read, do arithmetic, and start a credit union with their own savings. From this activities, women are empowered to continue their self-development, and teach other women how to do the same.

6.2. Applicability

Where ever family and cultural support is enhanced by teaching women to read, start their own savings-led credit unions, etc.

6.3. RelatedPatterns

PosValues

6.4. References

http://www.pactworld.org/programs/country/nepal/stories_nepal.htm

http://www.munnecke.com/blog/archives/2002_10.html#000060